MOTION RELATING TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF AN ACADEMIC MASTER PLAN:
passed unanimously

"The Faculty Alliance requests that the draft Academic Master Plan (version 21) be distributed to the Faculty
Senates of all three MAUs by March 1, 2010 and that a revised timeline and clear procedure for finalizing the
plan, with input from Faculty Senates of all three MAUs, be developed by SAC and distributed to the Faculty
Senates, the President’s Cabinet, and the Board of Regents no later than April 1, 2010. This action is effective
February 23, 2010."

RATIONALE:

An extraordinary amount of time and energy has been put into the development of the Academic Master Plan
(AMP) to date; however, it is still in draft form and has not been distributed by SAC to the Faculty Alliance and
the UAA, UAF and UAS Faculty Senates. The time-line for development of the plan in the original charge
included meaningful participation in development of the plan by the three Faculty Senates. This time-line has
not been honored.

Two motions were passed by Faculty Alliance to the Systemwide Academic Council: one requesting a new
time-line for distribution of the AMP (November 20, 2009); and the other requesting an emergency meeting with
the President’s Cabinet regarding the AMP (December 11, 2009). Neither motion received any response from
SAC, which strongly suggests that faculty involvement in the creation of the Academic Master Plan is not a
priority of the Systemwide Academic Council.

The Faculty Senates, while not privy to the content of the AMP, are concerned about the process. They are
aware that the time-line in the Charge has not been followed. The UAA Faculty Senate passed a resolution on
February 5, 2010, supporting the Alliance motions outlined above. A similar motion is scheduled for the UAF
Senate floor on March 5.

If the Academic Master Plan is to truly be an Academic Master Plan, and if the AMP is to get buy-in from
faculty, substantial involvement of the faculty senates is essential. Allowing the Senates to evaluate and
contribute to the plan may actually speed up development of the final product. The Board of Regents requested
that a draft of the AMP be presented to them by the June Board meeting, and that the plan include the
participation of the Faculty Senates.

We must begin that process without further delay.

Jon Dehn, Chair, Faculty Alliance; President, UAF Faculty Senate
Genie Phillips, Member, Faculty Alliance; President, UAA Faculty Senate
Sherry Tamone, Member, Faculty Alliance; President, UAS Faculty Senate

Distribution: Mark R. Hamilton, President, Chancellors Pugh, Rogers and Ulmer,
Vice Presidents Julius and Redman, Vice Chancellors Henrichs, Driscoll, Interim Vice
Chancellor Stell and Incoming Vice Chancellor Caulfield
MOTION REGARDING THE ACADEMIC MASTER PLAN

"Whereas, the original Academic Master Plan charge contained a process for Faculty Alliance and Senate input to the Academic Master Plan (AMP) before submission to the President’s Cabinet, and

Whereas, the original process has not been followed, and

Whereas, the faculty cannot endorse an Academic Master Plan that did not involve their participation, and

Whereas, an Academic Master Plan that does not include faculty will have serious accreditation impacts,

Therefore be it resolved that the Faculty Alliance moves that the Statewide Academic Council provide the Faculty Alliance and Senates with a revised timeline and process for the Academic Master Plan that allows sufficient time for faculty participation in the plan, so that accreditation, program and degree standards are maintained to fulfill the University’s missions of teaching, research and service.

This action is effective November 20, 2009."
DRAFT – holding pending response from SAC

December 11, 2009

To: Mark R. Hamilton, President, and Members, President’s Cabinet
   Fran Ulmer, Chancellor, UAA
   Brian Rogers, Chancellor, UAF
   John Pugh, Chancellor, UAS
   Dan Julius, Vice President, Academic Affairs
   Wendy Redman, Vice President, University Relations
   Joe Trubacz, Vice President for Finance and Administration
   Roger Brunner, University General Counsel
   Steve Smith, Chief Information Technology Officer
   Beth Behner, Chief Human Resources Officer

Fr: Jon Dehn, Chair, Faculty Alliance

Re: Faculty Alliance Motion Relating to Academic Master Plan

The Faculty Alliance met last Friday and passed a motion urgently requesting a joint on-site meeting of the President’s Cabinet, the Systemwide Academic Council and the Faculty Alliance to discuss the Academic Master Plan.

The Faculty Alliance invested a lot of time and effort into working jointly with administration on the development of the Academic Master Plan charge and believed that they would be full participants in the development of the plan itself in keeping with the charge.

