



Faculty Alliance

Transformational Change

Resolution 2020-06

WHEREAS, The magnitude of the creation of a series of options to transform the UA system greatly impacts students, staff, faculty, communities, and the State.

WHEREAS, it is vital to ensure that shared governance principles are adhered to in discussions, planning and examining how the university system can be more financially efficient and maintain its educational mission (NWCCU: 2.A.4 The institution's decision-making structures and processes, which are documented and publicly available, must include provisions for the consideration of the views of faculty, staff, administrators, and students on matters in which each has a direct and reasonable interest.)

WHEREAS, The Audit Committee directed the president, in conjunction with the UA leadership team including the chancellors, to provide options for transformational change at the University of Alaska, including additional academic and administrative integration, revision of the budget allocation model, and structural changes, including mergers, closures, and changes of mission, for consideration during the Board of Regents' June 2020 meeting.

WHEREAS, The presentation contained many inaccuracies providing a false narrative to the Board (one-time costs conflated with recurring costs, incorrect coding of management positions in Banner leading to management appearing larger than in actuality, incorrect numbers regarding the amount of UGF cut taken, etc). The inaccuracies may be inadvertent and unintentional, however, the Board's directive was made in haste, without the provision of a completely accurate picture.

WHEREAS, The structural change of closing or merging a University has extreme implications for students, especially since one geographic location has been selected for review for merger/closure. The region and local communities will not be served through a disconnected system.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, FA recommends that services be examined at UA statewide and decentralization be considered, allowing the universities to collaboratively provide services, examine course sharing under the CCC proposal as well as increase collaboration, and coordination of faculty and staff within programs across the system.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, FA supports Shared Governance principles and processes and supports the establishment of a governance team with the Student Coalition, Staff Alliance, and Faculty Alliance participation through the inception to conclusion of a process to review university structure.