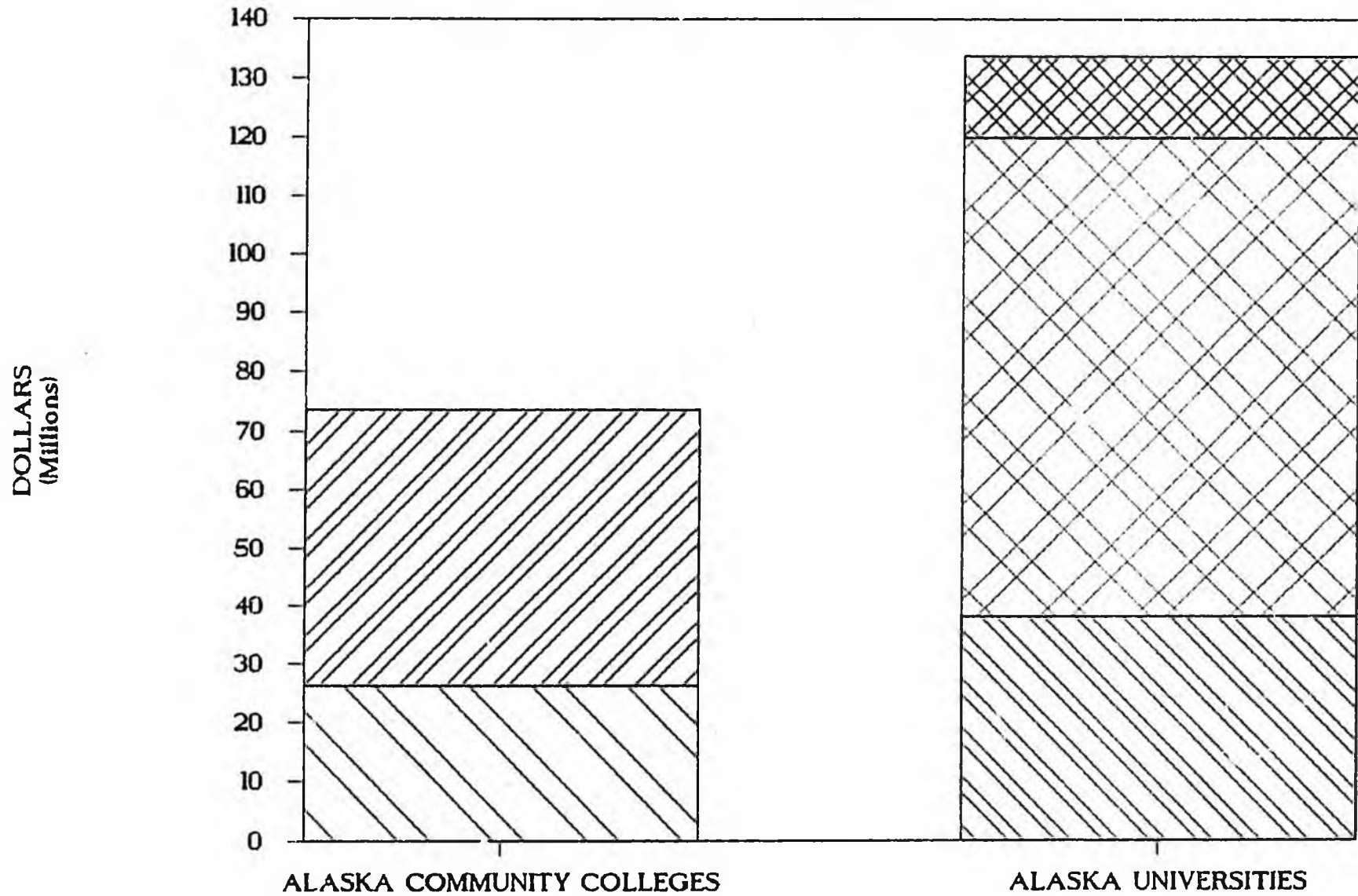


ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1987-1988 8672

4522 HHS HB 107 94

# STATEWIDE BUDGET AUTHORIZATIONS

FY86

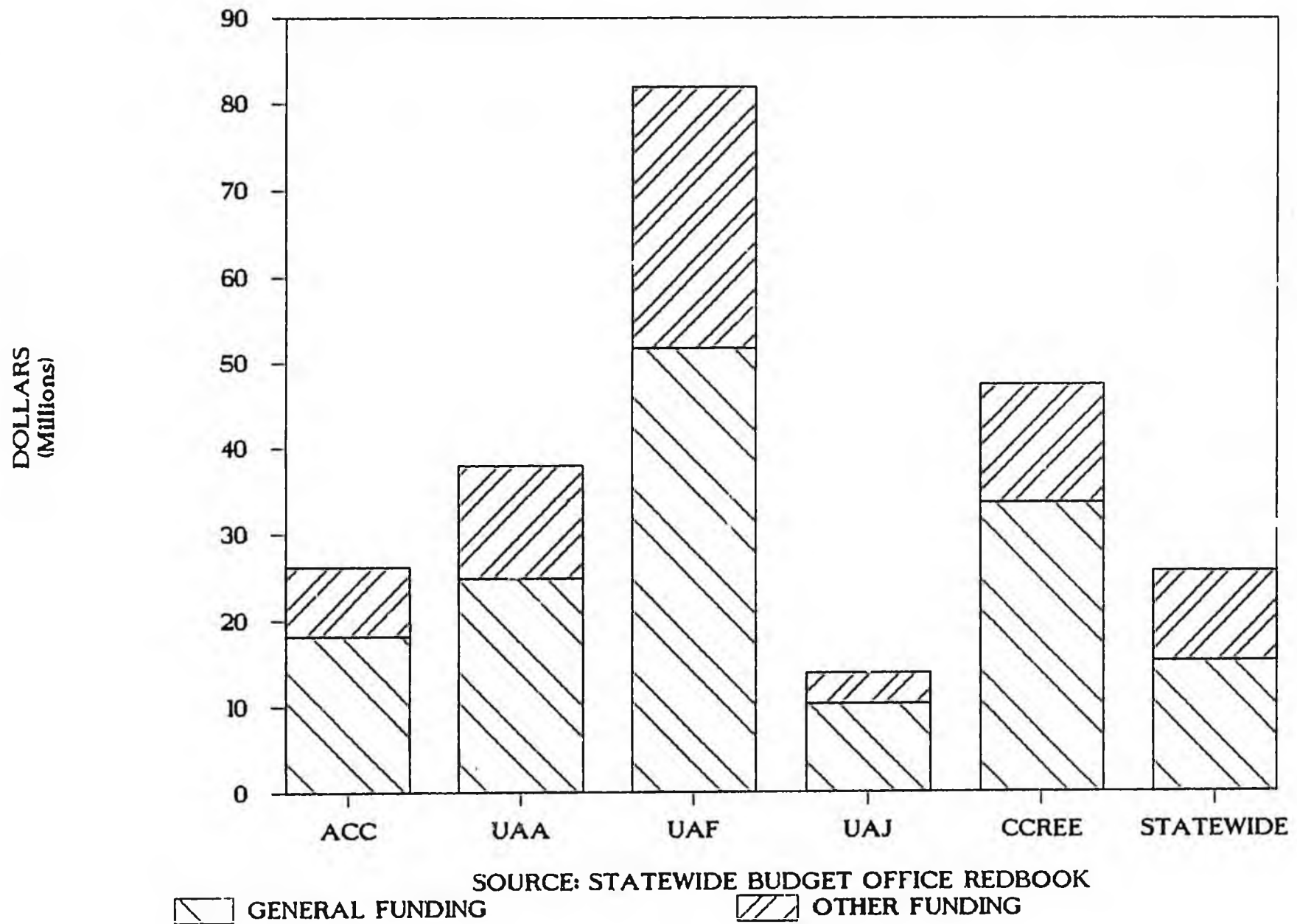


SOURCE: STATEWIDE BUDGET OFFICE REDBOOK

ACC
  CCREE
  UAA
  UAF
  UAJ

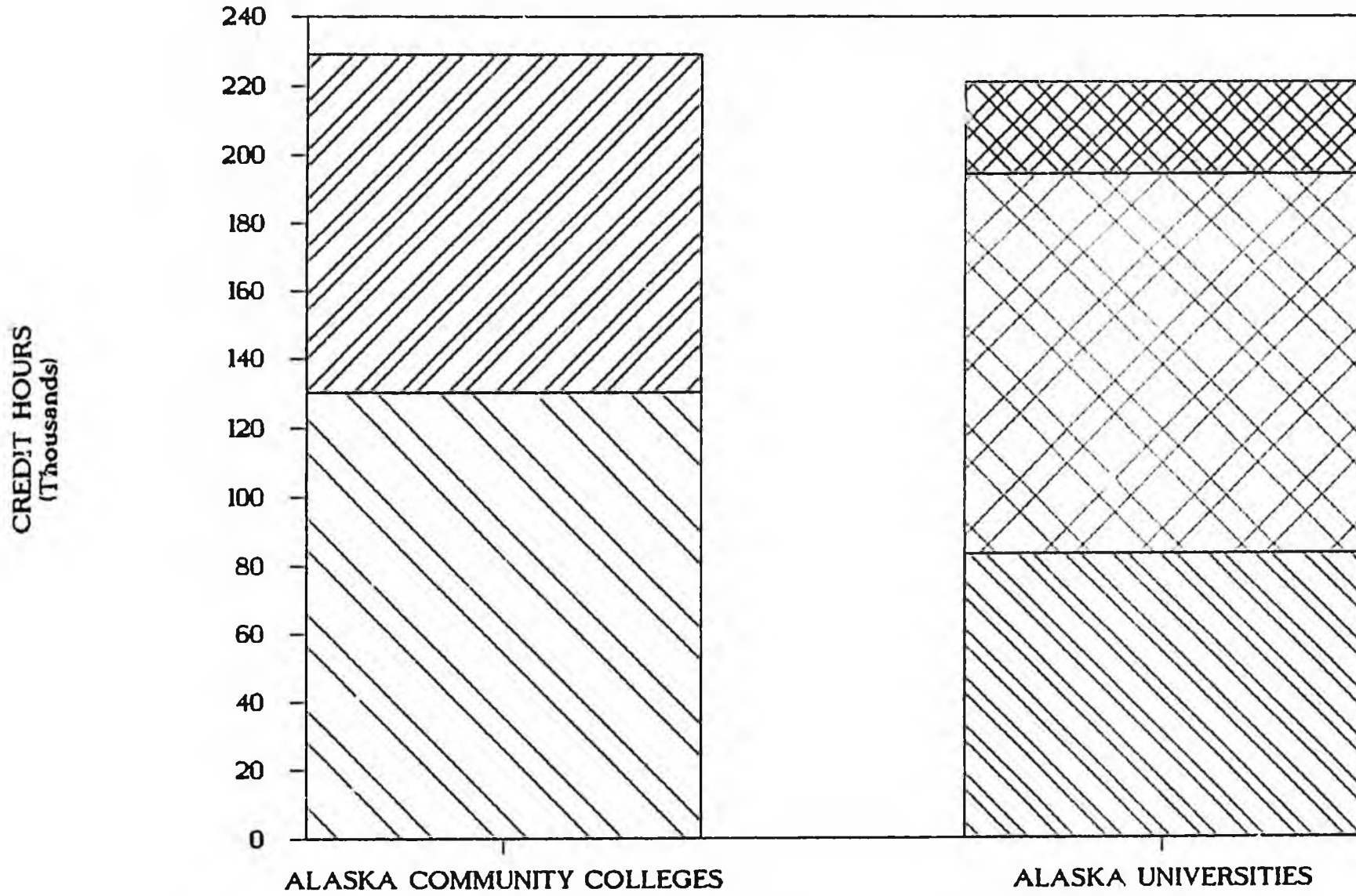
# STATEWIDE BUDGET AUTHORIZATIONS

FY86



# CREDIT HOUR PRODUCTION

FY86

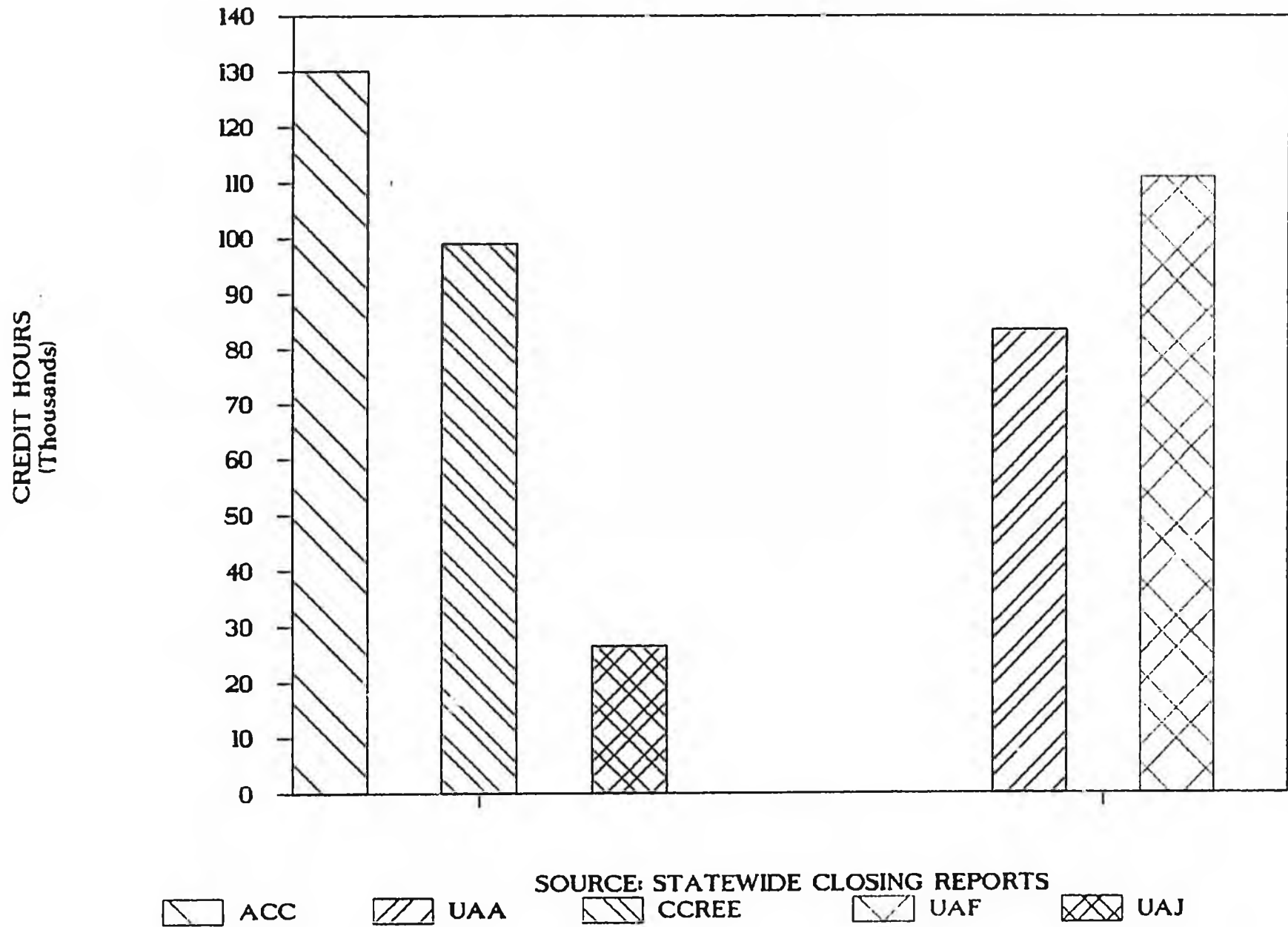


SOURCE: STATEWIDE CLOSING REPORTS

ACC    CCREE    UAA    UAF    UAJ

