

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”

-Henry Brooks Adam

To whom it may concern,

The following is a letter to address the current proposal of adding a tenured faculty member to chair the Board of Regents. The Coalition of Student Leaders (CSL) believes such representation for faculty amongst the Board of Regents is coherently **self-evident**. Faculty are the pillars of the university; they build the foundations from which all other things manifest. They are the sculptors of our society's future geniuses, workers, and citizens. Indeed, without students, there is no purpose for a university to exist, but without faculty, there is no structure. Education is nothing without an erudite person to voice its influence and potential to society. May we remind the Alaska State Legislature that equal representation is a core value of the United States, a constitutional republic. Faculty may not be a cumulative majority like the student body, but they work longer within a university than any four-year student attending it. They must have equal voices on the Board of Regents. Faculty, we remind you, are also human; they go through struggles and stress teaching hundreds of students every semester. Their rights must be heard; if not, we fail to represent our people. We fail to retain students if the eloquent professor who has inspired them to greatness is treated unfairly, and we fail to recruit new students if they do not want to attend a university that does not respect people's needs. To candor, it will merely debase the university's and Alaska's reputation. A board must have those with experience in education in charge of providing wisdom and guidance from their unique perspective, which is exactly what faculty provide. For these reasons and many more, the Coalition of Student Leaders believes it is in the best interest of everybody to add this tenured faculty member to the Board of Regents.

Sincerely,

Coalition of Student Leaders