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TO: Mike Sfraga, Interim Chancellor
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FROM: Samara Taber, Chair, Chancellor's Action Committee on Enrollment
Emeline Jones, Director, Graduate School and Interdisciplinary Studies
DATE: February 13, 2026
SUBJECT: Policy Recommendation on Progress Report Ratings for Out-of-Time-Limit Graduate Students

Rationale

To ensure accuracy, consistency, and appropriate oversight in evaluating graduate student progress, we recommend that the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) establish the following policy regarding annual academic progress reports (previously known as RACs) for graduate students who have exceeded the institutional time-to-degree limits.

Time-Limit Thresholds

The institutional time limits for degree completion are:

- Master's: seven years
• Ph.D.: 10 years

Progress Report Recommendation

Annual progress reports for graduate students beyond the institutional time limit may not be marked as "Satisfactory." Acceptable ratings for out-of-time-limit students must be limited to:

- "Conditional"
• "Unsatisfactory"

Detailed Justification

Establishing clear expectations for progress report ratings ensures that UAF maintains accurate academic records, supports transparent assessment of graduate student standing, and promotes timely completion of degrees.

When a student is past the time limit, but their progress is still deemed "Satisfactory," no intervention is prompted. This policy aligns with best practices, strengthens compliance, and ensures that committees identify clear timelines, expectations, and additional advising, planning, or resources for students who have exceeded the allowable time to degree.

CC:

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