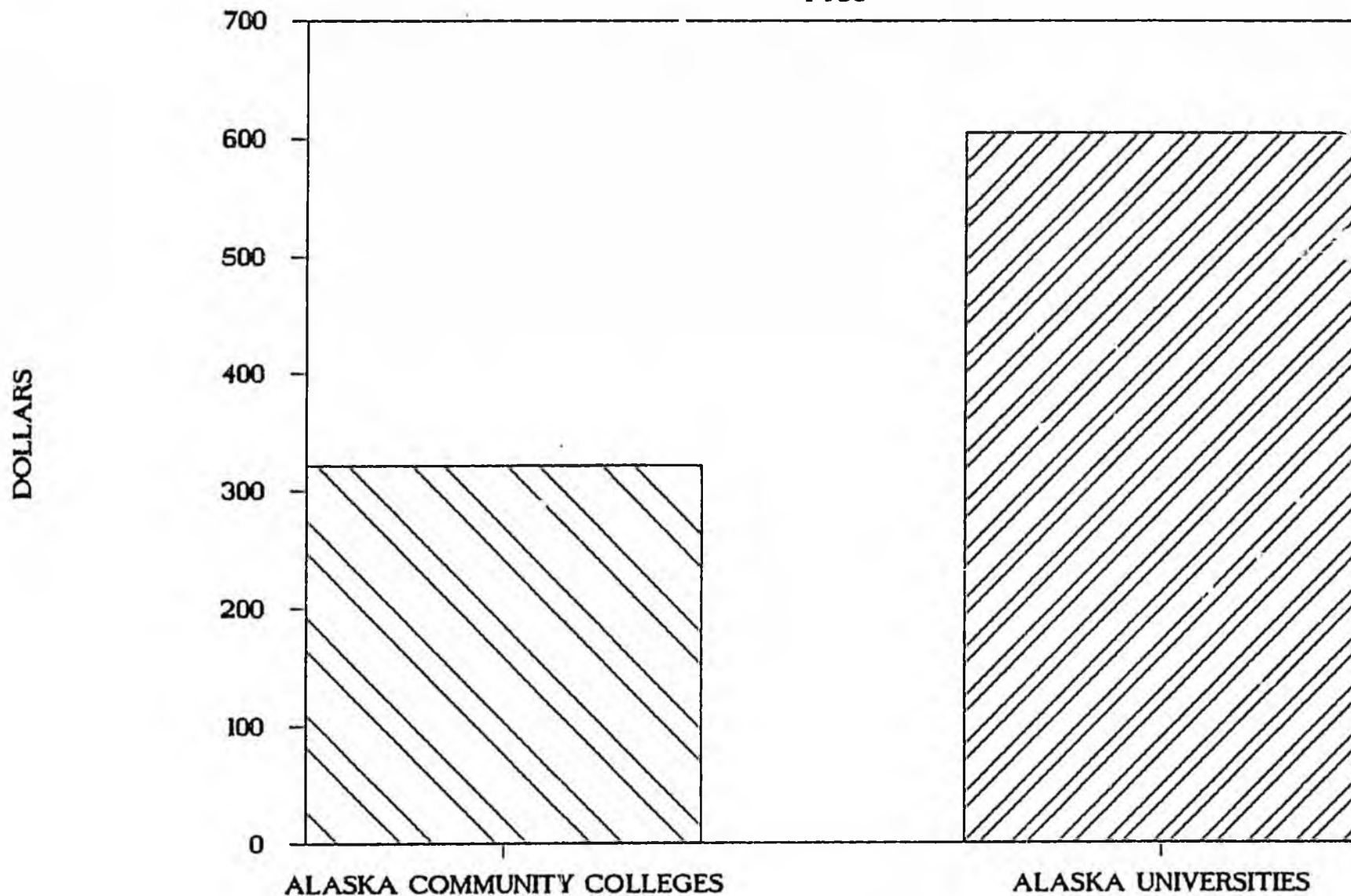
# CREDIT HOUR PRODUCTION

FY86



# COST PER CREDIT HOUR

FY86



SOURCE: CLOSING REPORTS & BUDGET OFFICE

Statewide Budget Authorizations  
 General Fund and Revenue  
 (Excludes Research)  
 07/01/86

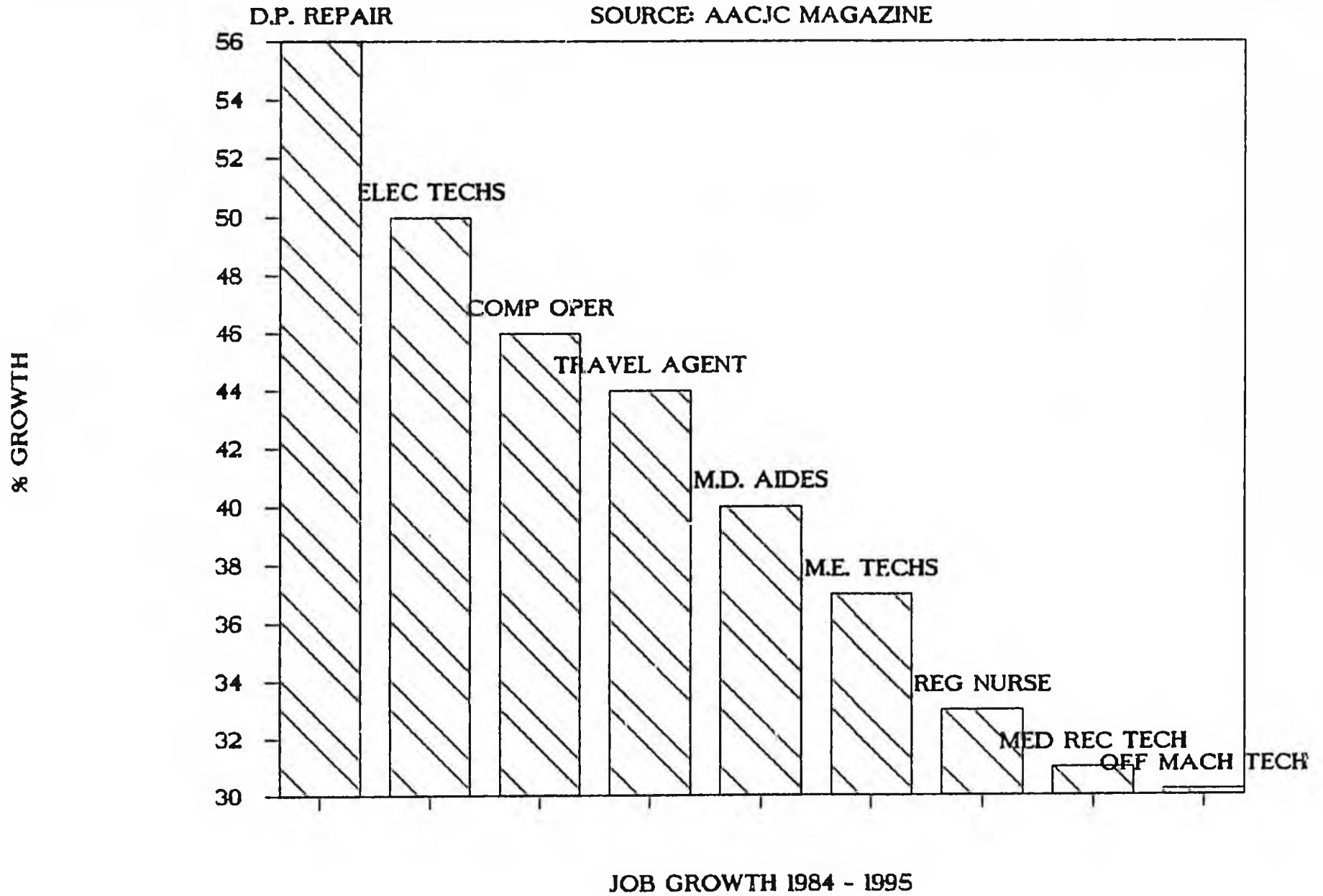
MAU		FY84	FY85	FY86
ACC	Total	25,027.8	25,486.9	26,226.5
	General	17,758.7	17,485.8	18,214.1
	Other	7,269.1	8,001.1	8,012.4
UAA	Total	33,569.6	36,020.0	37,969.7
	General	23,726.0	24,518.5	24,858.2
	Other	9,843.6	11,501.5	13,111.5
UAF	Total	76,504.5	83,032.9	81,961.7
	General	49,907.3	51,616.2	51,651.2
	Other	26,597.2	31,416.7	30,310.5
UAJ	Total	12,531.8	12,919.3	13,860.8
	General	10,154.1	10,409.9	10,286.4
	Other	2,377.7	2,509.4	3,574.4
CCREE	Total	43,759.8	48,188.0	47,426.6
	General	32,113.9	34,877.1	33,637.9
	Other	11,645.9	13,310.9	13,788.7
S/W	Total	23,688.2	23,870.0	25,612.9
	General	15,238.0	15,017.7	15,204.6
	Other	8,450.2	8,852.3	10,408.3
Total University		215,081.7	229,517.1	233,058.2

Source:

