

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

**RESOLUTION**  
***of Support for Faculty and Staff Board of Regents Members***

**WHEREAS**, State of Alaska Statute AS 14.40.120 in combination with AS 14.40.130 codifies the composition of the University of Alaska Board of Regents to include a student Regent, but currently does not include any faculty or staff Regents; and

**WHEREAS**, the outcome of a survey reported<sup>1</sup> by the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) reveals that many universities have included faculty members in their governing boards.

**WHEREAS**, many institutions of higher education, including Washington's Gonzaga University and public universities in the state of Kentucky, include Faculty and Staff Regent or Trustee designations, to positive and inclusive effect; and


**WHEREAS**, the 2012 Cornell Higher Education Research Institute Survey of Faculty Trustees<sup>2</sup> reveals that many universities have included faculty members in their governing boards; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cornell survey notes that "discussions of "best practices" for governing boards consistently cite improved relationships with university employee stakeholders as one of the characteristics of highly effective boards;" and

**WHEREAS**, several advantages of faculty members of governing boards have been identified, including that a) these board members "come to appreciate better the challenges that the president and others face in leading the institution internally when complex issues are under discussion;" b) there is "shared information about board deliberations" and demystification of board processes; and c) board members "experienced in how things really work at the highest levels of deliberation is a valuable component of the broader faculty's understanding of how issues are resolved at the board level;"<sup>3</sup> and

**WHEREAS**, the current faculty and staff of the University of Alaska have a wealth of institutional knowledge and serve a vital role in promoting the health and well being of our State's University; now

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, the UAF Faculty Senate goes on record to support the modification of the State of Alaska Statute, as needed, to legislate the addition of faculty and staff members to serve as voting members on the University of Alaska Board of Regents.

  
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President, UAF Faculty Senate

<sup>1</sup><https://www.aaup.org/article/faculty-members-boards-trustees#.WOF5Em8rLct>

<sup>2</sup><http://www.ilr.cornell.edu/sites/ilr.cornell.edu/files/The%202012%20Cornell%20Higher%20Education%20Research%20Institute%20Survey%20of%20Faculty%20Trustees.pdf>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.agb.org/trusteeship/2010/julyaugust/the-virtues-of-student-and-faculty-trustees>