November 21, 2007

To: Dr. Dan Julius, Vice President Academic Affairs and Research
   UA Systemwide Academic Council

From: Mike Driscoll, UAA Provost

Subject: New graduate certificate programs in the UAA College of Education

The UAA College of Education (COE) has developed two new graduate certificates that are designed to prepare teachers in two essential areas of instruction. These have been developed in consultation with representatives of the Anchorage School District, and with state and national specialists. Program summaries are provided for your review.

1. The Graduate Certificate in Language Education, offered by the COE department of Teaching and Learning, focuses on the influential factors and successful methods of teaching English to speakers of other languages. Graduates of this program will have the knowledge and skills necessary to design and implement the curricular modifications necessary to ensure the academic success of their ESL students.

2. The Graduate Certificate in Adult Education with an e-Learning concentration emphasizes the effective preparation of facilitators of advanced distributed learning. The program is designed to prepare educators to enhance the teaching/learning process in adult learning environments through the use of electronic technology.

Most of the coursework for both certificates is already available at UAA and there is sufficient capacity in the required courses to support the anticipated additional students. The College of Education has committed to regular offerings, through fund reallocations if needed.

These certificates were created by the faculty in the College of Education and have been reviewed and approved through the normal governance process. Their implementation will encourage students to engage in these structured academic programs to build their skills in these vital areas. Students will receive recognition from the university for their academic accomplishments and be prepared for special certifications in these areas where they exist. We ask that you add your approval to these certificates and forward them to the Board of Regents.