



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

MEMORANDUM OF TRANSMITTAL

TO: UA President
System Office Executive Leadership Team

FROM: System Office Mission Statement work team

DATE: May 11, 2022

SUBJECT: UA System Office Mission Statement

On behalf of the System Office Mission Statement Work Team, the following mission statement is being presented for your consideration and approval.

Proposed System Office Mission Statement:

The University of Alaska System Office advances higher education in Alaska through support of the three universities' distinct missions. The UA System Office manages strategic shared resources, works with the universities to implement Board of Regents direction, and assists with state and federal compliance obligations. The UA System Office advocates for diverse peoples, the universities, and the state.

The work team members are:

- Monique Musick, System Office, Manager Communications & Marketing - lead
- Ian Hartman, UAA, Assoc. Professor of History
- Michelle Pope, System Office, Director of Human Resources Operations
- David Bishko, System Office, Business Strategist
- Wayne Mowery Jr., System Office, Assoc. General Counsel
- Michael Ciri, UAS, Vice Chancellor Administrative Services
- Bruce Schultz, UAA, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
- Andrew Aquino, System Office, Project Coordinator
- Nettie La Belle-Hamer, UAF, Vice Chancellor for Research
- Ronnie Houchin, UAF, Associate Director for Student Engagement, Staff Alliance representative

If you have any questions please contact Monique Musick or any of the work team members.

Process:

President Pitney convened the System Office Mission Statement work team to lead an inclusive process for crafting a mission statement for the UA System Office. The resulting statement is to be formalized into [BOR policy](#) and will serve as a tool to guide the System Office.

The process was designed to engage the UA-wide community. The stakeholder engagement process kicked off in February with meetings with the System Office Staff Council and system governance groups. An initial survey was distributed to System Office employees in March to gather input on the development of a mission statement. Based on themes revealed through the initial feedback, the team proposed three draft mission statements, and in April provided an opportunity for the entire university system community to rank how well the proposed statements reflect the mission of the System Office and provide feedback or suggestions for revision. The team received and considered 374 responses to that survey, and incorporated the feedback and suggestions into this final draft where it was determined appropriate.

In addition, the work team actively engaged in reviewing other system missions, analyzing stakeholder feedback, researching the history, roles and functions of the System Office, and consulting past reviews of the System Office to guide the process.

The resulting mission statement clarifies the role of the System Office in relation to the three universities, highlights its major roles in compliance, advocacy, shared resources and policy implementation, and recognizes the role of the university system in Alaska's future and its mission of supporting the diverse citizens of the state.