12/15/85, Statewide Budget Office

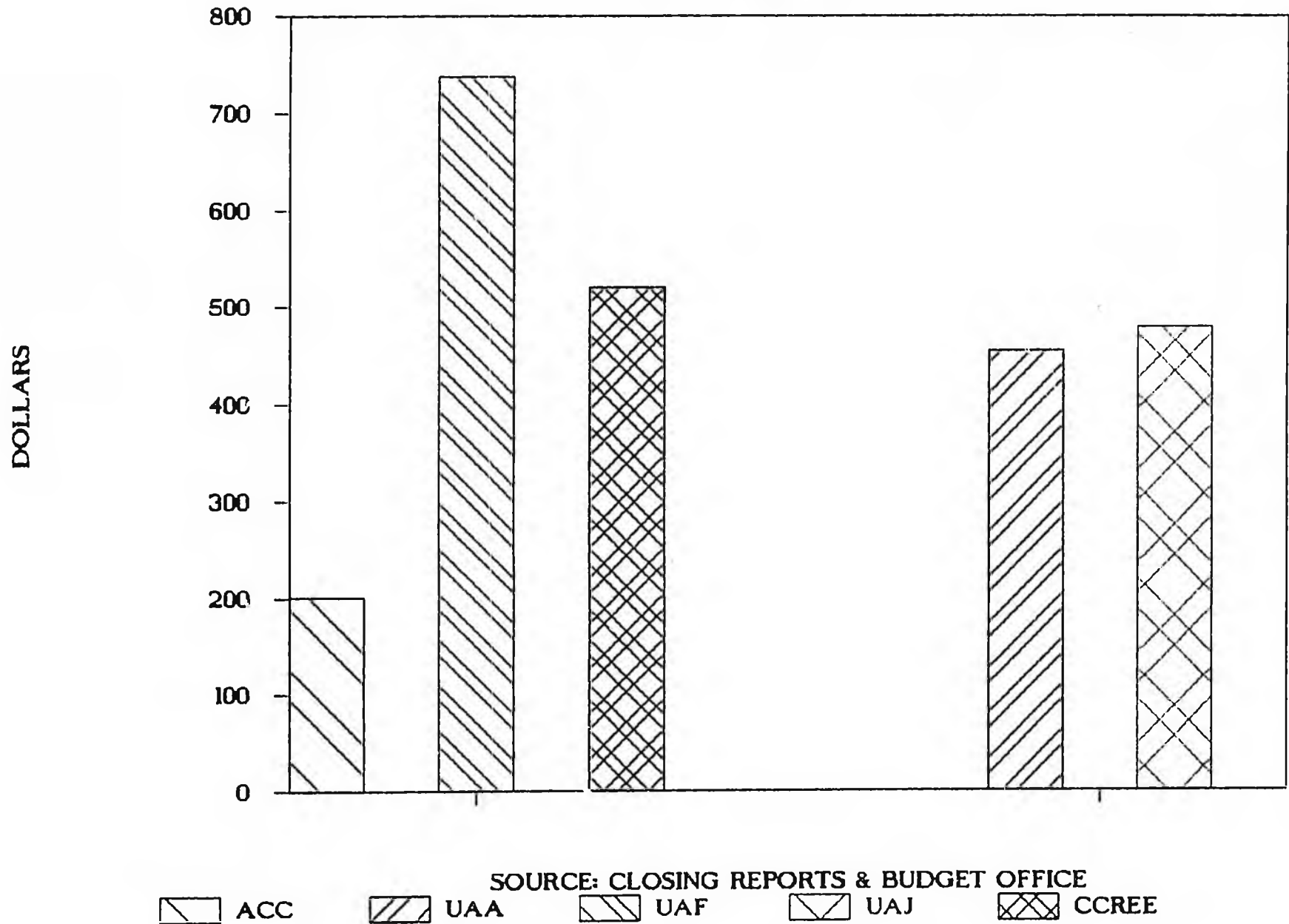
# OCCUPATIONAL GROWTH

SOURCE: AACJC MAGAZINE



# COST PER CREDIT HOUR

FY86



CREDIT HOUR PRODUCTIVITY BY FISCAL YEAR  
(Includes graduate and undergraduate credit courses,  
excludes auditors. Budget is general funds only.)

MAU		FY84	FY85	FY86
*****				
ACC	Total Cr Hrs	122,038	121,864	130,205
	% of Total Cr Hrs	29.2%	28.3%	28.9%
	Total Gen Fund	17,759	17,486	18,214
	% of Total Fund	11.9%	11.4%	11.8%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$145.52	\$143.49	\$139.89
-----				
UAA	Total Cr Hrs	72,601	77,233	83,546
	% of UA Total	17.4%	17.9%	18.5%
	Total Gen Fund	23,726	24,519	24,858
	% of Total Fund	15.9%	15.9%	16.2%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$326.80	\$317.46	\$297.54
-----				
UAF	Total Cr Hrs	112,954	111,331	111,048
	% of UA Total	27.0%	25.9%	24.6%
	Total Gen Fund	49,907	51,616	51,651
	% of Total Fund	33.5%	33.5%	33.6%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$441.84	\$463.63	\$465.12
-----				
UAJ	Total Cr Hrs	24,890	26,243	26,608
	% of UA Total	6.0%	6.1%	5.9%
	Total Gen Fund	10,154	10,410	10,286
	% of Total Fund	6.8%	6.8%	6.7%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$407.96	\$396.67	\$386.59
-----				
CCREE	Total Cr Hrs	85,121	93,673	99,021
	% of UA Total	20.38%	21.77%	21.95%
	Total Gen Fund	32,114	34,877	33,638
	% of Total Fund	21.6%	22.7%	21.9%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$377.27	\$372.33	\$339.70
-----				
TOTAL UA SYSTEM	Total Cr Hrs	417,604	430,344	451,125
	Total Gen Fund	148,898	153,925	153,852
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$356.55	\$357.68	\$341.04

\*\*\*\*\*

NOTES: All budget figures in thousands (1000's), and include only general fund portion of budgets.  
Total UA System General Fund data includes general funds for statewide administration.

SOURCE: Credit Hours - Statewide Official Semester Closing Reports  
Budget - Statewide Budget Office Red Book, 12/15/85

The fastest growing occupations requiring postsecondary education but less than a baccalaureate degree, according to the BLS, are listed here with the expected percent of growth from 1984 to 1995:

● paralogal personnel	98 percent
● data processing equipment repairers	56 percent
● electrical/electronics technicians	50 percent
● computer operators (not peripheral)	46 percent
● peripheral electronic data processing equipment operators	45 percent
● travel agents	44 percent
● physician assistants	40 percent
● mechanical engineering technicians	37 percent
● registered nurses	33 percent
● medical records technicians	31 percent
● office machine/cash register servicers	30 percent
● artists and commercial artists	29 percent
● cosmetologists	29 percent
● dental hygienists	29 percent
● photographers and camera operators	29 percent

AACJC  
Targets  
And  
Strategies  
For  
Employers  
...

The 1986 AACJC Public Policy Agenda includes strategies for addressing the skilled worker shortages. Employer partnership development targets are:

- large business and industry,
- small businesses,
- public employers (such as federal, state, and local governments), and
- labor unions.

The  
High  
School  
Connection

The high school/community college connection targets include:

- developing tech-prep/associate degree programs,
- stressing community college exit requirements to junior and senior high school students,
- expanding advanced placement programs, and
- working with high schools to develop dropout prevention programs.

HIGH SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS TOUTED

Examples

Many of our community, technical, and junior colleges are working with their secondary school colleagues to head off this impending labor shortage crisis by helping more youth complete high school and offering them an excellent, structured, focused, substantive tech-prep/associate degree program. Here are a few examples among many:

Rhode  
Island

- Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) has received statewide coverage of two conferences they hosted this spring to introduce the tech-prep/associate degree to high school principals and counselors, state education officials, and key legislators.

- For details, contact: Nancy V. Abcod, Assistant to the President, CCRI, 400 East Ave., Warwick, RI 02886, 401/825-2188.

Nevada

- Clark County Community College (CCCC), NV, signed an articulation program agreement with the local school district which provides a formal structure for increasing coordination between the college and district. The agreement was printed as an official document.

- For details, contact: Paul E. Meacham, President, CCCC, 3200 E. Cheyenne, North Las Vegas, NV 89030, 702/643-6060.

# **CORRECTION**

**THIS DOCUMENT  
HAS BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED  
TO ASSURE LEGIBILITY**

CREDIT HOUR PRODUCTIVITY BY FISCAL YEAR  
 (Includes graduate and undergraduate credit courses,  
 excludes auditors. Budget is general funds only.)

