

Post -
SECONDARY
Comm.

ALASKA STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR VOCATIONAL & ADULT EDUCATION

SUITE 213 - GOLDSTEIN BLDG.
130 SEWARD STREET
JUNEAU, ALASKA 99801

FRANCES ROSE
CHAIRPERSON

WALTER WARD
VICE CHAIRPERSON

February 13, 1976

(907) 586-2149
OR (907) 586-1736

DALE E. STALEY
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

To: Commissioner of Education, State Board of Education, 1202 Commission, Board of Regents University of Alaska, State Superintendent Association, Association of Alaska School Boards, Office of the Governor, Alaska State Legislature, Commissioner of Administration and Commissioner of Education for Region X.

From: Frances H. Rose, Chairperson *FHR*

Subject: Post-Secondary Vocational Education Funding

The State Advisory Council for Vocational and Adult Education unanimously passed the following resolution at its regular meeting on February 10, 1976, in Juneau, Alaska. This resolution is a response to a situation which has been unresolved for a year; and if it is allowed to continue, it will seriously hamper efforts in vocational education in the state.

Therefore, we hope that by bringing this matter to your attention you may be able to assist in corrective action within the area of your jurisdiction. We know that you are as concerned as we are that the maximum effort in vocational education be put forth in this state; and we hope that through cooperation between those of us who have influence in the field of education in Alaska the problem will be resolved.

The Council is willing to assist you in any way we can. Please feel free to contact us. Thank you.

JIM EVANS ANCHORAGE	BERTRACE CHASE WRANGELL	CARROLL FADER KETCHIKAN	JIM CARROLL JUNEAU	DONALD THIEDEMAN KODIAK
STAN SUMMERS NOME	ROBERT HAVERFIELD FAIRBANKS	MIKE FREEMAN ANCHORAGE	ROBERT THWING ANCHORAGE	HELEN BEIRNE ANCHORAGE
CLYDE COURTNAGE ANCHORAGE	MARIE DARLIN JUNEAU	FRANK CHAPADOS FAIRBANKS	WALTER WARD KENAI	ROGER BLAIR ANCHORAGE
LOUIS J. LICARI SITKA	CHARLIE MAE MOORE JUNEAU	DICK BOWER ANCHORAGE	GLEN LUNDELL ANCHORAGE	RICHARD H. EAKINS JUNEAU
		FRANCES ROSE ANCHORAGE		

RESOLUTION

Whereas, the State of Alaska continues to rank high among the fifty states in unemployment levels, and communities throughout the State have indicated a high priority for educational programs leading to gainful employment,

And whereas, a major source of financial aid for such program leadership comes from the federal Vocational Education Act of 1963, as amended, which requires that "Any state desiring to receive Federal funds under the Act shall designate or create by State law a State board which is the sole State agency responsible for the administration of vocational education, or for the supervision of the administration thereof by local educational agencies, in the State",

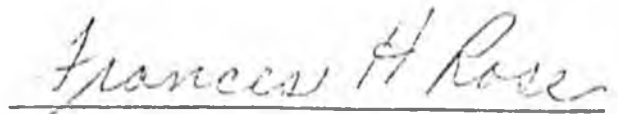
And whereas, the State of Alaska has designated the State Board of Education as the sole State agency for receipt and disbursement of such funds,

And whereas, through administrative action which channeled funds directly to the University of Alaska, thereby circumventing the State Plan and the designated sole State agency, the State of Alaska has jeopardized in excess of one million dollars which flows through the State, which could make the State ineligible for federal vocational education funds because of a lack of acceptable local effort expenditures,

Be it therefore resolved by the Alaska State Advisory Council for Vocational and Adult Education that funds so distributed be recouped and such administrative action must not again occur which is in violation of established federal and state regulations and the responsibilities designated thereby,

Be it further resolved that this Council stands fully behind cooperative and coordination efforts by which articulation and maximum return from limited resources will be realized. However, it is the Council's position that such decisions should result from deliberate action by the State Board of Education and the 1202 Commission for the State of Alaska. Involvement or concurrence of both of the above bodies should be required on all matters related to program standards or fiscal allocations which may directly or indirectly serve as a bridge between secondary and post secondary programs.

