

The UAF Faculty Senate TABLED the following at Meeting #222 on April 3, 2017:

MOTION:

The UAF Faculty Senate agrees to the discontinuation of the Cooperative Extension Research program.

Effective: On Board of Regents approval

Rationale:

Cooperative Extension Service (CES) faculty, after an in-depth internal review starting in September 2015, identified the Extension Research program for special program review during the spring 2016 review cycle. During the special program review process, the faculty review committee, administrative review committee, and chancellor's cabinet approved the discontinuation; as did the statewide academic council, vice president for academic affairs & research, and academic and student affairs subcommittee of the board of regents. The [discontinuation summary and financial analysis are attached](#).

Because Cooperative Extension is a service unit, it does not offer degrees, so traditional teaching programs do not exist. Like the rest of CES, the Extension Research program does not offer degrees, and so does not appear in the catalog. Historically, the position of "Extension Specialist" has a tripartite appointment, including a research workload component, so during the internal review the Extension Research program was defined to consist of all Extension Specialists: this discontinuation would apply to all Extension Specialists, and only Extension Specialists. Tenured and tenure-track positions would still exist at CES as bipartite "Extension Agent" positions.

The ongoing budget cuts mean CES, like the rest of UAF, has extremely hard decisions to make. Many cooperative extension faculty were deeply involved in the reorganization process, which was both extensive and difficult, and included detailed financial and impact analysis. Some of the tenure-track faculty whose positions will be discontinued with this change, still support it for the good of the unit. Regardless of this discontinuation, the budget cuts mean tenure-track positions will certainly be lost, but this discontinuation allows the unit itself to make those hard choices for the good of the unit and its service to Alaskans.

Link to BOR Board Docs for discontinuation summary and financial analysis:
[http://www.boarddocs.com/ak/alaska/Board.nsf/files/AJEVEE805D4B/\\$file/Approval%20of%20Deletion%20of%20Cooperative%20Extension%20Research%20at%20UAF_2.6.17.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/ak/alaska/Board.nsf/files/AJEVEE805D4B/$file/Approval%20of%20Deletion%20of%20Cooperative%20Extension%20Research%20at%20UAF_2.6.17.pdf)