MAU		FY84	FY85	FY86
*****				
ACC	Total Cr Hrs	122,038	121,864	130,205
	% of Total Cr Hrs	29.2%	28.3%	28.9%
	Total Gen Fund	17,759	17,486	18,214
	% of Total Fund	11.9%	11.4%	11.8%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$145.52	\$143.49	\$139.89
-----				
UAA	Total Cr Hrs	72,601	77,233	83,546
	% of UA Total	17.4%	17.9%	18.5%
	Total Gen Fund	23,726	24,519	24,858
	% of Total Fund	15.9%	15.9%	16.2%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$326.80	\$317.46	\$297.54
-----				
UAF	Total Cr Hrs	112,954	111,331	111,048
	% of UA Total	27.0%	25.9%	24.6%
	Total Gen Fund	49,907	51,616	51,651
	% of Total Fund	33.5%	33.5%	33.6%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$441.84	\$463.63	\$465.12
-----				
UAJ	Total Cr Hrs	24,890	26,243	26,608
	% of UA Total	6.0%	6.1%	5.9%
	Total Gen Fund	10,154	10,410	10,286
	% of Total Fund	6.8%	6.8%	6.7%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$407.96	\$396.67	\$386.59
-----				
CCREE	Total Cr Hrs	85,121	93,673	99,021
	% of UA Total	20.38%	21.77%	21.95%
	Total Gen Fund	32,114	34,877	33,638
	% of Total Fund	21.6%	22.7%	21.9%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$377.27	\$372.33	\$339.70
-----				
TOTAL UA SYSTEM				
	Total Cr Hrs	417,604	430,344	451,125
	Total Gen Fund	148,898	153,925	153,852
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$356.55	\$357.68	\$341.04

\*\*\*\*\*

NOTES: All budget figures in thousands (1000's), and include only general fund portion of budgets.  
 Total UA System General Fund data includes general funds for statewide administration.

SOURCE: Credit Hours - Statewide Official Semester Closing Reports  
 Budget - Statewide Budget Office Red Book, 12/15/85

**CREDIT HOUR PRODUCTIVITY BY FISCAL YEAR**  
 (Includes graduate and undergraduate credit courses,  
 excludes auditors and research funds.)

MAU		FY84	FY85	FY86
*****				
ACC	Total Cr Hrs	122,038	121,864	130,205
	% of Total Cr Hrs	29.2%	28.3%	28.9%
	Total Budget	25,028	25,487	26,227
	% of Total Budget	11.6%	11.1%	11.3%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$205.08	\$209.14	\$201.42
-----				
UAA	Total Cr Hrs	72,601	77,233	83,546
	% of UA Total	17.4%	17.9%	18.5%
	Total Budget	33,570	36,020	37,970
	% of Total Budget	15.6%	15.7%	16.3%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$462.38	\$466.38	\$454.48
-----				
UAF	Total Cr Hrs	112,954	111,331	111,048
	% of UA Total	27.0%	25.9%	24.6%
	Total Budget	76,505	83,033	81,962
	% of Total Budget	35.6%	36.2%	35.2%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$677.31	\$745.82	\$738.07
-----				
UAJ	Total Cr Hrs	24,890	26,243	26,608
	% of UA Total	6.0%	6.1%	5.9%
	Total Budget	12,532	12,919	13,861
	% of Total Budget	5.8%	5.6%	5.9%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$503.49	\$492.30	\$520.93
-----				
CCREE	Total Cr Hrs	85,121	93,673	99,021
	% of UA Total	20.38%	21.77%	21.95%
	Total Budget	43,760	48,188	47,427
	% of Total Budget	20.3%	21.0%	20.3%
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$514.09	\$514.43	\$478.95
-----				
TOTAL UA SYSTEM				
	Total Cr Hrs	417,604	430,344	451,125
	Total Budget	215,082	229,517	233,058
	Cost per Cr Hr	\$515.04	\$533.33	\$516.62
*****				

NOTES: All budget figures in thousands (1000's), and do not include organized research funds or activities.

SOURCE: Credit Hours - Statewide Official Semester Closing Reports  
 Budget - Statewide Budget Office Red Book, 12/15/85

The fastest growing occupations requiring postsecondary education but less than a baccalaureate degree, according to the BLS, are listed here with the expected percent of growth from 1984 to 1995:

- paralegal personnel 98 percent
- data processing equipment repairers 56 percent
- electrical/electronics technicians 50 percent
- computer operators (not peripheral) 46 percent
- peripheral electronic data processing equipment operators 45 percent
- travel agents 44 percent
- physician assistants 40 percent
- mechanical engineering technicians 37 percent
- registered nurses 33 percent
- medical records technicians 31 percent
- office machine/cash register servicers 30 percent
- artists and commercial artists 29 percent
- cosmetologists 29 percent
- dental hygienists 29 percent
- photographers and camera operators 29 percent

AACJC  
Targets  
And  
Strategies  
For  
Employers  
...

The 1986 AACJC Public Policy Agenda includes strategies for addressing the skilled worker shortages. Employer partnership development targets are:

- large business and industry,
- small businesses,
- public employers (such as federal, state, and local governments), and
- labor unions.

The  
High  
School  
Connection

The high school/community college connection targets include:

- developing tech-prep/associate degree programs,
- stressing community college exit requirements to junior and senior high school students,
- expanding advanced placement programs, and
- working with high schools to develop dropout prevention programs.

HIGH SCHOOL/COMMUNITY COLLEGE PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS TOUTED

Examples

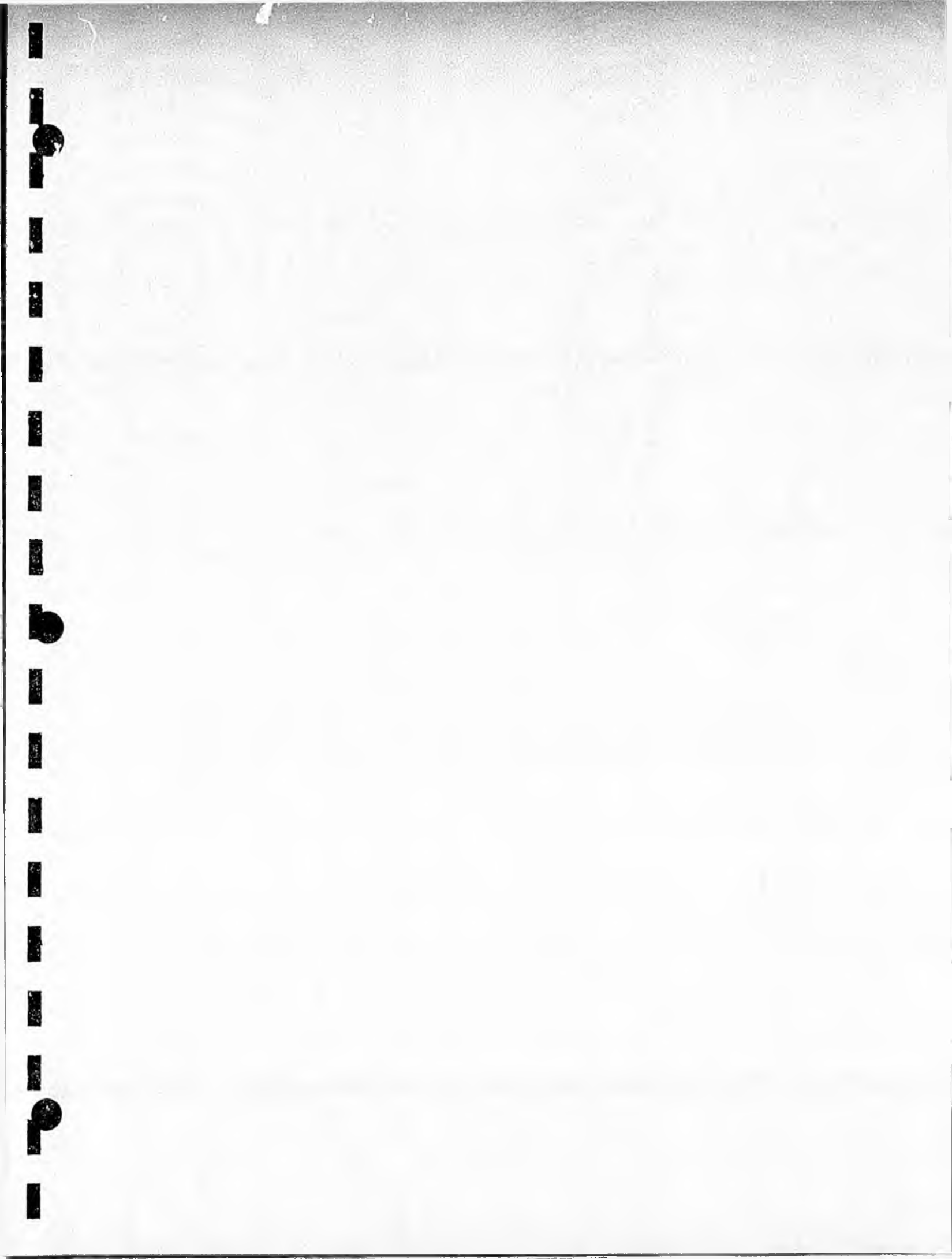
Many of our community, technical, and junior colleges are working with their secondary school colleagues to head off this impending labor shortage crisis by helping more youth complete high school and offering them an excellent, structured, focused, substantive tech-prep/associate degree program. Here are a few examples among many:

Rhode  
Island

- Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) has received statewide coverage of two conferences they hosted this spring to introduce the tech-prep/associate degree to high school principals and counselors, state education officials, and key legislators.
- For details, contact: Nancy V. Aboud, Assistant to the President, CCRI, 400 East Ave., Warwick, RI 02886, 401/825-2188.