Passed by unanimous action of the Council in a meeting held in Juneau, Alaska, February 10-11, 1976.



Frances H. Rose, Chairperson

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

MEMORANDUM

March 17, 1976

TO: Frances Rose, Chairperson
Alaska State Advisory Council for Vocational and Adult Education

FROM: Don M. *Dafoe*
Executive Vice President

SUBJECT: Your Memo of 2/13/76 re Postsecondary Vocational Education Funding

Dr. Robert Hiatt, President of the University, and Mr. Brian Brundin, President of the Board of Regents' have asked me to respond to your memorandum of February 13, 1976.

I do not know what your sources of information were for preparation of this memo but it is apparent to me that it must have been based on insufficient and faulty information. The persons who are best informed in this matter include Dr. Lind, Mr. Nat Cole, and Dr. Spaziani of the Department of Education, Mr. Rich Guthrie, former Legislative Budget Analyst, and myself. Perhaps you did have the benefit of hearing from the Department of Education people and/or Mr. Guthrie, but I was not consulted.

There is some pertinent historical background of which you should be aware. For several years beginning with Fiscal 1972 and continuing through Fiscal 1974 there had been an appropriation to the Department of Education for post-secondary vocational funding through the community colleges. The determination of fund allocations was arrived at through discussions between Mr. Ridle, then Director of Vocational Education, and community college directors. Allocation formulae were developed as a basis for distribution. However, vocational education personnel appeared not to really believe in the allocation concept and insisted upon a great deal of paperwork, most of which our directors believed to be unnecessary, and an attitude that some of our people felt bordered on harassment.

For fiscal year 1974 the amount of \$1,350,000 was appropriated but actually only \$1,206,000 reached the community colleges. Some of the difference was "administrative expense" which we had agreed to reluctantly. For FY 1975 we had provided information to the Department of Education, noting that more than \$1,800,000 should be provided to provide for increased enrollments.

Frances Rose, Chairperson
Alaska State Advisory Council for
Vocational and Adult Education

-2-

March 17, 1976

The Legislative Finance Committees for several years had raised questions regarding the allocation of these funds and had expressed concern that the community college budgets were not complete--that is, that the budget from the University covered primarily academic and community service budgets but did not encompass all vocational education sources.

In the Spring of 1974 the chairman of the Senate Finance Committee and Mr. Guthrie raised the question as to whether the State funding for community college vocational education had to go through the Department of Education. There were several discussions involving Mr. Cole, Mr. Lind, Mr. Guthrie, Senator Groh and myself. At no time was the question of "sole State agency" or possible loss of funding brought up.

The legislative appropriation act placed the \$1350.0 in the University budget with the legislative intent on page 14 of the education budget document stating the following:

"LEGISLATIVE INTENT"

"\$1,350,000 has been transferred from the Department of Education for community college voc. ed. programs support. The entire amount is to be distributed to community colleges based upon a formula that is approved by all community college directors and advisory boards.

"The FY 76 budgets for community colleges shall be complete program budgets that include funding from all sources for all courses, programs and activities."

On May 5-6, 1974, at a meeting of community college directors in Fairbanks, we worked out the fund allocations as required under the intent note and requested the directors to inform advisory boards accordingly and reflect any concerns. The allocations were then incorporated in the FY 75 working budgets of the various units. The budgets for FY 75, in accord with stated legislative intent, incorporated these funds as state support funds in the overall budget.

In April 1975 we received a letter from Dr. Staley inviting participation in an Advisory Council meeting in Sitka May 14-15. His letter raised some questions. In a letter dated April 18 I responded to his letter, answering several of the questions. I noted that because of commencement activities and legislative pressures I doubted that either Dr. Hiatt or myself could attend. However, I did designate, through the Provosts, representatives of each region to attend, and requested them to be prepared to report to the Council on specific items. Later we designated Mr. O'Mahoney as our official liaison representative to the Council.

