**Example Board questions - program approval, program deletion and program review**

New program approval (some of these questions may be addressed in the program proposal)

* What is the evidence that this program is needed? Is there any national or state Department of Labor occupational forecast information supporting this request?
* Is this program offered at another MAU? If so, why is a new program at your MAU needed? Could the existing program at the other MAU be a) offered collaboratively or b) converted to eLearning for delivery to students in your area? What prohibits these approaches?
* Where and how will this new program be delivered; how widely will it be available to students across Alaska? Please describe the intentions to deliver this new program by eLearning?
* How many full-time faculty members will be responsible for this program? Do these same faculty members have responsibility for other programs, if so, which programs and how many students are involved in those programs?
* What modern pedagogy approaches does this new program intend to use? For example, does this program propose to use any of the Association of American Colleges and Universities high impact educational practices (e.g., common intellectual experiences, learning communities, writing intensive courses, collaborative assignments and projects, capstone courses and projects)? Several recent studies have indicated that hybrid eLearning/in-person courses result in better learning outcomes than strictly in-person or eLearning courses; does this new program intend to use this approach?
* How many students do you expect to enroll by the 3rd year? 5th year? How many students do you expect to graduate from this program annually once it is fully up to speed?
* Is the student learning outcomes assessment plan for this new program rigorous and of high quality compared to other programs of the same level? If so, what elements make it so?
* Please describe how your MAU will be collaborating with other MAUs to offer this new proposed program.
* This program proposal indicates no additional funds are needed and that existing resources are sufficient. Isn’t there a real resource cost to offering a new program because someone must maintain/revise catalog listings, conduct student learning outcomes assessment, and recruit and advise students about this program. Where are the resources coming from to accomplish these additional needs?
* How were library and information resources assessed for this new program?

Program deletion

* This was once a viable program but now is not. What changes occurred that led to the proposal to delete this program?
* Are there students currently enrolled in this program and, if so, what is the teach out plan?
* When did this program have its last graduate? Last major? (Why has it taken so long to delete this program?)
* We do not want to eliminate a program if there is a reasonable possibility that it will be needed again in the future. Are there any conditions, e.g., if economic conditions improved, that would make this program viable again?
* Over what period of time did it become apparent that enrollment in this program was declining? During this period, what reallocations were made as enrollment fell? (Slow declines, e.g., over 10 years, make resource allocation hard to track given turnover in deans and department chairs).

Program review

* What are the key criteria for deciding between continuing an existing program putting a program on continuing review, or recommending program deletion? How are these criteria implemented consistently across all program reviews? Note the basic criteria listed in regulation
* Your program review process has identified program X for continuing review.
  + How many current majors does this program have and how many students have graduated from this program in the past five years?
  + How many full-time and part-time faculty members are associated with program X?
* Your program review process concluded that Program Y should be continued without further review.
  + How many graduates has this program had in the past five years and what is the current number of majors? – follow up – this program appears to have been growing – how are resources being reallocated to this program to support this growth?
  + What is the evidence for continuing demand for this program? What does the Alaska Department of Labor project for jobs in this area?
  + Is the student learning outcomes assessment plan for this program rigorous and of high quality compared to other programs of the same level? If so, what elements make it so?
  + How is this academic program appropriate for the learning needs, and career and life interests of the institution’s students? (paraphrased from the AGB Academic Affairs Committee Board Basics)
  + How is this program consistent with UA and (UAA, UAF, or UAS)’s mission?
  + How can this program with good enrollment and graduate numbers be strengthened?