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## M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: November 21, 2018

TO: Summit Team

FROM: Jim Johnsen *James R. Johnsen*

SUBJECT: Follow-up from November 14 Summit Team Meeting

I began the meeting by introducing UA's new Federal Relations Director, Dustin Bryant, who starts in his position on December 3, filling the position left by Martha Stewart 7-8 years ago. We are pleased Dustin has joined the team. He comes to UA from Texas A&M, one of the nation's largest land-grant university systems, where he was Assistant Director of Federal Relations. All are certainly welcome to conduct business with their D.C. contacts, however, a coordinated approach with the delegation and on strategic initiatives will be followed.

### Title IX

Title IX staff are working to meet the December deadline of the Voluntary Resolution Agreement (VRA). Jordan Powell is the new Title IX investigator at UAF. UAF has two more investigator positions to fill, UAA has one more position, and UAS has one position. With regard to Title IX training, the employee completion rate is 83% and the student completion rate is at 63%. One rationale for the low response for students is that the penalty of no priority registration isn't effective. Priority registration is not equally important to all students. The Title IX team is working to develop online student Title IX training for fall 2019 and will seek feedback from campuses once they have a draft. I asked Mary to engage with

Nick and other student leaders regarding how to increase participation for next year. One way is to keep it simple.

The Board of Regents passed the Administrative Response to Allegations of Misconduct Policy, effective January 1, 2019, and the next step is to develop a regulation.

I noted that \$1.8M has been added to the FY2020 operating budget request to support Title IX positions and to further develop the culture of respect. The Leadership Forum had a segment where the Chancellors discussed the Culture of Respect Initiative.

### Government Relations

Miles expressed his appreciation for the hiring of Dustin Bryant. On the election front, additional vote counts occurred in the local legislative contests. In the race between Senator Kelly and Representative Kawasaki, Kelly was up by 11 votes, now he is trailing by 158. Since Pete Kelly is Senate President, losing him could change the Senate considerably. The race for House District 1 between Bart LeBon and Katherine Dodge, LeBon was leading Dodge by 79, however now Dodge is up by 10. If Dodge wins there will be a 20-20 split in the House. The overall election results are shaping up a tough funding environment.

In the past Government Relations has sought support for the university by encouraging employees to reach out on their own time to their legislators. President Johnsen will meet individually with each Regent to discuss advocacy and how they might assist us during this session. Business people supporting the university in the Legislature are the most effective voices. We will reach out to them as well.

The Governor will be sworn in December 3 in Noorvik, where his wife was raised. For the first time in Alaska's history, the Alaska Governor is an alum and has been employed by UA.

The state's budget is due to the Legislature by December 15. We will get a better sense of the session when we see the Governor's response to our budget. We believe that will be November 26.

It is imperative that our universities work together in the public eye, rather than appearing to compete for resources. Our actions must clearly convey that we work together as one and that advocacy for one is advocacy for all.

There is concern about the university's land grant given the changes in Congress, however, we are poised to exert our claims in the federal realm for the benefit of Alaska.

Michelle Rizk, Paul Layer, and I attended the Joint House/Senate Education Committee Hearing on November 13. Statistics show that dual enrollment and middle college programs improve student success, readiness, and especially first-time college students. Legislators are interested.

The question was raised whether dual enrollment and middle college programs focus on kids getting A's who want more of a challenge, or students from a lower socioeconomic level. The answer is both. Many students might be dropping out but for these programs. Middle college students are roughly four times more likely to attend UA with no prerequisite for remediation than a traditional high school student. There is a sense of urgency to further develop our programs from both a mission and financial standpoint.

Some faculty members do not see the benefit of these new programs. We need to share the statistics more widely and get faculty on board. Maybe we should hold webinars to educate our faculty. Anupma said that she will discuss with Paul. Faculty Alliance could sponsor convenings to discuss the middle college programs which may be a niche for us to supplement high school AP classes of which there are never enough.

We will follow up with Senator Stevens to offer our support in preparing a bill.

### BOR

Dennis Jones and Aims McGuinness from the National Center for Higher Education Management Systems (NCHEMS) gave a

presentation about roles and responsibilities of university board members. The message was that the board is responsible for the “what” and the administration, faculty, and staff are responsible for the “how.” While most regents are comfortable, others want to get into the details of things. We may restructure Regents’ Meetings. Five regular meetings – we have five goals. Maybe deep dive into the five goals, one at each meeting.

### Budget

The Board appreciated the new budget format of less detail and more strategy. The UA operating budget request of \$358.4M and the capital budget of \$50M was approved.

The Board also approved a Policy for Administrative Response to Reports of Misconduct.

Gloria O’Neill reached the end of her term as chair; John Davies was elected chair of the board for the coming year.

Reports within the BOR Committee meetings were very well received. Audit Reports reported no findings, and the Alaska College Savings Plan presented a nice update on how the plan supports not only college going in general, but it provides specific values to UA.

Two regents are leaving – Deena Bishop, who completed Mike Powers’ term, and Jo Heckman, who has completed her term. The new Governor will select two people. The previous Governor consulted with us and the hope is that the new administration will follow the same path. K-12 expertise and business expertise are important to us. Regional and partisan considerations concerning regents is the Governor’s to consider. Regent Sweet also completes his term in May. The new term takes effect on February 1 but the new regents are subject to confirmation by the Legislature. The Boards and Commissions office controls the regents’ nominations.