In May of 1975, Dr. Spaziani told me in Juneau that Region X HEW lawyers were raising some questions. Subsequently their concerns were discussed by Dr. Lind, Dr. Hiatt, and myself. At one point in April Verdell Jackson was involved in discussion concerning reporting.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

Frances Rose, Chairperson
Alaska State Advisory Council for
Vocational and Adult Education

-3-

March 17, 1976

On July 22 I received a letter from Dr. Spaziani in which he stated that Alaska legal counsel did not concur with USOE interpretations. The counsel proposed that we sign an agreement to provide information required to satisfy Federal reporting requirements. In a reply dated July 28 I noted that we would be pleased to sign an agreement to provide fiscal, personnel, and student enrollment information as required to meet Federal commitments. I indicated our appreciation for the need to satisfy Federal maintenance of efforts requirements and for the State Department of Education to have a comprehensive view of what goes on in Vocational Education. I noted that we assumed that such reports would be made available to the Advisory Council.

I asked that the agreement form be forwarded for my signature. I also suggested that reporting forms be sent to our units and that I be notified when they were sent so I could follow up with our reporting entities.

On August 15 I was copied with a letter from Dr. Spaziani to Mr. Rockefeller proposing a proposal for an agreement by the University of Alaska to provide necessary information for the State Plan Year End Report.

On August 26, following a telephone conversation with Dr. Spaziani, I noted that I had executed and forwarded the agreement requested. I noted again our willingness to submit reports and on that same day forwarded the reporting forms to our community colleges with a request for return to me by September 20 so I could review and transmit them to Dr. Spaziani. In that letter I noted that Mr. Jackson reportedly had stated that the University was not willing to agree to report. That is, of course, blatantly untrue.

On September 8 I received a letter from Dr. Spaziani with a copy of a memo to Verdell Jackson dated September 5 from Mr. Lorensen of the Attorney General's office which, in essence, approved the agreement arrangement. I am enclosing a copy of the signed agreement and Mr. Lorensen's memo for your information.

On October 14 we received a telephone call from Dr. Spaziani noting that Mr. Sam Kerr of Region X would be conferring further with legal counsel in Washington and we would be kept informed.

In the meantime, we did send in reports from all of our community colleges to Mr. Jackson and invited his review and comment.

Our position has consistently been that we are willing to cooperate in reporting to the State Department of Education on post-secondary vocational education. We understand and respect the need to provide maintenance of effort information and the need for the Department of Education (and, through them, your Council to have comprehensive vocational education information).

We do not in any way want to have vocational education funding adversely affected.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

Frances Rose, Chairperson
Alaska State Advisory Council for
Vocational and Adult Education

-4-

March 17, 1976

However, we do not believe that a Federal office through its legal counsel can dictate how a State legislature appropriates its funds. We believe that the position of the Alaska Attorney General's office is sound.

If the Federal lawyers persist in narrow bureaucratic interpretation we believe that a hearing should be requested before the United States Commissioner of Education.

I am willing to discuss this whole matter with your Council at any time.

DMD/jbg

Encl: 8/15 Agreement & 9/5 Lorensen Memo
cc: Board of Regents
President's Council
Community College Directors
Commissioner of Education
Chairman, State Board of Education, and Members
Director, 1202 Commission, and Members
Secretary, Association of Alaska School Boards
Governor Hammond
Speaker of the House of Representatives
President of the Senate
Chairman, HESS Committee, House of Representatives
Chairman, HESS Committee, Senate
Members, Alaska State Advisory Council for
Vocational and Adult Education
W. Phillip Rockefeller, Regional Commissioner, Region X
Verdell Jackson, Director, Vocational Education

Added information:

1. On March 11 the House Select Subcommittee on Education introduced HCR 112 which relates to this subject and is apparently based on the same misinformation which prompted your memo! I will ask Representative Parr who requested its introduction.

