

The following was passed at Faculty Senate Meeting #220, February 6, 2017:

**RESOLUTION** of no confidence in UA President Jim Johnsen:

**Whereas** University of Alaska President James Johnsen has strongly promoted Strategic Pathways as a mechanism to transform the University of Alaska; and

**Whereas** under Strategic Pathways, substantive and long-lasting decisions about major changes to academic programs have been announced without providing a careful analysis of the impact of those changes, and without coordinating with the affected faculty; and

**Whereas** some of the President's decisions on Strategic Pathways have blindsided affected faculty and administrative leadership at our campuses, the very people who should be the most involved in the decision-making process; and

**Whereas** under Strategic Pathways, the holistic needs of the university have been repeatedly drowned out by the demands of narrow interest groups and short-term political considerations; and

**Whereas** centralized "one size fits all" statewide solutions are often more expensive and less effective than local solutions that are tailored to the specific communities they serve; and

**Whereas** the uncertainty and disruption caused by these major reorganizations distract faculty from serving the educational mission of the university, and have caused both promising junior faculty and experienced senior faculty to leave the university; and

**Whereas** President Johnsen's failure to use established decision-making processes embracing shared governance could violate accreditation standards and undermine UAF's existing accreditations; and


**Whereas** the President's public and internal statements on Strategic Pathways have radically changed direction with little warning, specifically:

- UA Athletics:
  - Will pursue an NCAA waiver, or consortium model (presented by Johnsen at [September 15 BOR meeting](#))
  - Will cut six teams, including track and skiing (announced by Johnsen at [October 27 press conference](#))
  - Will cut no teams, and pursue neither waiver nor consortium model (presented by Johnsen at [November 10 BOR meeting](#))
- UA School of Education:
  - Will phase out Bachelor of Ed degree (presented by Johnsen at [September 15 BOR meeting](#))
  - Will create a statewide administrative headquarters at UAF (presented by Johnsen via [November 4 press release](#))
  - Will create a statewide administrative headquarters at UAS (presented by Johnsen at [December 14 BOR meeting](#))

**Whereas** in the spring 2016 search for a permanent chancellor, after hiring an external consultant, flying the entire search committee and candidates to Seattle for airport interviews, and arranging community and faculty meetings with the four finalists attended by hundreds, in May 2016 President Johnsen cancelled the search [due to a since-abandoned plan to pursue single accreditation](#) and appointed UAF's second interim chancellor, a position which still requires a permanent leader; and

**Whereas** while the UAF Faculty Senate recognizes the financial problems facing the university, the actions of President Johnsen have actively harmed UAF, and have caused long-term damage to the integrity, reputation, and viability of UAF;

**Therefore** be it resolved that the University of Alaska Fairbanks Faculty Senate has no confidence in the leadership of University of Alaska President James Johnsen.

 2017-02-06  
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President, UAF Faculty Senate

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Web links contained in resolution, in the order used above:

Under first bullet point, a sub-bullet linked to "September 15 BOR meeting":  
<https://www.alaska.edu/files/pathways/Strategic-Pathways-BOR-15-September-2016.pdf>

At second sub-bullet point, linked to "October 27 press conference":  
<https://www.adn.com/sports/2016/10/27/budget-ax-falls-on-skiing-indoor-track-at-uaa-skiing-at-uaf/>

At third sub-bullet point, linked to "November 10 BOR meeting":  
<https://www.adn.com/sports/uaa-athletics/2016/11/10/university-of-alaska-president-reverses-recommendation-to-cut-ski-and-track-teams/>

Under second bullet point, a sub-bullet linked to "September 15 BOR meeting":  
<https://www.alaska.edu/files/pathways/Strategic-Pathways-BOR-15-September-2016.pdf>

Under second bullet point, the second sub-bullet linked to "November 4 press release":  
<https://www.adn.com/alaska-news/education/2016/11/04/university-of-alaska-president-proposes-single-college-of-education-at-fairbanks/>

Under second bullet point, the third sub-bullet linked to "December 14 BOR meeting":  
<http://juneauempire.com/local/2016-12-14/ua-president-changes-mind-uas-will-keep-school-education>

Under *Whereas* in the ninth paragraph, linked to "due to a since-abandoned plan...":  
<https://www.adn.com/education/article/potential-restructure-university-alaska-means-no-new-chancellor-fairbanks-campus/2016/05/13/>