

The UAF Faculty Senate passed the following at Meeting #184 on September 10, 2012:

RESOLUTION

REAFFIRMATION OF COMMITMENT TO SHARED GOVERNANCE

WHEREAS, the University administration has recently demonstrated a lack of commitment to the principle of shared governance through its decisions to close the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Diversity (OMAD) and the UAF Women's Center without including governance organizations in the decision-making process; and

WHEREAS, Regents Policy requires the University to "provide an effective opportunity for university faculty, staff and students to play a meaningful role in matters affecting their welfare"¹ through participation in shared governance; and

WHEREAS, the closing of the UAF Women's Center and OMAD has the potential to not only negatively affect the welfare of women, people of color, and their allies, but will have far-reaching adverse effects on the entire UAF community who have come to rely on these centers for educational outreach, advocacy, nurturing student academic success, cultural programming, support, bridge-building, informational networking, collaborative partnerships with the community and academic departments, student engagement, volunteer opportunities including student internships, referrals, rape awareness, proactive student retention activities, community connections, gathering space, library and other resources, professional development activities, activism against multiple forms of discrimination and prejudice²; and

WHEREAS, Faculty Senate and other UAF governance organizations were excluded from the discussions and the decisions about the closure of the two offices whose missions are to advocate for women and people of color who are members of the UAF community; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate urges the University administration to reaffirm its commitment to the principle of shared governance.

 9/10/2012
Faculty Senate President Date

¹ Regents Policy, Part III—Faculty, Staff and Student Governance, Chapter 03.01.D.1

² From the published mission statements, websites, and publications from OMAD and the Women's Center