

FROM THE PROVOST: November 12, 2014

- **UA BOARD OF REGENTS APPROVES FY16 UNIVERSITY BUDGET REQUESTS**

Chancellor Pugh and I attended the Board of Regents budget meeting that took place in Fairbanks on November 6 and 7. These are challenging budget times, with Alaska's revenues impacted heavily by low oil prices and the reality that further budget reductions are almost certain. Few people realize that even a flat budget would require UAS to cover 50% of increased personnel costs internally. The Board's decision not to support a proposed 4% increase in tuition makes internal reallocations and cuts necessary simply to cover fixed cost increases and "must-pay" expenses.

Having noted this, the FY16 operating budget request approved by the Board includes several UAS requests: 1) Title IX Coordinator, 2) Disability Services Coordinator, 3) First Year Student Experience retention coordinator, 4) funding for UAS teacher recruitment, preparation, and mentoring, and 5) Biology faculty position for proposed joint UAF-UAS offering of undergraduate fisheries degrees. The FY16 capital budget includes initial funding receipt authority to begin planning the student commons facility in Juneau. These BOR-approved requests now go to the Governor and to the Legislature for consideration. For more details, see http://www.alaska.edu/files/bor/Nov2014/141105Ref01_FY16_Operating_Budget.pdf.

- **UAS STRATEGIC PLANNING & BUDGET ADVISORY COMMITTEE LOOKS AHEAD TO FY17**

The SPBAC, which reviews and makes recommendations about UAS overall planning and budget priorities, will meet again on November 18. The Committee invites ideas for generating new revenue and for new FY17 requests or major internal reallocations. More information about the SPBAC, including its membership and process, can be found at <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/vicechancellor/spbac.html>

- **UA PRESIDENT GAMBLE TO VISIT UAS, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

President Patrick Gamble will visit the UAS Juneau Auke Lake Campus on Monday, November 17. He will be participating in the annual UA Scholars event on Monday evening but will also meet face-to-face and online with Faculty Senate and Staff Council members from all three UAS campuses. Among other topics, the President will discuss next steps in UAS leadership transition given Chancellor Pugh's planned retirement. More details on the President's visit will follow.

- **VICE PRESIDENT DANA THOMAS PRESENTATION TO UAS FACULTY & STAFF, NOVEMBER 21**

UA Vice President Dr. Dana Thomas, who is retiring in December, will visit UAS for a shared governance discussion on Friday and Saturday, November 21 and 22. On Friday he will meet with interested faculty and staff from 2-4pm to offer his perspective about the direction of higher education in Alaska and the current budget environment affecting UA. This talk will be available by videoconference to faculty and staff at all three campuses. On Saturday, Dr. Thomas will be the guest presenter at the UAS Academic Leadership Seminar.

- **UAS SECONDARY STUDENT ENROLLMENT POLICIES REVIEWED AND UPDATED**

I have reviewed comments from faculty, staff, deans and directors about proposed updates to our UAS Secondary Student Enrollment Policies and Practices. This review included comments received at the Faculty Senate meeting on November 7. I appreciate the careful review given to the draft changes. A final version of our new policies and practices will be disseminated soon and will be posted on the Provost's Office website.

- **TVEP FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) funding is available to support and enhance workforce development education and training in the UA system. Last year the Alaska State Legislature renewed TVEP funding for up to three years but expressed intent that TVEP funding needs to be linked to programs that offer dual credit and Tech Prep opportunities to high school students. UAS has an opportunity to put forward proposals for TVEP funding in FY17, with a deadline of January 23, 2015 for FY17 proposals. Contact deans and directors for more information about TVEP or go to <http://www.alaska.edu/research/wp/funding/TVEP-Advocacy-Package.pdf>

- **REMINDER ABOUT UAS POLICY ON INCOMPLETE GRADES**

As we move toward the end of the fall semester, this is an appropriate time for faculty to review UAS policy and procedures for awarding Incomplete (I) grades. For a faculty member to award an Incomplete grade, the following requirements must be met: 1) a majority of the student's coursework (more than 50%) must be completed, 2) the student must have at least a C grade to date, 3) the faculty member must specify how the final assignments will be completed in NO MORE than 12 months (may be less), and 4) a *Course Completion Contract* must be completed. A copy of that form can be found at http://www.uas.alaska.edu/provost/docs/academic_affairs/ContractIncompleteGrades.pdf

****PROVOST READS****

Budgets and Financial Management in Higher Education

Margaret J. Barr and George S. McClellan
2011, John Wiley & Sons/Jossey-Bass

UPCOMING EVENTS:

November 14	Juneau Campus: Evening at Egan, Prof. Anselm Staack, <i>The World of Personal Finance</i> Ketchikan Campus: Chamber After-Hours event
November 17	Chancellor's Cabinet & President Gamble's visit
November 18	SPBAC meeting, 2-4pm
November 21	VP Dana Thomas presentation to faculty and staff, 2-4:00pm, Glacier View Room and video