

Staff Alliance
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August 16, 2019

James R. Johnsen, President

University of Alaska
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Paul Layer, Vice President
Academics, Students and Research
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Greetings President Johnsen and Vice President Layer,

Staff governance has not received an invitation to participate in the upcoming academic restructure meetings. To our knowledge, Faculty Alliance has been asked to participate but Student Coalition and Staff Alliance have not. We would like to emphasize the desire and importance for staff governance to be included in all aspects of the planning process. This is crucial to ensure that staff is given the access and time to fully evaluate and understand all of the options that are being proposed by various entities.

We also hold a valuable perspective in these conversations that cannot be represented by faculty, students or executives. We are advocating that for any restructuring meeting, the facilitators of the meeting ensure that staff governance or staff who are subject matter experts be included in all aspects of the process. It is important that this is not just a review at the final stage. Staff have a vital perspective that is crucial to ensure a plan's success.

For next week's academic restructure meetings we recommend the following Staff Alliance members to serve on the following groups:

- Health - David Felts
- Science / Arts / Humanities - John Moore
- Management / Business - Carrie Santoro
- Research - John Moore
- Engineering - Ryan Smith
- Education - Katelin Avery
- eLearning - David Felts
- CTE / Community Campuses - David Felts

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If there is a group that these working groups will report their recommendations for consideration, Mathew Mund, Staff Alliance Chair, would like to be included.

We would also like to emphasize the use of the system-wide council's in the decision making process. We have observed that during the uncertainty of the last few months, many of these meetings have been cancelled, limited, or stopped all information flow from statewide.

Overall, Staff Governance is eager to be an active participant in any restructuring process and requests that it be included in as much of the process as possible. This will allow staff governance to fully serve its role as representation for all UA Staff. Finally, we would also like to emphasize that by including staff governance in only the final review stage of any plan, it does not give staff governance the time to understand the many complicated proposals that are expected over the next year.

We thank you in advance for your timely consideration regarding the inclusion of staff during this time of change with the goal of creating successful outcomes.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:

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Mathew Mund, Chair
UA Staff Alliance