2. On March 18 I received a letter from Verdell Jackson enclosing a revised agreement form suggested by Region X concerning reporting and access to records. It differs only slightly from the one I signed last August. His letter states "It appears at this time that we can comply with the USOE request for information and finally resolve the year long conflict with USOE". !!!

THIS LATEST ACTION CERTAINLY CONFIRMS THE POINT THAT SOMEONE, EITHER THROUGH LACK OF KNOWLEDGE OR BY DESIGN, MISINFORMED YOU AND THE COUNCIL (AND A LOT OF OTHER PEOPLE BY SPREADING COPIES OF YOUR MEMORANDUM)!

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

JAY S. HAMMOND, Governor

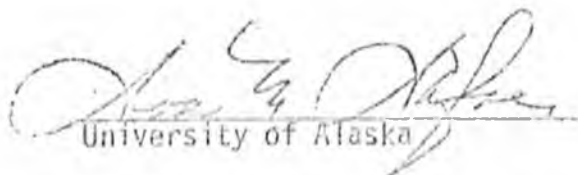
POUCH F -- ALASKA OFFICE BUILDING
JUNEAU 99301

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND
THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA

Public Law 90-576, as amended (Vocational Education Act) requires that the State Board of Education act as the "sole agency for administration of the State Plan, or for supervision of the administration thereof by local education agencies." However, the Alaska constitution places sole authority over the State's University System in the Board of Regents of the University. Some portions of the program under the State Plan for P.L. 90-576 are operated by the Board of Regents within its university system and it is therefore not within the authority of the State Board of Education to administer them. In order to satisfy the alternative federal requirement that the State Board of Education be the sole agency for supervision of the administration of these portions of the Plan by the Board of Regents, the following agreement is entered between the University of Alaska and the Alaska Department of Education.

1. The University of Alaska will provide to the Department of Education for fiscal year 1975 and 1976 timely fiscal, personnel, and student enrollment data necessary to complete DOE and Federal reporting requirements under P.L. 90-576, as amended.
2. The University of Alaska will permit during regular working hours, access to the relevant fiscal, personnel, and student enrollment records to representatives of the Department of Education for the purpose of reviewing administration of vocational education programs.
3. This agreement may be terminated upon mutual agreement of the University of Alaska and the Department of Education.


University of Alaska

Date:

August 22, 1975


Alaska Department of Education

Date:

8/15/75

MEMORANDUM

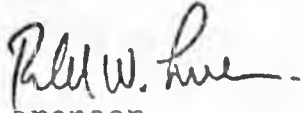
State of Alaska

TO: Verdell Jackson, Coordinator
Career & Vocational Education
Department of Education

DATE: September 5, 1975

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO:

FROM: 
Ronald W. Lorensen
Assistant Attorney General
Department of Law

SUBJECT: State Plan for Vocational
Education and Sole State
Agency

At your request, we have reviewed the agreement between the Department of Education and the University of Alaska dated August 20, 1975. Under this agreement, the University has agreed to provide the department with certain information and to permit access to and review of relevant records relating to the university's administration of portions of the state's Plan for Vocational Education.

You have asked, with respect to this agreement, whether it satisfies the federal requirement that there be a "sole agency for administration of the State Plan (for Vocational Education), or for supervision of the administration thereof by local educational agencies." Your question arises from the fact that while the state plan designates the state Board of Education as that sole agency, under the plan some programs are to be operated within the university system by the State Board of Regents over which the Board of Education has no legal authority. (Alaska Constitution, Art. VII, Sec. 3). In an effort to satisfy the federal requirement while remaining within the confines of their respective operational authorities, the Department of Education and the University of Alaska have established, by this agreement, a supervisory relationship whereby the department can supervise and review the university's operation of its vocational education programs without encroaching on the university's operational authority over those programs.