This however, has not been the case. Instead, the Alliance liaisons to SAC were bound by SAC to keep drafts confidential and not release them to the Alliance or the faculty senate. It was only when Alliance members unofficially obtained a copy in October 2009 were they able to make substantive contributions to the editing of the document, and passed our work on to SAC. Last Friday, the Alliance was told that the reason why none the Academic Master Plan drafts—approximately 19 drafts to date, we were told—have been officially released to the Alliance or the faculty senate so they could work on them as charged is because the President’s Cabinet forbade their release.
We really don’t see what the holdup is and what the problem is, and we believe that only by coming together on-site in the same room and having a frank discussion of the type we enjoyed at least twice during the development of the student success metric will we be able to move forward. We envision such a meeting being of at least one full day’s duration. We realize resources are tight, but the importance of having this discussion face to face before we all face the wrath of the regents cannot be overstated. We hope this can take place before the next Board of Regents meeting.

For your convenience, the academic master plan charge, located on the SAC web site at http://www.alaska.edu/swacad/files/SACmeetings/AcadMasterPlan_FinalCharge.pdf, is appended.

cc: Mike Driscoll, Provost, UAA  
    Susan Heinrichs, Provost, UAF  
    Robbie Stell, Interim Provost, UAS  
    Members of the Faculty Alliance:  
    Jonathan Anderson, Jill Dumesnil and Sherry Tamone, UAS Faculty Senate  
    Genie Babb, John Petraitis and Patt Sandberg, UAA Faculty Senate  
    Cathy Cahill and Marsha Sousa, UAF Faculty Senate
Academic Master Plan (AMP) Charge  
(Agreement reached by Statewide Academic Council (SAC), Research Advisory Council (RAC), and Faculty Alliance on November 20, 2008)

I. Purpose

The SAC/RAC of the University of Alaska is charged with developing an academic master plan (AMP) that will provide a strategic vision for the continuing development of the University of Alaska’s academic programs. The plan will guide decisions that enhance collaboration between MAUs, build on the intellectual capital of the faculty and staff at each MAU, and provide expanding opportunities for students. The plan is a document that will enhance the University’s strategic management of both public and private resources.

II. Rationale

The University of Alaska has expanded significantly in the past 10 years. Many new programs have been developed at each MAU; a significant number of cross-MAU programs collaborations also exist. There are numerous challenges to the development of additional academic programs in the state: large geographic areas, relatively small numbers of students, limited access to community resources that would support some programs, limited funding, and inability of student populations to commute from one campus to another. It is in the best interest of the University, its faculty and students, and the state to develop a mechanism for making decisions regarding the development and location of current/future academic programs and spending wisely the resources that are apportioned to the university. In addition, the plan will provide an integrated academic vision, based on academic capacity, to define the respective roles of the three university’s and Community and Branch campuses. Lastly, the AMP will be used to assign current/future resources which reflect programmatic needs.

III. Plan for Development

A. Process

• SAC and RAC will meet jointly for purposes of developing the AMP.
• SAC/RAC will collaborate with faculty alliance, and faculty alliance will collaborate with each faculty senate to provide input to SAC during development.
• The process of developing the AMP will be open, collaborative, transparent and inclusive.
• All ideas and proposals brought to SAC/RAC through the Faculty Alliance or other councils and committees will be considered.
• Existing resource materials will be utilized in development of the AMP. Those resources include, but are not limited to, mission statements; vision statements, strategic plans, and academic plans that already exist at each MAU.
• SAC/RAC will seek guidance and input from other SW councils and other MAU committees and councils as appropriate.
• Additional ad hoc committees may be convened by SAC/RAC in the interest of efficiency as development of the AMP proceeds.
• Final approval of the AMP will be by consensus of the SAC/RAC. Faculty Alliance representatives to SAC/RAC will be voting members of the committee for development and approval of the AMP.
• The final plan will be presented to each faculty senate for their consideration prior to being forwarded by SAC to the President’s Cabinet and Board of Regents.

B. Time line

• Dec 15: Charge approved by Faculty Alliance, SAC/RAC, VP for Academic Affairs
• Dec 15 – Mar 31: SAC/RAC meets to develop plan. Meetings will be held frequently (every 2 weeks), ad hoc committees may be formed, additional input from SW Councils and Faculty Senates will be sought
• Mar 31: Draft AMP will be presented to all three Faculty Senates
• April: Faculty senates will respond through their formal representatives to SAC/RAC
• May 1: Final changes will be presented to all three Faculty Senates and Faculty Alliance for their consideration.
• May 15: AMP presented to President's Cabinet
• June 1: AMP presented to BOR

IV. Expected Outcomes

• Clear and attainable goals for higher education in the state
• Strategies for achieving those goals that may include assigning formal responsibility and authority to respective MAUs.
• Specific criteria that guide decisions regarding placement of programs at a particular MAU. Those criteria should include, but are not limited to, economies of scale, academic capacity and infrastructure, demonstrated faculty expertise, enrollment demand, and availability of funding.
• Broad academic direction for future generations of students, faculty and staff, which will result in the effective use of resources, service to the state, excellent academic programs and educational opportunity
• An integrated academic vision and implementation strategy for the investment and management of public and private resources
• A plan which provides direction for future leaders of UA and the BOR for the assignment of programmatic resources