RE: Governor Dunleavy signs FY25 Budget with UA Base Increases to support an Empowered Alaska

June 28, 2024

Dear University of Alaska Community,

Today Governor Dunleavy signed the FY25 University of Alaska system budget. The enacted state appropriation for UA is just over $331.3 million; combined with federal receipts and other revenues, UA's total FY25 operating budget stands at just under $934.5 million. The budget represents continued strong investments in the University's educational programs, people, and infrastructure and will allow UA to continue empowering Alaska.

We're grateful for the Legislature's support of our funding requests and to the Governor for retaining the investment in education. We look forward to working with them to build on the progress of the last several years.

UA's FY25 state operating budget appropriation represents an approximately $22.9 million increase to base over FY24, and includes:

- funding to address the negotiated 2.5% increases to compensation and the new graduate student union wages;
- funding to cover operating cost increases such as insurance, cybersecurity, and utilities;
- funding to improve UAA campus security; and
- one-time funding to support UAF’s goal of achieving R1 research designation ($12.5 million from the Higher Education Investment Fund, and $2.1 million in receipt authority).

The enacted budget also includes key capital investments. The capital budget is just over $24 million in state funds, including:

- $14.8 million for high-priority deferred maintenance projects,
- $6 million in state funds to support UA’s drone excellence,
- $3.2 million in state funds for carbon capture and energy projects, and
the ability to use $5.6 million in federal receipts for UAF’s Early Childhood Development Center, among other items, thanks to the efforts of U.S. Senator Lisa Murkowski.

The university’s FY25 request and the enacted budget recognizes that fiscal restraint at the state level continues, and our Board of Regent requests for investment next year (FY26) will be focused on fixed costs and key priorities as a result.

For complete FY25 budget information please see documents posted by the Office of Management and Budget.

Thank you all for your continued focus on student success and research excellence with a focus on empowering Alaska’s future.

Sincerely,

Pat Pitney
President
University of Alaska