



UNIVERSITY  
of ALASKA  
*Many Traditions One Alaska*

## Staff Alliance

### Resolution 2017-02 In Support of Faculty and Staff Regents at the University of Alaska

**WHEREAS**, State of Alaska Statute AS 14.40.120, in combination with AS 14.40.130 codifies the composition of the University of Alaska Board of Regents to include a student Regent, but currently does not include any faculty or staff Regents; and

**WHEREAS**, many institutions of higher education, including public universities in the states of Oregon and Kentucky, and Washington’s Gonzaga University, include Staff Regent or Trustee designations, to positive and inclusive effect; and

**WHEREAS**, the State Legislature of California has also recently expressed support for including a permanent non-faculty university employee on the California State University Board of Regents<sup>1</sup>; and

**WHEREAS**, the [2012 Cornell Higher Education Research Institute Survey of Faculty Trustees](#)<sup>2</sup> reveals that many universities have included faculty members in their governing boards; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cornell survey notes that “discussions of “best practices” for governing boards consistently cite improved relationships with university employee stakeholders as one of the characteristics of highly effective boards;” and

**WHEREAS**, several advantages from including university personnel on governing boards have been identified, including that a) these board members “come to appreciate better the challenges that the president and others face in leading the institution internally when complex issues are under discussion;” b) there is “shared information about board deliberations” and demystification of board processes; and c) board members “experienced in how things really work at the highest

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<sup>1</sup> [California Assembly Bill 2386](#) (Passed by Assembly 8/19/16, vetoed by Gov. Brown 9/21/16)

<sup>2</sup> ‘[Faculty Members on Boards of Trustees: The 2012 Cornell Higher Education Research Institute Survey of Faculty Trustees](#)’ by Ronald G Ehrenberg, Richard Patterson, Andrew Key

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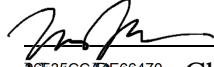
levels of deliberation is a valuable component of the broader faculty's understanding of how issues are resolved at the board level."<sup>3</sup> And

**WHEREAS**, current faculty and staff of the University of Alaska possess a wealth of institutional knowledge and serve a vital role in promoting the health and well-being of our state's universities; and

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the University of Alaska Staff Alliance goes on record to support the modification of the State of Alaska Statute, as needed, to legislate the designation of, at least, one faculty member and one staff member to serve as voting members on the University of Alaska Board of Regents.

**Adopted unanimously by Staff Alliance the 5<sup>th</sup> day of April 2016.**

DocuSigned by:



Nate Bauer, Chair

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<sup>3</sup> [AGB.org](http://AGB.org)