CONVERSATION ACTIVITIES:
Shared Grounds debuted by exploring our identity as UAA Student Affairs & engaging in dialogue centered around the following questions:
❖ What are the perceptions of UAA Student Affairs to outside individuals, groups and the community?
❖ How do these perceptions align with or relate to our core themes within Student Affairs?

Harvesting of this Shared Grounds experience allowed staff the opportunity to share their pride for UAA and appreciation for each other.

KEY INSIGHTS:
Staff dove into conversations about pride, perceptions and relationships. Perceptions of UAA Students Affairs to outside individuals, groups and the community (Indicates themes raised by two or more groups):
❖ Student-centered: Student Affairs is secondary to the student at the university
❖ Student Affairs is about quality
❖ Student Affairs is accessible
❖ We are respected in the community
❖ We are not realistic, we dream big
❖ Progressive vs. traditional, there is a disconnect
❖ Talented, Excellent Rep. A high level of respect for student affairs
❖ We are a great school for veterans
❖ We are physically disjointed. Main Campus and the UC.
❖ People on the street may not know what Student Affairs does. Who? Huh? We need to take responsibility to be representatives of the university.
❖ Misperceptions exist!
❖ Headlines shape outside views
❖ Success Services
❖ Problem Solving
❖ UAA Cares
❖ Student Services
❖ Success and Support
❖ Guidance
❖ Separation of Academic and Student Affairs with lack of understanding
❖ Enthusiasm
❖ Forms & Stuff
❖ Foundation for Academic Success
❖ Partnerships that create success for students
❖ Non-teachers/non-faculty
❖ Service oriented
❖ Supporting the academic side
❖ Experts in field

POSSIBILITIES FOR CO-CREATION:
❖ There were expressions of a lack of understanding as to what exactly we do as UAA Student Affairs. Identify the ways UAA Student Affairs can better tell our story to others outside of Student Affairs and foster understanding across all levels (to academic affairs, our students, parents, stakeholders, the community, etc.) Identity actionable methods to share our stories and pathways for staff to follow when they have something to share.
❖ Establish a campaign about what makes staff proud to be a Seawolf within UAA Student Affairs (share your pride).