

Statewide Administration Assembly

Resolution 2017-02 Regarding "A New Vision for the University of Alaska"

WHEREAS the Statewide Administration Assembly is the elected governance body for Statewide employees for purposes including playing a meaningful role in matters affecting Statewide administration staff, representing the viewpoints of statewide staff, advising university leadership, and addressing matters through legislative action; and

WHEREAS the action plan developed by Abel Bult-Ito "A New Vision for the University of Alaska" suggests significant changes to the structure and functions of Statewide without having solicited input from, nor displaying understanding of, many of the roles and responsibilities of Statewide staff; and

WHEREAS the number of staff at Statewide has already been reduced significantly from the 268 FTEs referenced in Bult-Ito's proposal and currently stands at 194; and

WHEREAS the proposed staffing level for Statewide, 60 FTE, is selected and assigned arbitrarily and without evidence of evaluation of the actual functions being served by administrative staff at Statewide, significantly missing mention are Audit and Consulting Services, Land Management, College Savings/UA Scholars, Institutional Research and Planning and Analysis, Labor Relations, and Workforce Development, and finance functions are not defined enough to know what functions the 20 staff members would be engaged in; and

WHEREAS service functions of the Office of Information Technology and Human Resources have been moved to the campuses and the remaining staff serve functions that benefit the entire university system; and

WHEREAS other functions remaining at Statewide following the Statewide Transformation are not duplicated on the campuses, therefore it would be necessary that positions be created on the campuses or outsourced on contract to cover the reduction at Statewide, significantly reducing potential savings; and

WHEREAS as a self-funded entity, reductions of personnel in the UA Foundation has minimal cost savings, and furthermore a reduction to 14 FTE is not sufficient to meet the current work demands especially not as the university plans for a major fundraising campaign; and

WHEREAS the Statewide Administration Assembly is not involved in academic or research activities and will not comment on other assumptions in the proposal.

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THEREFORE the Statewide Administration Assembly resolves that it does not support "A New Vision for the University of Alaska" presented by Abel Bult-Ito; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Statewide Administration Assembly encourages UA leadership to oppose the proposal as presented.

Adopted by the Statewide Administration Assembly the 15th day of February 2017.

Eric Johnson, President

Voting members' results as attested by Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer:

Yes: 11

No: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: 0