The UAF Faculty Senate passed the following at Meeting #148 on February 4, 2008:

MOTION:

The UAF Faculty Senate moves to revise the Fresh Start policy (pages 25 and 28 of the 2007-08 UAF catalog) for returning students.

CAPS = Addition

[[ ]] = Deletion

Fresh Start for Returning Students

Fresh Start can offer a new beginning for students who performed poorly at UAF when enrolled at least two years ago. Those who withdrew from school or were dismissed for academic reasons may apply for readmission [[by disregarding]] AND REQUEST TO DISREGARD their entire prior academic record. Those who apply on this basis begin their college study anew with no credits attempted or earned, and no quality points reflected in future GPA calculations. Fresh Start may be used only once.

Fresh Start application forms are available at the Office of Admissions. Admission on this basis requires that at least two years have elapsed since the [[end]] BEGINNING of the last semester the applicant attended UAF [[full time]].

[[Prior academic records]] ALL PRIOR COURSEWORK WILL remain part of [[a]] THE student's overall academic record and appear on transcripts, but none of the previously earned credits can be used in a new program. These credits will be included only in GPA computations for graduation with honors (see Graduation with Honors, page 118). A student admitted under Fresh Start may be allowed advanced standing or a waiver of requirements just as any other student, but will not be allowed credit by exam for courses lost in Fresh Start.

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2008

RATIONALE: There are two issues that both appear in the following sentence: "At least two years must have elapsed since the END of the semester in which the applicant was last in FULL-TIME attendance." Institutional memory suggests the original intent of this policy was to accommodate students who got a rocky start at college, went away for a few years, then returned more mature and motivated to do well. As written now we commonly get requests from students who were disqualified two years ago but attended part time each semester since. We also get a lot of students who come in and say "My gpa is too low, I need to use Fresh Start to raise it so I can get financial aid." Thus, the "full-time" attendance issue is questioned. In addition, the "end" of the semester is typically confusing to students because this implies about 2 and 1/2 years must pass before
they can reapply using Fresh Start. A complete break from classes is supported by the registrar, admissions, RSS, and the Academic Advising Center.

President, UAF Faculty Senate  Date

APPROVAL:  DATE: 2/12/08
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Chancellor's Office

DISAPPROVED:  DATE: __________________
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Chancellor's Office