While the Department of Law is charged only with the enforcement and interpretation of state law, so that any interpretation we would place on federal law would be of no binding effect, absent the concurrence of the U.S. Attorney General, we would indicate that this supervisory relationship does appear to come within the purview of the alternative federal requirement that there be a sole agency for supervision of the administration of the state plan. Presumably this alternative requirement was inserted in the legislation to avoid precisely the kind of conflict in the various states which would arise in Alaska were the state Board of Education to try to exert its authority over university-run programs.

RWL:jf

How the States Support Colleges

Here are estimates of their comparative efforts,
based on the latest available figures

	1974-75		Appropriations		Appropriations		Approp. per \$1,000	
	Amount (add 000)	Rank	per student (b) Amount	Rank	per capita (c) Amount	Rank	of personal income (d) Amount	Rank
Alabama.....	\$ 158,110	25	\$2,088*	35	\$ 44.68	36	\$11.54	19
Alaska.....	36,073	44	8,552	1	109.31	1	18.42	1
Arizona.....	152,549	26	2,229	28	74.12	2	15.80	5
Arkansas.....	82,421	35	2,431	18	40.46	45	10.24	31
California.....	1,365,861	1	2,204	30	66.30	8	12.01	18
Colorado.....	167,154	24	2,024	36	68.59	6	13.64	11
Connecticut.....	135,247	28	2,648	12	43.97	39	7.40	45
Delaware.....	37,206	43	2,378	21	64.59	12	11.18	10
Florida.....	412,299	7	2,855*	7	53.70	23	10.91	20
Georgia.....	237,416	14	2,881	6	49.61	30	11.29	21
Hawaii.....	58,740	38	2,020	37	70.60	4	12.74	13
Idaho.....	50,238	39	2,631	13	65.24	11	14.78	8
Illinois.....	612,545	3	2,914	5	54.52	21	9.45	37
Indiana.....	247,119	12	2,499	15	46.49	35	9.32	40
Iowa.....	147,785	27	2,407*	20	50.89	25	9.65	36
Kansas.....	126,502	31	1,873*	44	55.51	18	10.47	29
Kentucky.....	169,604	23	2,676	11	50.75	26	12.58	14
Louisiana.....	185,531	19	2,119	34	49.29	32	12.54	15
Maine.....	46,705	41	2,454	17	44.46	38	10.89	22
Maryland.....	181,704	20	2,233*	26	44.64	37	8.13	45
Massachusetts †.....	199,761	16	2,179	31	34.33	49	5.54	49
Michigan.....	524,173	4	2,490*	16	57.96	16	10.44	28
Minnesota.....	194,311	18	2,162*	32	49.86	28	9.71	35
Mississippi.....	130,729	29	2,270	24	57.31	17	16.12	3
Missouri.....	197,911	17	2,207	29	41.60	42	8.59	43
Montana.....	38,249	42	1,854	45	53.05	24	11.33	20
Nebraska.....	85,400	34	2,292	23	55.38	20	10.51	27
Nevada.....	29,720	47	2,244	25	54.23	22	9.44	38
New Hampshire.....	18,380	50	1,162	50	23.24	50	4.95	50
New Jersey.....	289,512	11	2,724*	10	39.33	47	6.73	48
New Mexico.....	61,382	37	1,967	39	55.50	19	14.40	10
New York.....	1,159,880	2	3,515*	2	63.50	14	11.13	23
North Carolina.....	337,044	9	3,025	4	63.92	13	14.93	7
North Dakota.....	31,730	46	1,380	49	49.58	31	8.71	42
Ohio.....	386,017	8	1,919*	41	35.97	48	7.09	47
Oklahoma.....	105,970	32	1,475	48	39.79	46	9.17	41
Oregon.....	129,889	30	1,913	42	58.38	15	12.08	17
Pennsylvania †.....	485,242	6	2,770*	8	40.77	44	8.17	44
Rhode Island.....	47,036	40	2,752	9	48.34	33	9.99	33
South Carolina.....	180,558	21	3,409	3	66.24	9	17.06	2
South Dakota.....	32,221	45	1,908	43	47.04	34	9.98	39
Tennessee.....	169,833	22	2,161	33	41.16	43	10.05	24
Texas.....	509,180	5	1,788*	46	43.17	41	9.44	34
Utah.....	75,740	36	1,950	40	65.46	10	16.08	4
Vermont.....	20,120	49	1,760	47	43.36	40	10.70	26
Virginia.....	242,359	13	2,417*	19	50.38	27	10.31	30
Washington.....	232,343	15	2,016	38	67.76	7	13.15	12
West Virginia.....	89,034	33	2,231	27	49.63	29	12.53	16
Wisconsin †.....	327,321	10	2,542*	14	71.64	3	15.08	6
Wyoming.....	24,306	48	2,308	22	68.86	5	14.67	9
Total U.S.	\$10,965,160		\$2,373		\$52.25		\$10.36	