Nevada

- Clark County Community College (CCCC), NV, signed an articulation program agreement with the local school district which provides a formal structure for increasing coordination between the college and district. The agreement was printed as an official document.
- For details, contact: Paul E. Meacham, President, CCCC, 3200 E. Cheyenne, North Las Vegas, NV 89030, 702/643-6060.



SECTION 6

LETTERS AND RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT

Broad public support for separate, autonomous community colleges in Alaska is clearly evidenced by the following materials. Included in this broad base are the general public, school boards, boroughs, community councils, students, the State AFL-CIO, the prestigious American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, and Alaskan Legislators. These people are telling us something, and it isn't that community colleges in Alaska should be abolished by merging them with university units.

# OPEN LETTER TO THE REGENTS

**FROM: Concerned Citizens of Alaska**

**RE: The Future of Education in our State**

Later this week you will be meeting to discuss the future of higher education in Alaska. As you well know, your decisions at this time will have an impact that will last for years to come.

At your meeting you will review a set of proposals, each attempting to address the unique problems that face higher education in our state. But one of these proposals has a long and distinguished history, has been studied and fine-tuned for nearly a decade, and carries with it the support of tens of thousands of people throughout Alaska.

That proposal calls for the formation of one statewide community college system. And this proposal goes further than all others in providing savings measures while also ensuring the continuance of quality education to meet the diverse needs of Alaskans and our job markets.

We urge your support of this proposal. It's a rare opportunity to be presented with a situation of such grave proportions as what our economy faces today, yet to still be left with a solution that meets this condition head on while leaving all of us with something better.

On December 4, we ask your support of the proposal to create one statewide community college system. Thank You.

Peggy Begich  
Elaine Ramos Abraham  
Franklin L. Berry  
Chancy Croft  
Sam Kizo  
Dino Hudish  
W.E. "Bud" Bradley  
Marno Frey  
Patricia Kapella  
Joe Kapella  
Joyce O'Connor  
Gerry O'Connor  
Al Balfone, Sr.  
Raney Rich  
Harriet Lawlor  
Randy Phillips  
Walt Ward  
Edith J. Wells  
Les Wells  
Mary Walcott  
Eric Morrison  
Greg O'Cleary  
H. Norman Rokaberg  
Beatrice Halkett  
Donna Gavo  
Mary Hale  
Hans Donoho  
Jacquelyn Donoho  
Eileen Cordova

Ed Cordova  
Dave Valdez  
Gladys Valdez  
Michael K. Mitchell  
Bill Jermain  
K. Brown  
Jill MacInnon  
Bill Woodland  
Virginia Belknap  
Kim McGee  
Monica Renke  
Francis Belanger  
Carol Silva  
Raymond Christensen  
Jack Hull  
Richard Mullen  
Eugene Short  
Mike Metty  
Said Obeldi  
Bob Marner  
Bob Gibson  
Cammie Walker  
Tony Vaska  
Rosa Porter  
Diane Carpenter  
William Borah  
Richard Angel  
Gary Holthaus  
Judy Meikinger

Richard Martolais  
Carl Lamarr  
Jerry Jordan  
Cecilia Dredrich  
Richard Armstrong  
Gill Peterson  
Hank Rosenthal  
Henry Ury  
Mary Hall  
C.W. Rosenthal  
Bill Sykes  
Dick Angel  
Richard Armstrong  
Thomas Fink  
Peter Hocken  
Steve Lovell  
Ben McDonald  
Eally Monserud  
Dr. George Hale  
A.G. Hebert  
Debbie Fullenwider  
Rev. Raymond Barnes  
Rev. Walter Mallett  
Richard Mullen  
Dave Knapp  
—and hundreds of  
others throughout Alaska

**Save Our Communities  
Save Your Community Colleges**

Paid for by the Community College Coalition of Alaska

WHEREAS, the Association of Alaska School Boards realizes the importance of post secondary education for all Alaskan students; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska has the constitutional mandate to provide quality post secondary education to all Alaskan students; and,

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska is not facing a financial emergency that dictates a major restructuring of the university system; and,

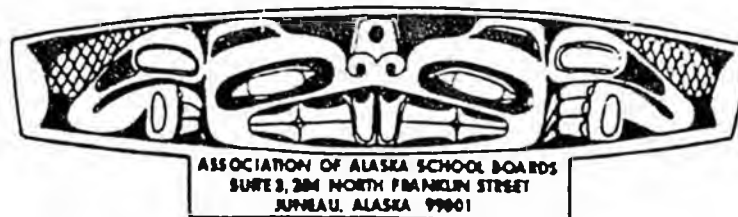
WHEREAS, Dr. O'Dowd has revealed a plan that calls for a dissolution of the community college system across the state; and,

WHEREAS, this plan has not allowed for adequate review by AASB members and local boards to analyze its impact.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Association of Alaska School Boards strongly recommends that any reorganization plan of the University of Alaska be reviewed by all school boards; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a specific plan with reorganization recommendations be provided for review before presentation to the Board of Regents; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Association of Alaska School Boards recommends to the Board of Regents a ninety day period of review beginning December 1, 1986.



NEWS RELEASE

KUSKOKWIM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NOVEMBER 14, 1986

University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd recently proposed the dismantling of the community college system and its replacement by university centers. The Kuskokwim Community College Council opposes this plan, and believes that its implementation would result in a significant educational loss to the residents of the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta and hence jeopardize the economic and social well-being of Delta residents.

The Council urges all residents of western and northwestern Alaska to support the creation of a separate college of rural Alaska within the University system as proposed by the Alaska Federation of Natives. Should this become impossible, the Council recommends the creation of a free-standing college of rural Alaska dedicated to the unique and specific educational needs of Alaska's rural residents.



**KETCHIKAN GATEWAY BOROUGH**

344 Front Street  
Ketchikan, Alaska 99901

November 19, 1986

Dr. Donald O'Dowd, President  
University of Alaska  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99775

Dear Dr. O'Dowd:

At their regular meeting of November 3, 1986 the Ketchikan Gateway Borough Assembly was advised of your proposed reorganization of the University of Alaska and the Ketchikan Community College and in response has requested this letter to be written on their behalf.

The entire community of Ketchikan supports the Community College and depends on the services and programs of the college. Any reduction in the level of programs and course work will limit these citizens in their efforts to improve academic standing, job skills and career advancement. Travel to Juneau, Anchorage or Fairbanks may be possible for some; however, for many the economic and practical difficulties of obtaining an education away from home will prove to be insurmountable.

Ketchikan area residents are now and have in the past supported the College with local tax dollars. The buildings were built on land donated to the University through local effort. Perhaps this is the clearest indication of a continuing commitment to the academic facility which has become a major component in the development of a positive and rewarding quality of life for our community. People recognize a local effort is necessary to assure that Ketchikan Community College will be there for their children and neighbors. Area Legislators have worked to secure necessary capital projects funding for the college.

November 19, 1986

We believe that the college is truly "our" school. In this regard, the community has provided considerable levels of direct funding for operation from tax revenues. Such interest stems from the fact that 60% of the students are in vocational education courses. It is firmly established that a truly significant portion of the job market here is filled with "graduates" of our community college.

We request that a reasonable plan be devised for continued operation of KCC which acknowledges both the reduced availability of state funding and the demonstrated need of our area. Before implementation of such a plan the residents of the area and users of the college should be consulted. Please schedule public meetings here to obtain their directions as soon as possible.

