

## Statewide Academic Council Ad Hoc Meeting Summary

May 10, 2017; 12:30-1:30 p.m.

Regarding University of Alaska Fairbanks PAR Forms for Economics BA, BBA & UAF-Clinical Psychology

Meeting participants: Helena Wisniewski, Maria Williams, Dan White, Karen Schmitt, Karen Carey, Chris Fallen, Susan Henrichs, Lisa Hoferkamp, Nycolett Ripley (scribe),

### Meeting Summary

An ad hoc meeting was held to discuss adding the proposed University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Economics BA, BBA & UAF Clinical Psychology program discontinuations program action request (PAR) forms to the May 25, 2017 Academic & Student Affairs Committee agenda.

All programs were proposed for discontinuation after extensive program reviews. The review is a three-step process including a faculty committee review, an administrative review by deans and directors, and a final review by the Chancellor's Cabinet. There are opportunities for response and feedback at each level. Discussions with the UAF Faculty Senate provided opportunities for comment during the review, but some of the provisions were instituted after the program review was essentially completed. Faculty Senate voted "no" to sending to the Board of Regents' for consideration, in part due to insufficient time to review the proposals. The chancellor moved the proposals forward for consideration for discontinuation based on financial considerations.

The senate felt the graduation rates in the Psychology Program seemed reasonable and after thoroughly evaluating the proposal for discontinuation, would be willing to re-vote.

Regarding the Economics BA and BBA proposed program discontinuations, the Faculty Senate does not agree with discontinuing the UAF economic program degree. The program seems viable in terms of reasonable graduation rates and teaches a large number of service courses. Other options need to be evaluated such as a degree with a strong economic background or online courses.

The Economics degree program has a \$1.1M yearly budget, which includes a master's degree. Requirements to align general education requirements (GER) led to the ECON 100X course no longer being a requirement. Monetary loss from this change leads to the economics program being cost prohibitive. There are limited ways to reduce costs associated with the program. It has been proposed that a student could earn a degree with an economic minor or a concentration in economics. It is important to keep in mind the collective bargaining agreement with respect to accommodating the tenured faculty if the PAR is moved forward for consideration.

**ACTION ITEM:** Dan will forward the UAF Economics BA, BBA and Clinical Psychology proposed discontinuation PAR forms for the president's consideration noting "Not unanimously supported by SAC".