



April 1, 2008

TO: Dan Julius, VPAA
FROM: Robbie Stell, Provost
RE: Mike Driscoll's memo regarding proposed UAS MEd in Ed Leadership

I want to take this opportunity to respond to Provost Driscoll's memorandum regarding the proposed MEd emphasis in educational leadership. First, I appreciate his willingness to honor the majority vote of SAC. This implies that the SAC will speak as a single voice regarding this proposal as it moves to the Board of Regents meeting in April.

I would also like to clarify the concerns raised by Dr. Driscoll at the meeting and in his memorandum as follows:

1. While it is correct that UAA has had an approved program in Educational Leadership for approximately ten years, it is also necessary to remember that UAS had an Educational Leadership program for many years prior to that. The program was eliminated at a time of financial stress in the UA system.
2. This proposed program only has overlap in the standards (ELCC) that were used to develop the program. The methods of delivery, the curriculum to meet the standards, and the choice provided to students with this option are all different.
3. It is understood that all educator preparation programs in Alaska have capacity to enroll additional students.
4. The Department of Education and Early Development, regional superintendents, and the statewide UA office all encouraged and supported the development of this program to provide opportunities for student choice.
5. This proposed program is different from the UAA program in that it will not be delivered through a completely distance model. Students will have to participate in two summer institutes on the UAS campus to complete the program. In addition, this program will be completed in one calendar year.
6. The proposed program has been designed for students who desire a different option for completion of the program. We believe there are students who will choose this option who will not choose the UAA option and vice versa.

It should also be noted that the SAC meeting was the first time any objections were raised about this program. The deans of education from the three MAUs met in December and discussed this program proposal. At that time, the deans agreed that this program should go forward and no one would object.

Once again, I am pleased to note that Dr. Driscoll "will honor the majority vote of SAC." We look forward to the support from SAC as this program moves forward for Board of Regents approval.

cc: Provost Henrichs, UAF Dean Madsen, UAF
Provost Driscoll, UAA Bogdan Hoanca, UAA
Chancellor Pugh, UAS Dean Harris, UAS Cathy Connor, UAS