Sincerely,



Ralph Gregory  
Borough Mayor

- c University of Alaska Board of Regents
- Dr. John Menzies, President, KCC
- James Sprague, Mayor of Craig
- Mike Shafer, Mayor of Thorne Bay
- Robert W. George, Jr., Mayor of Klawock
- Robert Sanderson, Mayor of Hydaberg
- Harris Atkinson, Mayor of Metlakatla
- Bill Thomas, Chairman, KCC Advisory Council

1107/A



Greater Fairbanks

**Chamber**

of Commerce

First National Center

P.O. Box 74446

100 Cushman Street

(907) 452-1105

Fairbanks, Alaska 99707

RESOLUTION 3-1186

A RESOLUTION FOR THE TANANA VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WHEREAS Tanana Valley Community College currently serve more than 2500 students each semester; and

WHEREAS Tanana Valley Community College is currently in the process of assuming responsibility for community college service delivery to the entire Interior of Alaska; and

WHEREAS Tanana Valley Community College is an essential part of the economic development of Fairbanks and interior communities; and

WHEREAS the military is a viable and growing element of the community which Tanana Valley Community College is currently serving; and

WHEREAS 97% of the students of Tanana Valley Community College are permanent residents of the Borough, a majority of whom cannot relocate for educational or vocational purposes; and

WHEREAS Tanana Valley Community College has succeeded in obtaining funds for a downtown center and is actively working towards an occupancy in 1987 which will create a positive impact on the downtown business community; and

WHEREAS Tanana Valley Community College provides vocational training, continuing education, and retraining in the areas of construction, food service, banking, computer, and many more which are essential to the current economic growth of our community; and

WHEREAS Tanana Valley Community College has recently been responsible for five new business start-ups and Small Business Development programs which strengthen the skills of employees.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce urge the Board of Regents to seek input from the general Fairbanks community and specifically the business community before approval and implementation of any final University of Alaska restructuring plan is adopted.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution be distributed to:  
University of Alaska Board of Regents  
Donald O'Dowd, President  
Patrick J. O'Rourke, Chancellor

DATED THIS

DAY OF

1986

BY

BY

James Dodson, Chairman of the Board

Marlena Ingebo, President

RESOLUTION NO. 86-07

A RESOLUTION OF THE GREATER KENAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS URGING THE STATE OF ALASKA BOARD OF REGENTS TO PRESERVE THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM THROUGHOUT ANY CHANGES IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA.

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Community College has been a viable and integral part of our community for many years, and

WHEREAS, KPCC has provided many programs and course work for the convenience of local residents and the betterment of our on-going educational process, and

WHEREAS, KPCC has operated efficiently and effectively within the policies of the Board of Regents through community and citizen involvement, and

WHEREAS, the Alaska State Legislature has demonstrated its commitment to the community college system in the state of Alaska.

WHEREAS, the proposed reorganization of the University of Alaska will affect the community college system, including vocational programs important to our community, and

WHEREAS, the proposed reorganization may change KPCC's capabilities to address local concerns and needs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE GREATER KENAI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE that we hereby urge the State of Alaska Board of Regents to continue to support the proven mission of the community college system with its valuable contribution to the citizens of all ages and the positive impact of its programs on the private sector; and, further that the Board of Regents give strong consideration in the reorganization plan to establishment of a structure within the University that would combine the administration of all community colleges in the State under one system.

PASSED THIS THIRD DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1986.

Roger E. Holl, President

ATTEST:

Sue Carter, Executive Director

Introduced by: Nash  
Date: Nov. 18, 1986  
Vote: Unanimous  
Action: Adopted

KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH

RESOLUTION 86-155

OPPOSING THE MERGER OF KENAI PENINSULA COLLEGES WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA OR WITH ANY OTHER COMMUNITY COLLEGE.

WHEREAS, the locally administered Kenai Peninsula Community College provides an educational alternative which is responsive to local community needs; and

WHEREAS, the Kenai Peninsula Community College provides vocational education without requiring a declared major so that local adults may participate in classes such as drafting, computer electronics and welding; and

WHEREAS, the president of the University of Alaska has announced a proposal to merge the Mat-Su Valley Community College, the Kenai Peninsula Community College, and the Anchorage Community College with the University of Alaska, Anchorage, which would restrict Kenai Peninsula Community College vocational programs;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH:

Section 1. That the assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough supports local administration and control of the local community college system.

Section 2. That the assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough supports the current vocational program offered by the Kenai Peninsula Community College system.

Section 3. That the assembly of the Kenai Peninsula Borough opposes merger of peninsula colleges with the University of Alaska or with any other community college.

Section 4. That the clerk shall provide copies of this resolution to Governor Cowper; the University of Alaska President and Board of Regents; to the House Education Committee; Senate Finance Committee; the Commissioner of Education; Senators Fischer, Kerttula, Szymanski, DeVries & Bomley; and to Representatives Navarre, Swackhammer, Cato, Wallis & Zuwacki.

ADOPTED BY THE ASSEMBLY OF THE KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH ON THIS SECOND DAY OF DECEMBER, 1986.

Jonathn W, Sewall, Assembly President

ATTEST:

Joanne Brindley  
Borough Clerk

Resolutions passed by Community Councils

Fairview Community Council  
Rogers Park Community Council  
Sand Lake Community Council  
Abbott Loop Community Council  
Airport Heights Community Council  
Birchwood Community Council  
Downtown Community Council  
Government Hill Community Council

\* All resolutions were mailed to members of the Board of Regents.

11-13-86

To: University of Alaska  
Board of Regents

We, the Fairview Community Council,  
reject this proposed restructuring plan  
of UAA/ACC and urge the Board of  
Regents to develop a new plan open  
to input from the public.

Signed,

Celeste H. Benson

Vice - President

Fairview Community Council

11/13/86

1121 E. Tenth Avenue

Anchorage, Alaska 99501

ROGER'S PARK COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: COUNCIL POSITION ON THE PROPOSED PLAN TO COMBINE THE ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA.

WHEREAS, the Roger's Park Community Council believes the local colleges and universities provide an important higher education program to the Anchorage Community, and

WHEREAS, we understand the University Board of Regents is proposing to merge the University of Alaska and the Anchorage Community College, and

WHEREAS, we feel that this could harm the local higher educational system,

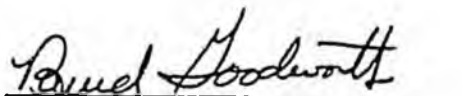
NOW THEREFORE, the Roger's Park Community Council has passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

Anchorage Community College is the most cost efficient unit of the University of Alaska system. We oppose the University's restructuring plan, which was not developed with public input and dismantles Anchorage Community College. We reject this restructuring plan and urge the board of Regents to develop a new plan open to input from the public.

Adopted this 20th day of November, 1986 by the Roger's Park Community Council.

  
FRANK SCHLEHOFER, PRESIDENT R.P.C.C.

  
DAVID GOODWORTH, V.PRES.

RESOLUTION 86-09  
SAND LAKE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

SUBJECT: COUNCIL POSITION ON THE PROPOSED PLAN TO COMBINE THE ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND THE UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA.

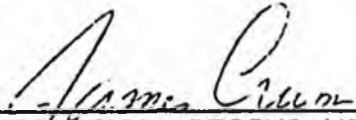
WHEREAS, the Sand Lake Community Council believes the local collages and universities provide an important higher education program to the Anchorage Community, and

WHEREAS, we understand the University Board of Regents is proposing to merge the University of Alaska and the Anchorage Community College, and

WHEREAS, we feel that this could harm the local higher educational system,

NOW THEREFORE, the Sand Lake Community Council encourages the Board of Regents to: (1) seek additional public input on the proposed plan before any decision is made on the issue of merging the two schools; (2) stive for a plan which preserves the mission of both schools as seperate institutions; (3) postpone their decision a until February 1, 1987 but not later that February 15, 1987 so adequate public input can be made to this decision.

Adopted this 13th day of November, 1986 by the Sand Lake Community Council.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JAMES CRUM, SECOND VICE PRESIDENT


  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARTHA S. ALLEN, SECRETARY

**ABBOTT LOOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL  
RESOLUTION**

THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTION WAS VOTED AND PASSED PURSUANT TO GUIDELINES SET FORTH WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY COUNCIL BY-LAWS. BY THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP OF THE ABBOTT LOOP COMMUNITY COUNCIL AT ITS REGULAR MEETING HELD NOV. 20, 1986.

Abbott Community Council would like the Board of Regents to reconsider its Dec. 5th deadline in consolidation of Anchorage Community College and University of Anchorage campuses. We feel that the sweeping ramifications of a move such as this should be given adequate time for public input and study. We support the role the Anchorage Community College plays in our community and feel the question of its existence is too vast to be looked at thoroughly in this timeframe.

Respectfully.

