To: UAF faculty and staff

From: Susan Henrichs, Provost

Subject: Stay on Track

March 21, 2012

I'd like to take this opportunity to remind you of the Stay on Track awareness campaign, which is designed to improve student success and graduation rates at the University of Alaska.

The campaign has been informing first-time, full-time bachelor’s degree-seeking students about what they need to do to graduate in four years:

--Earn at least 15 credits a semester
--Choose a major
--Meet regularly with an advisor
--Consider summer enrollment
--Use DegreeWorks at UAOnline to monitor progress

It takes at least 15 credits completed each semester to finish an associate degree in two years, or a bachelor’s degree in four years. Students can speed up their progress by taking summer, Maymester, and Wintermester courses. UAF Center for Distance Education (CDE) offers online courses that students can complete in summer even if they do not remain in Fairbanks.

There can be a significant financial benefit to students who graduate in four years. For students that live in residence halls and attend full time, five years costs about $10,000 more than four years.

The Alaska Performance Scholarship requires students to be enrolled in 15 credits per semester for their sophomore through senior years.

Many of UAF’s students are part time, and even though it will take them longer to finish, UAF is very interested in their success too. Meeting with an advisor can help part-time students choose the right courses to progress as fast as possible. An advisor can also show how, for some students, it may make more sense to use financial aid and student loans to attend full-time.

Students should try to make every credit count, and meet with an advisor regularly to find out what courses are needed and when they need to be taken to reach the student’s goals.

More information on Stay on Track can be found at [http://www.alaska.edu/stayontrack/](http://www.alaska.edu/stayontrack/).