



Faculty Senate
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

3211 Providence Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99508-4614
T 907.786.1994

www.uaa.alaska.edu/governance/facultysenate

September 15, 2016

To: Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor, Sam Gingerich
University of Alaska Anchorage

Fr: Monique Marron,
UAA Governance Office

Re: Re-enabling Outlook Exchange Email Servers

On September 2, 2016 the Faculty Senate approved the following motion.

WHEREAS the UAA faculty and staff have been migrated from a Microsoft Exchange server to the Gmail system in August 2016, shortly before the start of the Fall 2016 semester, and

WHEREAS the Gmail email system is proving difficult to use, causing hours of wasted time in any given day, causing lost email messages, lacking address books, lacking connectivity to the voicemail system, and generally impeding faculty in their ability to communicate with students, staff and colleagues at a time when such communication is particularly critical at the beginning of the semester and

WHEREAS the Exchange server is still operating for receiving mail, is up to date, but only lacks the ability to send mail and

WHEREAS the cost reduction benefits of the conversion to Gmail have not been demonstrated or even estimated, while the costs in human time wasted, lost information and unnecessary frustration are widely apparent

THEREFORE the UAA Faculty Senate resolves that UA/UAA ITS re-enable the Exchange server's ability to send messages, to allow faculty and staff access to the familiar and user friendly Exchange email system until the Gmail system is debugged and updated to provide comparable functionality

If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.



Provost

☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved

Comments: While I strongly support this motion, I believe analyses need to be done before action is taken. Specifically, my recommendation includes the expectation that the analyses include at a minimum the following considerations as well as any other concerns that come to light during this prior review/planning.

Considerations for re-enabling send capability from Exchange:

- Email system choice - Disabling "send" forces the president's mandate to use gmail. Without this block in place, users will be able to choose the system they prefer. This will effectively void the mandate.
- Systems are not in synch - While exchange still receives email addressed to @uaa.alaska.edu, it does not receive emails addressed to @alaska.edu. Email filed or deleted in one will not be reflected in the other.
- Contact confusion – A sender will not know the best email address for contacting someone. While forwards can be put in place between systems, a sender will not know whether this has been accomplished or not. Missed connections may occur.
- Calendar confusion – inviting people to a meeting will become more complex as it won't be clear which calendar each person uses.
- Unintended consequences – these systems are complex. Changing from the current state introduces the likelihood of unanticipated problems, confusion and wasted time.

Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor Sam Gingerich,

12/11/2016
Date

Chancellor

☒ Approved ☐ Disapproved

Comments:

I also support this motion and agree with the Provost that analyses need to be done before action is taken.

Tom Case, Chancellor

14 Dec 2016
Date