

The UAF Staff Council passed the following Motion (#2011/216/1) at Meeting 216 on April 20, 2011.

Staff have requested Google @alaska.edu accounts for departmental use, since the beginning of OIT's transition to Google Apps. The problem OIT presented with departmental accounts is their use of shared credentials. Repeatedly staff were informed that there was no current solution and that a decision had not yet been made about how to handle departmental account transition. In February 2011 SPAM filters were temporarily disabled on departmental accounts and an end time of June 2011 was set for those accounts. OIT has now presented and is essentially requiring the use of Google Groups for departmental accounts, but staff have encountered and presented several issues with this course of action.

WHEREAS, members of the staff have continually asked for Google Email accounts as a departmental account replacement since the deployment of Google Apps @alaska.edu,

WHEREAS, staff should not have to modify their business processes to fit a new product, when a requested solution already exists,

WHEREAS, group message management is cumbersome and lacks capabilities for organizing emails sufficiently in Google Groups,

WHEREAS, Google Groups provide no means for a shared contact list, auto responses, and centralized message storage for a department through a thick client, requiring extra management that makes the process of communicating less efficient for several departments,

WHEREAS, there is no way to transfer historical email, sufficient for compliance with business and legal processes to Google Groups,

WHEREAS, departments have already started to evaluate the use of external accounts at UAF, because no valid alternative has been presented,

Staff council moves that OIT should provide every departmental account holder the option to have a fully functional Google Email Account @alaska.edu, including the ability to utilize thick clients to access the account, instead of a Google Group.

Signed: 
President, Staff Council

4/21/11
Date

___ Fwd to President: 
Chancellor, University of Alaska Fairbanks

4/25/11
Date

___ Approved: _____
President, University of Alaska

Date

___ Disapproved: _____
President, University of Alaska

Date

Rationale for Disapproval: