

Faculty Alliance
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September 24, 2019

Dear President Johnsen, Vice President Layer, and UA Board of Regents:

Faculty Alliance is deeply concerned about the expedited review process, which has commenced this week. Issues include the following:

1. Membership representing shared governance principles is being severely challenged due to the time frame for faculty and students. We are one-third into the semester, and all-day meetings are scheduled for most of the review teams without having consulted with all members to see if they are available; all-day meetings in particular are challenging for students.
2. The review criteria is biased towards a One UA or single accredited structure.
3. The BOR Resolution on Sept. 13, 2019, clearly included that *other models* must also be considered at the upcoming November Board of Regents meeting, however we are not seeing how this is being addressed in the current expedited review process.
4. Where are the other models? How will they be addressed within the context of the four questions?
5. UAA Faculty Senate has questioned whether the process is congruent with BOR policies and regulations; according to NWCCU, accreditation belongs to three separate universities and the three chancellors should be driving the discussion.

Faculty Alliance recommends the following:

- a. The criteria must be expanded to include the involvement of the chancellors so that other models can be investigated; and
- b. The timeframe needs to be extended as the October 10, 2019, deadline is too compressed and mistakes are being made, which will erode the results.

Faculty Alliance is clearly aware of the budget compacts between the UA Board of Regents and Governor Dunleavy and we are willing to examine restructure and budget reform. However, the main issues are the timeframe is too compressed, the criteria are biased towards a single accredited university, and other models must be considered. All scenarios must have clear cost

benefit analysis, as well as addressing issues of accreditation and curriculum, especially for programs that might be consolidated.

With respect,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Maria Williams". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "M" and a long, sweeping underline.

Maria Williams
Chair, Faculty Alliance

This memo was approved by the Faculty Alliance by a vote of 7 in favor, 1 abstaining, and 1 absent.

CC: Anupma Prakash, Provost, UAF
Karen Carey, Provost, UAS
John Stalvey, Interim Provost, UAA