

The UAF Faculty Senate took the following action at Special Meeting #223 on April 24, 2017:

MOTION:

Discontinuation of the PhD in Clinical and Community Psychology

Faculty Senate observes:

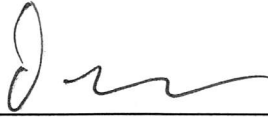
- The program has approximately 20-35 students enrolled, and approximately 1 graduate per year.
- Alaska has an enormous unmet demand for clinical & community psychology professionals.
- Significant faculty and staff turnover has occurred within the Department of Psychology over the past 10 years. This turnover coupled with the fiscal crisis requires the department to shift focus from the PhD program to undergraduate programs including the online bachelor's degree.
- The Faculty Evaluation Committee recommended continuation of the program.
- This department operates a local clinic, the UAF Department of Psychology Clinic,* which serves students, staff, faculty, and community members.
- The accreditation-required oversight for clinical operations (with real patients) in Fairbanks is expensive, and coordination with UAA on this has been complex.
- This was originally designed as a joint program between UAA and UAF.
- This discontinuation has both strong proponents and opponents within the department.

Therefore, the UAF Faculty Senate does not agree with the discontinuation of the PhD in Clinical and Community Psychology.

Rationale: This is an important program for interior Alaska healthcare research and also workforce development. Many mental health issues in Alaska, including Interior Alaska, are unique and deserve local study from America's Arctic University. Coordination with UAA consistent with Strategic Pathways recommendations should be explored. Some of the difficulties faced by the program are noted by the faculty review to result from lack of cooperation with UAA.

(Signatures attached)

* Link to <https://www.uaf.edu/psych/psychology-department-cli/>



2017-04-25

President, UAF Faculty Senate

The Chancellor Approves

Disapproves



Chancellor

Date: 5/4/2017