



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA

Many Traditions One Alaska

**Faculty Alliance
Motion 2018-01
Support of February 2018 Buzby Letter**

Motion:

The UA Faculty Alliance endorses the 28-Feb-2018 letter from UAS Faculty Senate President, Dr. Megan Buzby, to the UA Board of Regents regarding the proposed plans for the Alaska College of Education. The Faculty Alliance agrees that the concerns expressed in that letter are germane and valid. Furthermore, FA requests a response from President Johnsen regarding each of the points discussed in the letter.

Effective: Spring 2018

Rationale: The letter from Dr. Megan Buzby was sent in response to a request for feedback from “education students, faculty, and staff” by UA President James R. Johnsen, submitted to the UA Board of Regents (BoR) on 28 February 2018 for consideration at the 1-2 March 2018 full UA BoR meeting and was acknowledged received by the BoR at 4:48 p.m. on 2 March 2018. President Johnsen’s request for feedback was delivered to the UAS Chancellor’s Cabinet on 26 February 2018 and subsequently forwarded to the UAS Faculty Senate Executive Board. The 26-Feb-2018 letter from UA President Johnsen requested feedback on the Alaska College of Education for discussion during the 1-2 March 2018 full meeting of the BoR.

The proposed Alaska College of Education and associated organizational changes affects all three universities in the UA system. The proposed changes involve elimination of the Schools of Education at UAF and UAA, moving their programs to other colleges within their respective universities and appointment of an Executive Dean tasked with administration of local UAS education programs as well as statewide coordination of education programs across the three universities. The time provided to faculty, staff, students, and administrators at all three universities to solicit and compile feedback on this potentially disruptive process was inadequate. Students across the UA system have shared with faculty their concern about the impacts the proposed changes to education programs at UA will have on their ability to successfully complete in-progress degrees and confusion as to the viability of future education programs. Some students are under the mistaken impression that travel to Juneau will be needed to complete degrees in education. The UAA and UAF Faculty Senates have elaborated their own concerns with recent decisions around UA education programs and the processes that lead to them. The UAF Faculty Senate endorsed the letter from Dr. Buzby in a motion passed during meeting #230 on March 5, 2018. With this motion the Faculty Alliance expressly states their

apprehension with the changes proposed for education programs across UA and cites the letter from Dr. Buzby as a comprehensive summary of our concerns. The UA Faculty Alliance requests that UA President James R. Johnsen and the UA Board of Regents address each of the concerns expressed in the Buzby letter.

The [28-Feb-2018 Buzby letter to the UA Board of Regents](#)

The [26-Feb-2018 Johnsen letter to “education students, faculty, and staff”](#)

Approved by Faculty Alliance the 9th day of March 2018.

Lisa Hoferkamp

Digitally signed by Lisa Hoferkamp
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Lisa Hoferkamp, Chair

Voting results as attested by Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer

Yes: 9

No: 0

Abstained: 0

Absent: 0