

## COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR ALASKA NATIVE LANGUAGES

### STRENGTHS:

- ANLC was founded in 1972 by an act of the Alaska Legislature and has a 50-year history of housing research, teaching, and publication in Alaska Native languages.
- The degrees are unique in Alaska, the nation, and the world.
- The faculty in Alaska Native Languages research, publish, and collaborate worldwide- they are recognized experts in their fields.
- The programs serve the needs of Alaskan communities.

### WEAKNESSES:

- There is much greater need for research, publications and teaching assistance than can be met with current resources.
- Textbooks and workbooks are needed for more languages; at present teachers still must compose many teaching materials on their own.
- Changes in technology related to language research, teaching, and learning require resources and technical expertise.

### OPPORTUNITIES:

- Recent retirements present opportunities to hire in new areas and potentially teach additional languages.
- The production of new materials: increasing production of ANL teaching materials that support developments in language pedagogy and respond to rural teaching needs; updating of older teaching materials to meet current needs, non-academic publications.
- Program development can increase possibilities for Certificate, Associate and BA degree recipients to use Alaska Native languages in social service, justice and politics.

### THREATS:

- Language endangerment and loss of elders who speak the languages.
- Negative attitudes toward the future of Alaska Native languages: some people feel that efforts to preserve the languages are fruitless and not important.
- Lack of funding to hire researchers and teachers.

### CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

- Links to all Core Themes and UAF mission.

### INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

- ANLC has a strong history of acquiring external grant funding. The total sponsored output over a twelve-year period adds up to over \$5.9 million.
- Respected faculty with a strong record of research.
- In-house publications are successful and generate revenue.

### COST EFFECTIVENESS:

- ~\$300,000 in unrestricted salary and benefits.

- Low student numbers lead to a low student to faculty ratio and high cost per student.
- Students have often been funded through grants.

|            | MAJORS           | DEGREES          |
|------------|------------------|------------------|
| Inupiaq BA | FY15: 0/ FY19: 3 | FY15: 0/ FY19: 0 |
| Yup'ik BA  | FY15: 5/ FY19: 8 | FY15: 0/ FY19: 1 |

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#### Inupiaq BA:

| RECOMMENDATION:                                          | ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:                                                                                                                                                                                                                | DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP: |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Continuation w/ improvement plan (7 votes, 1 abstention) | Work to increase enrollment, retention, and time to degree. Explore whether the BA degree is needed (or are course offerings used by students in other majors). ANLC should pursue additional external funding to add more faculty. | Two years           |

#### Yup'ik BA:

| RECOMMENDATION:                                          | ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:                                                                                                                                                                                                                | DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP: |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Continuation w/ improvement plan (7 votes, 1 abstention) | Work to increase enrollment, retention, and time to degree. Explore whether the BA degree is needed (or are course offerings used by students in other majors). ANLC should pursue additional external funding to add more faculty. | Two years           |