

Faculty Alliance
910 Yukon Drive
P.O. Box 757780
Fairbanks, AK 99775



UNIVERSITY
of **ALASKA**
Many Traditions One Alaska

106E Butrovich Building
(907) 450-8042
ua-sygov-faculty@lists.alaska.edu
alaska.edu/governance/faculty-alliance/

Date: April 14, 2017
To: Alaska State Senators and Representatives
From: The University of Alaska Faculty Alliance
Subject: University of Alaska System Budget

The Faculty Alliance of the University of Alaska System is composed of the Past-Presidents, Presidents and Presidents-Elect of the faculty senates of the University of Alaska Anchorage, the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and the University of Alaska Southeast. They represent all faculty members serving at the three universities. The Faculty Alliance [Constitution](#) states that one of the reasons we exist is to “provide faculty members with representation for the faculty of the University of Alaska in matters which affect the general welfare of the university system and its educational purposed and effectiveness.”

The Faculty Alliance is alarmed at the current budget appropriations that have been proposed by the Senate of \$303 million and SB 103, which further removes funding for higher education in Alaska. While the House proposed appropriation is flat, the fixed cost increases for the entire system already make this an actual cut. However, the Senate proposals will fundamentally threaten the integrity of the three universities in the University of Alaska System, and therefore jeopardize access to quality, affordable higher education for all Alaskans.

The Faculty Alliance acknowledges the budgetary constraints of the state of Alaska and thanks every member of the Senate and House of Representatives for your service in what are extremely difficult circumstances. We know that you are all striving to balance the budget. We support your efforts and we have urged the Board of Regents to take specific actions within the UA System to ensure that our institutions are focusing our resources on our core mission for Alaska and cutting costs that do not limit our service to Alaskans (FA [Resolution 2017-07](#)). We urge you to approve the full House proposal of \$325 million in appropriations for the University of Alaska System and help us keep access to quality, affordable higher education a reality for Alaskans. We need it now more than ever.

Passed unanimously by the Faculty Alliance on the 14th day of April 2017.

Tara Smith, Chair