MEMORANDUM

Date: March 8, 2012

To: UA Board of Regents, Academic and Student Affairs Committee

From: Richard A. Caulfield, PhD, Provost, University of Alaska Southeast
       John Blanchard, Interim Dean for the UAS School of Management (SOM)

Cc: Chancellor John Pugh
    Faculty Senate President Dan Monteith

Subject: Proposed Deletion of UAS Associate of Applied Science (AAS) in Paralegal Studies

The University of Alaska Southeast, with approval from President Gamble, requests that the Board of Regents take action in its April 2012 meeting to delete the Associate of Applied Science in Paralegal Studies at UAS. We request this action in compliance with Board of Regents Policy 10.04.020, “Degree and Certificate Program Approval” which states that “all program additions, deletions, major revisions, or the offering of existing programs outside the State of Alaska, requires approval by the board.”

During AY 2006-07, the UAS School of Management’s Business and Public Administration Department completed a thorough Program Review of its AAS degree in Paralegal Studies. The Review was conducted in accordance with Regents’ Policy P10.06.010 (Academic Program Review).

Findings from the Program Review revealed that the degree program had small enrollments and that graduates had limited employment prospects. The Review also concluded that—in light of other competing resource priorities—the degree was “not central to the UAS mission.”

In March 2006, the Dean of the School of Management (then called School of Business, Public Administration, and Information Systems) recommended to Provost Roberta Stell that admissions to the AAS Paralegal Studies be suspended. Provost Stell concurred with this recommendation and requested Chancellor Pugh’s approval to do so. His approval led to a “teach-out” of students then in the program. Department faculty and staff developed individual advising plans for the ten students remaining in the program, enabling them to either complete the AAS or transfer within the next two years. As the teach-out concluded, the one regular Paralegal Studies faculty member transitioned into teaching courses for the Bachelor’s degree and Master’s degree programs in Business Administration. Today there are no remaining AAS Paralegal Students at UAS.