

Date: August 23, 2016
To: James R. Johnsen, President, University of Alaska
From: Tara Smith, Chair, UA Faculty Alliance
Re: Request for a faculty member on the Summit Team

The Faculty Alliance is requesting that a representative of the Alliance be added to the University of Alaska Summit Team. We think this is an important action to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of the shared governance structure at UA and to strengthen communication between the administration and faculty.

The Summit Team, since its formation, has generated and sent to Faculty Alliance a number of proposals to review, some of which have raised faculty concerns that might have been avoided had a faculty member been in the room when the proposal was initially discussed. We firmly believe that occasional meetings between the Summit Team and Faculty Alliance are not sufficient to ensure faculty voices inform proposals and discussions, and that a faculty representative needs to be in the room with the Summit Team unless we cannot legally be a part of the discussion.

In fall 2014,