Resolution on Strategic Pathways

For consideration at the UAF Faculty Senate 2016-10-10

WHEREAS, for Strategic Pathways to be successful and credible, it needs to be seen as fair and deliberate, and reflect the diversity of viewpoints needed to collect the necessary information and carefully study the impacts of the recommendations being considered,

WHEREAS, while the Phase I Strategic Pathways Task Forces were formed during the summer when few faculty were on contract or available, and the work was preliminary in nature, this is no longer the case,

WHEREAS, Strategic Pathways implementation committees are continuing to meet and make decisions and recommendations to implement the recommendations from Phase I, but the composition and operation of the task forces is essentially unchanged,

WHEREAS, faculty have not been given an opportunity to choose their own representation, and those faculty who are involved have been given instructions that limit their capacity to freely discuss the work of these committees with their colleagues,

WHEREAS, changes currently being proposed do not always reflect an understanding of vital information about the impact of major changes on students, and faculty can help provide that understanding,

WHEREAS, as an example, at the last Board of Regents meeting the BoR recommended the elimination of the BA program in education, but much of the material provided to the Board at the meeting contained significant erroneous information or lacked important context,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,
The Faculty Senate requests that:

- Faculty members be free to discuss the contents of Strategic Pathways options with the community so that they can collect the necessary feedback to ensure that the conclusions reached by these committees will be well informed and considered,
- Membership in Strategic Pathways Committees affecting academic programs have a plurality of representation from faculty in those programs, and
- Faculty members in Strategic Pathways Committees be selected by their respective constituencies.