Date: February 2, 2020

To: John Stalvey, Interim Provost

From: Denise Runge, Dean

Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review Findings

Program/s in this review: Aviation Technology (BS)

Specialized accrediting agency (if applicable): none

Campuses where the program is delivered: Anchorage

Members of the program review committee:

- Paul Herrick, Director
- Ray Weber, Associate Professor
- Brian Keller, Assistant Professor

Centrality of Program Mission and Supporting Role   The Aviation Technology (BS) program is well-aligned with the mission of both CTC and UAA. The program provides well-rounded education for students planning to enter an array of aviation career paths, and includes an associates-to-bachelors completion option for those who hold a certificate or associate degree. The emphasis areas, piloting and aviation management, prepare graduates for careers in a Department of Labor field designated as "high demand" in Alaska. While the degree does not require FAA approval, students seeking certification within the degree (for example, as pilots) are able to do so because it is aligned with the division's other programs that are FAA approved.

Program Demand (including service to other programs), Efficiency, and Productivity
Demand for the program has remained consistently high during the review period. Given the overall decline in enrollment across the university system, the program is doing well. In 2019 there were 212 majors, consistent with the seven-year average of 215.

Efficiency and productivity have been edging upward during the period of this review. With an average class size of 17.8 in 2019, cost per credit hour of $121.8 against tuition per credit hour of only $231.0, the program is generating net revenues with a ratio of 1.89. The program graduated 36 students each year in 2019 and 2018, up from its seven-year average of 28 per year. The program retains about seventy percent of its first year students, and its most recent six-year graduation rate is well above the UAA bachelors degree rate.

Program Quality, Improvement and Student Success The program has, in response to its most recent program review, made several adjustments to its requirements and within some of

the courses, with the goal of strengthening and aligning the program to better meet student needs. Graduates of the program continue to be sought-after by industry, and the program's Advisory Board provides numerous opportunities for internships and employment. The recent addition of the Aeronautical Studies emphasis has created an avenue to expand the program's reach in that it affords many more students an opportunity to pursue an aviation career while providing credit for prior educational attainment. The program's Student Success Advisor works closely with faculty, and early results of their efforts can be seen in the reduction in average credits per degree.

Program Duplication / Distinctiveness The Aviation Technology BS is unique among programs in the university system, filling an important gap to cover a wide array of aviation-related career opportunities within a high-demand industry. The program offers three emphases: in piloting, in aviation management, and one that provides a degree completion option for those with previous coursework or an associate's degree.

Commendations and Recommendations Commendations: The program is commended for continuing to convert many of its courses for online delivery in order to afford maximum flexibility for students. The program is commended for developing the Aeronautical Studies emphasis that provides a completion pathway with reduced time-to-degree results. Recommendation: The program should continue to monitor its costs and seek additional partnerships to expand access to these high-demand career opportunities for its students.

Decision *Continuation:* Program is successfully serving its students and meeting its mission and goals. No immediate changes necessary, other than regular, ongoing program improvements.