

Dear UAA Community,

This afternoon, President Johnsen will share the University's budget contingency plans with the Board of Regents in an open session. By now, you have heard and read about the reality of significant reductions at all of UA's campuses. As the legislative session approaches possible conclusions, we are taking steps to prepare and plan for cuts in the range of \$19-28M at UAA. The details have been taking shape thanks to the hard work of the Planning, Budget and Advisory Council (PBAC), deans and other administrators. We will discuss those today and in the weeks ahead.

These are difficult decisions, but we are exploring every option to make sure that we make the best decisions for UAA. As we consider the impacts of possible cuts at UAA, we are working to find a balance between providing a positive, meaningful experience for our students and meeting academic program requirements. In the current fiscal environment, we must consider all options; UAA's contingency budget plans include proposed reductions in academic and administrative functions.

UAA's plans also include productive partnerships with colleagues across the UA System to create efficiency and solutions that will not only save essential funds, but that will also serve our students well. Rather than simply cutting campus programs, UAA and UAF Schools of Engineering are innovating and collaborating to share courses that will benefit students at both institutions. Partnerships have also been forged between the deans of UAF and UAA of Business and Management to offer students additional options for their studies, increasing access and opportunity for success. There are additional opportunities for alignment Systemwide and we must seize them to maximize and preserve our offerings for students.

Also under consideration is a broad-level plan to reduce costs further through changes such as administrative/fiscal shared services, course redesign and restructuring, centralized advising and campus administrative restructuring. The contingency plans being discussed at the Regents meeting today will potentially affect UAA faculty and staff with a range of possible impacts including contract reductions, increased/revised workloads, non-renewals and lay-offs. We value our staff and faculty tremendously and we are doing everything we can to minimize the number of jobs that will be affected.

You may listen to today's budget and Strategic Pathways discussion, which is scheduled to begin at 1 p.m.; you can listen via web stream at <http://www.alaska.edu/oit/services/video-conferencing/streaming-conferences/> or in-person at UAA's Gorsuch Commons, Rm 106. Faculty, staff and students also have the opportunity to ask questions of President Johnsen directly at the Strategic Pathways forums taking place at UAA on April 12. [Groups and times are here.](#)

My Cabinet and I are committed to continuing the conversation with the campus community as the budget continues to evolve. We will hold a budget forum on Friday, April 15 at 1:30 p.m. in Library 307. I hope you will attend to ask questions and contribute your suggestions and feedback. In addition, [UAA's budget web page](#) offers the most updated details on UAA's budget and a link to President Johnsen's presentation, as well as a vehicle for submitting your ideas for budget reductions and efficiencies.

The presentation today about contingency planning is a necessary step in a process that is still evolving. This scenario planning helps us to better assess and understand the impacts of cuts at UAA. As soon as we have a final budget from the state, we can share definitive information.

Thank you for all you do.

Sincerely,

Tom Case
Chancellor