* Indicates states whose appropriations included at least one percent specifically appropriated for private institutions or students attending private institutions.

† Estimate

(a) Reported by M. M. Chambers of Illinois State University.

(b) State appropriations divided by number of full-time students in public institutions in fall, 1973, reported by U.S. Office of Education.

(c) State appropriations divided by July, 1973, population, reported by U.S. Bureau of the Census.

(d) Per capita appropriations divided by thousands of dollars of per capita personal income for 1973, reported by U.S. Department of Commerce.

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Division of Student Financial Aid
Division of Postsecondary Education,
Western Region Higher Education Compact

907-465-2855
Pouch F — State Office Building
Juneau 99811

February 13, 1976

TO: The Honorable Frank R. Ferguson
Alaska State Senate

FROM: Kerry D. Romesburg, Executive Director
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, at its February 6 and 7, 1976 meeting, discussed a number of bills currently being considered by the Alaska Legislature. The Commission would like to offer its endorsement and recommendations for the pending legislation outlined below. Any assistance which you may provide in these matters will be appreciated.

HB 143 "An Act relating to the regulation of postsecondary educational institutions;"

Comments: The Commission views this legislation as its first priority for support. This bill would provide "consumer protection" to the citizens of the State for the area of postsecondary education. Current legislation and regulations do not effectively prevent "consumer abuse" in many cases.

This bill has passed the House unanimously (last session) and is presently in the Senate Finance Committee.

HB 142 "An Act relating to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education;"

Comments: This bill adds two additional fields of study for inclusion in Alaska's participation in the WICHE Student Exchange Program, and provides for a number of general "housekeeping" changes which will assist in clarifying Commission duties and programs.

HB 144 "An Act revising the Community College Act;"

Comments: The Commission endorses this bill as written, but omitting Section 14.40.605 (a).

SB 239 - 240 "Acts providing for the delivery of postsecondary educational services to rural areas by the University of Alaska;"

The Honorable Frank R. Ferguson
February 13, 1976
Page 2

Comments: While it appears the University of Alaska and the Alaska Board of Regents have already taken steps to effect the provisions of these bills, the Commission wishes to formally endorse the concepts and the provisions therein.

HB 708 "An Act establishing the Alaska community service internship program;"

Comments: The Commission endorses and supports the establishment of this community service internship program for Alaskans. The benefits of experiential education have been well documented throughout our country, as well as here in our State. This bill provides the structure by which such educational endeavors can be greatly expanded, and is designed to prevent possible program abuses.

STATE OF ALASKA


JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Division of Student Financial Aid
Division of Postsecondary Education
Western Region Higher Education Compact

907-465-2855
Pouch F — State Office Building
Juneau 99811

TO: Jay S. Hammond
Governor

FROM: Kerry D. Romesburg, Executive Director
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education 

DATE: March 8, 1976

On March 5 and 6, 1976, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education met at a special meeting called to discuss possible alternatives for the State's involvement with Alaska Methodist University. After considerable study and deliberation, the Commission unanimously approved a course of action to be recommended to your office and to the Legislature. The recommendation, adopted March 6, 1976, is:

1. That, the State of Alaska establish a contractual* relationship between the State and Alaska Methodist University for the provision of educational services to the citizens of the State; and
2. That, the State ensure, by option or other agreement that the State retain first right to the purchase or lease of Alaska Methodist University in the event of eventual sale or desire for sale; and further
3. That, the State of Alaska seriously consider the purchase or lease of Alaska Methodist University as soon as possible and in such a manner as to ensure the viability of Alaska Methodist University as an educational institution in the interim.