The voluntary and involuntary leave regulation covering students is being fine-tuned by GC’s office. It has not yet been shared with governance. This issue was brought forward by a UAA student.

## Council Scorecards:

Academic Council (AC): I recommended the Academic Council look into “academic transformation,” which is a well-established concept for redesigning and updating courses. Dennis spoke about this topic at the Regents’ meeting. We would basically identify a few high population courses and redesign them, with the goal of bringing down the cost of the course and improving student outcomes.

Another issue brought up is for the AC to investigate why certain faculty members are not using Blackboard. Use of Blackboard, even if only for basic class materials such as the syllabus, enhances the student experience.

Business Council (BC): BC is actively working on Banner 9 implementation, G&C process improvement project, the travel project, 1098T, and JV workflow. The travel project is in pilot phase across the system. We will try to transition all departments to the new system by February 1. Banner 9 went live October 29 and is currently in an assessment phase. The Banner 9 team is meeting weekly; all hands are on deck. Ellucian is aware of ongoing issues. Issues are being solved as they present themselves.

I mentioned that we will need to evaluate all our facilities to ensure we are maximizing their value to UA. If facilities are identified as core academic facilities, we need to maximize their utilization. If they are not core, we need to explore options for ownership in order to free up the economic value of those “locked up” physical assets.

Community Campus Directors Council (CCDC): The face-to-face meeting in October went very well. Participants were appreciative of the opportunity to meet in person. The Council will evaluate best practices and challenges for rural students not able to get the classes they want. Provosts, Deans, and Chairs will be engaged. Revenue-sharing cannot be ruled out and the issue may need to rise to a higher level (80-20/60-40/, etc.) Academic Leaders must take a hard look. Need a systematic way to ensure collaboration.

The OEC tuition discount program needs additional funding for marketing.

Development Council (DC): The aging reports on (800) endowments indicate that the units responsible for these funds need to review and ensure the funds are being spent. It appears that we have three times the spendable balances in our funds. The UA Foundation Director of Finance is preparing a report for the Chancellors.

A change to the spendable balance distribution has been made. Rather than depositing one-twelfth into the spendable each month, the entire balance will go into the spendable account at the beginning of the year.

The DC is planning a joint meeting with the University Relations Council in February to work on marketing for the Philanthropic Campaign.

Human Resources Council (HRC): The Compensation Report is being finalized. HRC is working to fix the Title IX training glitch. In addition, a new performance management tool will be announced soon. We are aiming for reviews to be easy and straight forward. There will be two types of staff reviews – a regular employee review and a supervisor review. The expectations will be set and accountability expectations established.

Leadership Development improvement is ongoing. 6070 negotiations are stalled over a disagreement regarding the impact of the USSC's recent decision in *Janus*. We are pushing ahead despite this issue to prepare a full contract proposal for the union.

Institutional Research Council (IRC): IRC has a new scorecard. University IR offices will work to provide comprehensive OCE data. Data quality improvement items will be resolved in the January/February timeframe. The statewide team is pushing for IR teams at the universities to lean in. I thanked campuses and Gwen for honing in on this important work.

Information Technology Council (ITC): I expressed my thanks to Martha Mason for stepping up as Interim CITO. Mark Kondrak has been named the new CITO Director. Mark comes to UA from Hamline University where he was Chief Information Officer.

The next ITC meeting will be held on November 20.

Research Council (RC): Larry Hinzman stated that Paul is doing a great job as Chair. RC has achieved its goals and starting next week will begin to review the President's and BOR's goals related to research. The grants and contracts project is coming together well. Common research metrics would be useful, however, it must not create a lot of extra work. The work needs to match with our accreditation. A Research Showcase will be held at Mat-Su on November 27, in Anchorage on November 28, and in Fairbanks on December 3. As stated earlier, the legislature is more receptive to voices outside the university. Many people speak well for us. Students will be involved as well. Research publications designed to educate legislators need to be business-like, useful, and not over the top in terms of production cost. UAF's Leader in Arctic Research, 2017 hits the mark.

Student Services Council (SSC): The common calendar is nearly completed for 2021, 2022, and 2023. Our student immunization policy needs to be changed. The Gateway has a name: My Future Alaska. SSC is on track to complete phase 1 in December 2018. Phase 2 will be much more complex. McDowell is shooting for the alumni report by the end of the calendar year. A team is being formed to create a student success network.

Teacher Education Council (TEC): The task force on reading and dyslexia meeting will be held on November 29. Steve has been participating on this task force. The Anchorage School District is using a university outside of Alaska to prepare superintendents; we will work to change this.

University Relations (URC): URC has been planning the Leadership Forum and working on the Culture of Respect Initiative. Nate Bauer has been working with Robbie Graham to identify experts for

President Johnsen to interview in a new segment called “On Topic.” Michelle suggested that the URC may want to assist in rolling out the new Gateway name, “My Future Alaska.”

Communications – URC will work together to identify a best practice for how press releases are handled that concern the whole system.

An Experts Guide/Speakers Bureau is being introduced as a way to get our message out into the community.

Advocacy for the university budget will be on the next agenda. I will be meeting with the Governor-Elect’s transition team, legislators, and Regents to carry our message.