Attachment

cc: Dr. Robert Dellenbach, President, Alaska Methodist University
Members, Alaska State Legislature

*Contract as outlined in the attachment to this memorandum.

STATE OF ALASKA

JAY S. HAMMOND, GOVERNOR

COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

Division of Student Financial Aid
Division of Postsecondary Education
Western Region Higher Education Compact

907-465-2855
Pouch F - State Office Building
Juneau 99811

Recommended Contractual Agreement

The State will enter into a direct contractual agreement with Alaska Methodist University for the provision of postsecondary educational services. For these services the State will pay \$7,000 per full-time equivalent (FTE) resident student for the first 300 FTE resident students enrolled and shall further pay: \$6,000 for each FTE resident enrollment above 300 and not exceeding 400, \$5,000 for each FTE resident enrollment above 400 and not exceeding 500, \$4,000 for each FTE resident enrollment above 500 and not exceeding 600, and \$3,000 for each FTE resident enrollment above 600.

TABLE OF SAMPLE CONTRACT AMOUNTS

<u>FTE Resident Enrollment</u>	<u>Contract Amount</u>
300	\$2,100,000
400	2,700,000
450	2,950,000
500	3,200,000
550	3,400,000
600	3,600,000
650	3,750,000
700	3,900,000
800	4,050,000

In entering into such an agreement with the State, Alaska Methodist University will agree to charge a tuition for Alaska resident students which shall not be in excess of the tuition charged a student at a comparable level of study in the University of Alaska system.

February 4, 1976

Mrs. Mildred Banfield
Post Secondary Education Commission

Dear Mrs. Banfield:

I am glad that I had the opportunity to talk with you about the future of higher education in the Anchorage area. I came away with the feeling that we share the same concerns, among which is the desirability of restoring a competitiveness and diversity between higher education institutions if feasible, yet not jeopardize cooperation which is also vital. The paramount goal should be high quality education for Alaskans. Quality is difficult to assess but I think two factors make enormous contributions to the students' educational experience. These critical factors are:

1. intellectually inspiring and competent teachers and;
2. visually inspiring surroundings and adequate space.

I am fearful that both of these keystones to quality are in jeopardy at the present time.

1. The securing of high calibre teachers is limited at AMU and UAA by budgetary constraints, at AMU by extensive facility cuts of the past and the uncertainty of the future, and at the University of Alaska by its high costs and administrative overhead and ill feelings which have been generated.
2. The preservation of outstanding environmental features of existing university lands is jeopardized if UAA development is limited to their present property which will result in the not-so-gradual elimination of the natural buffer which now exists between Anchorage urban sprawl and AMU's buildings. The acreage now dedicated to higher education is not adequate to accommodate the large future enrollments which are projected.

What actions can be taken to remove these jeopardies to the quality of higher education?

1. Execute a UAA/AMU land trade which will direct UAA development away from important natural areas and along already impacted areas such as existing campus roads and in the only direction where additional lands for higher education can be acquired.

Mrs. Mildred Banfield
February 4, 1976
Page 2

2. Add enough funds to the State bond package to purchase the 80 acres on the north side of Tudor Road.
3. Establish a higher education trust to hold this land and the adjacent portion of the Far North Bicentennial Park which is being designated for institutional use.
4. Appropriate funds to the UAA which will increase the quality and quantity of teachers.
5. Restore stability, quality and competitiveness at AMU perhaps by reestablishing it as a semi-autonomous state college.

I hope these probes for solutions might help you and your commission to resolve the problems and take advantage of the opportunities which now confront higher education.

Sincerely,



Nat Goodhue

NG/kp