  
Al Tamaoni  
Chairman

November 20, 1986

To: Board of Regents  
University of Alaska

Resolution:

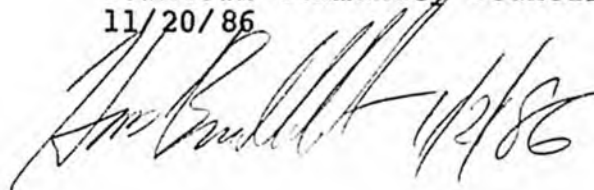
The Airport Heights Community Council requests that any decision for restructuring of Anchorage Community College and the University of Alaska for financial purposes be delayed for further public hearing and community input.

*William G. Benney, Vice-President/for*  
Jack Wiles, President  
Airport Heights Community Council  
2500 E. 16th Avenue  
Anchorage, Alaska 99508

RESOLUTION:

Anchorage Community College is the most cost efficient unit of the University of Alaska system. University's restructuring plan, which was not developed with public input, dismantles the community college system. Where as the Downtown Community Council supports both a strong community education system as well the academic university, we reject this restructuring plan and urge the Board of Regents to develop a new plan open to input from the public.

Hans M. Buchholdt  
President  
Downtown Community Council  
11/20/86



Resolution:

Anchorage Community College is the most cost efficient unit of the University of Alaska system. We oppose the University's restructuring plan, which was not developed with public input and dismantles Anchorage Community College. We reject this restructuring plan and urge the Board of Regents to develop a new plan open to input from the public.

Passed By GOVERNMENT Hill  
Community Council 11/20/86

Robert Mowley  
Its: President

# I am

## Anchorage Community College



I am presently enrolled in a self-paced math course. This program is helping me to gradually ease back into the role of student after many years of being out of school. Programs such as this offered at the community college help to build confidence at a time when this may be in short supply. I hope to get a degree in veterinary medicine. This will be a change of career for me. I have been working as a trucker but have been laid off. Prior to that I was a Teamster operating drilling, but I was laid off from that also. Due to the lagging economy, I find this is a good time for my return to the classroom.

*Jerry Moore*



I needed refresher courses to strengthen my math and English skills. These courses will prepare me for more difficult courses in the business program I will major in. The programs at ACC have really helped students like me that have been out of high school for several years.

*Joanna Peter*



The Community College system in Anchorage, as it exists today, is far superior to any I have attended. I have attended other community colleges and major colleges outside the state, but I feel ACC is really meeting the needs of the community. The college is unique in the way they allow a student to take courses by an open entry, with no special fees or prerequisites required. A four-year degree is not for everyone, and there is a need for what ACC has to offer. I feel it is time to realize that a two-year degree and vocational training is as important as the four-year program. The community college serves to train for a vocation, job related skills update, or just to get your feet wet in the world of higher education.

*Sonia Watson*



ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT ASSOCIATION  
RESOLUTION: R87-5  
AUTHOR: KENNETH HUGHES

STATEWIDE SYSTEM REORGANIZATION MERGER

WHEREAS, It is with great concern that ACCSA addresses President O'Dowd's plan for the reorganization of the Statewide University System, which calls for the merger of ACC and UAA; and

WHEREAS ACC's traditional mission is to ensure the RIGHT of every adult, regardless of academic, economic, or physical disadvantages; and

WHEREAS Community access is much more than just an open admissions policy; it is the providing of insitutional, academic and student support services that ensure successful individual accomplishment;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT:

ACCSA take as active a role as is necessary during the period provided for public comment and consultation of the reorganization plan to ensure that:

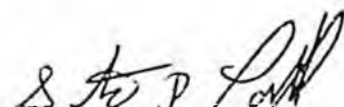
The principle of equal access to educational opportunity for the community is preserved.

The quality and quantity of non-traditional student support services are maintained such as open entry/exit programs, self paced programs and support programs like those provided through the Learning Resource Center.

The level of experience and integrity as provided by the ACC faculty is maintained.

The flexibility and resources to quickly adjust curriculum to meet the changing requirement of the population that it serves be continued.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to each member of the Board of Regents, all Alaska State Legislators, ACC Administrators, the Municipality of Anchorage Assembly; the gubernatorial candidates and other parties who have been or will be involved in this proposed plan.

  
Steve Lovell, President, ACCSA

11-3-86  
Date Approved

ANCHORAGE COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENT ASSOCIATION

Resolution: 87-8  
Author: President Welsh

RESOLUTION ON SENATE BILL 60

WHEREAS ACCSA is dedicated to the preservation of the educational opportunities provided by community colleges, and ACC in particular; and

WHEREAS In the three months since the Reorganization Plan was announced, ACCSA has not received convincing evidence that those opportunities will, in fact, be reserved; and

WHEREAS It appears to the ACCSA that Senate Bill 60, sponsored by Senator Zharoff, is a reasonable alternative to the University System Reorganization Plan;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED That ACCSA encourage all members of the 1987 Alaska State Legislature to give serious consideration to the concepts contained in Senate Bill 60.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That copies of this resolution be sent to each member of the Board of Regents, all Alaska State Legislators, ACC Administrators, the Municipality of Anchorage Assembly; and Governor Steve Cowper.


Jeffrey J. Welsh  
Jeffrey J. Welsh, President, ACCSA

1/23/87  
Date Approved

Senators: Frenchy Belanger; Virginia Belknap; Roger Edelen; Pic Hamel; Karen Hanson; Jerry Jordan; Gary Moore; Thomas Richison; Shelia Riley; Millie Simmons; Sandy Spencer; Rose Stasco; Winifred Trapp; and Rob Walters.

Representatives: Rhonda Adams; Kurt Adler; George Coffey; Bill Owens; and William Pride.

Vice President: Kenneth Hughes  
Faculty Advisor: Alice Easley  
Administrative Advisor: Eleanor Brown



Anchorage

Community College *A Unit of the University of Alaska System*

RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Community College Council is very concerned about the potential consequences of President O'Dowd's proposed restructuring of the University system, and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Community College Council has testified at various public meetings in support of the ACC mission and identity, and

WHEREAS the Anchorage Community College Council has developed and presented restructuring alternatives to the Chancellor as well as the President and the Regents, and

WHEREAS, the Anchorage Community College Council has directed the Chancellor to continue to work with President O'Dowd and his committees in order to protect the ACC mission and identity, and

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Anchorage Community College Council would support an independent system such as embodied in Senate Bill 60, as a measure of assuring the identity and mission of the college.



WILLIAM BORAH, Vice Chairman  
Anchorage Community College Council

Dated: January 21, 1987

Office of the Chancellor

JANUARY 28, 1987

Whereas the Board of Regents and University President Donald O'Dowd's reorganization mechanism is moving ahead rapidly and in a perfunctory manner; and

Whereas only token attention is being paid to the key role of vocational and technical education in the Community Colleges in developing and maintaining workskills for the employment of Alaskans; and

Whereas the input of Community College Councils and local citizens have been minimal.

It is resolved that the Tanana Valley Community College Council hereby serves public notice that it will strongly seek to support other alternatives in the reorganization plan including political solutions.

## ICC Board Backs Bill on Separation

By Sentinel Staff

The Islands Community College Sitka Community Advisory Council this morning unanimously approved a resolution supporting Senate Bill 60 and House Bill 107 which call for establishing a community college system separate from the University of Alaska.

The vote was taken after retired ICC president David Knapp, who is working with a statewide coalition that has proposed the separation, spoke on SB60.

The companion bill, HB107 is in the house health and social services committee.

The coalition seeking separation of the two state post-secondary education systems was formed in Anchorage in reaction to the proposal of university President Donald O'Dowd to restructure the UA system to cut costs. Under the proposal, the university administration would be reduced from five major centers to three — in Juneau, Fairbanks and Anchorage.

Community colleges in Sitka and Ketchikan would be under the Juneau unit.

Community college advocates have expressed fears that under the new system the "mission" of community colleges would be lost, replaced by regional universities emphasizing degree programs.

The two legislative proposals call for community colleges, extension centers and outreach programs to be separated from the University of Alaska. Degree and non-degree programs of postsecondary and continuing education would be provided in the community colleges.

The community college system would be governed by a board of trustees appointed by the governor and headed by a chancellor. Initially, property, assets and faculty would be transferred from UA to the community college system.

Funding would be from state, federal and private sources.

Also discussed at Friday morning's council meeting at the Sheffield Shee Atika was the project to move ICC to the Mt. Edgecumbe High School campus. Gov. Steve Cowper's freeze on capital projects has halted plans to renovate a hangar on the MFAS campus for use by ICC.

ICC Campus President Jerry Harris said Community College, Regional Education and Extension officials have suggested the project be abandoned for now and, instead, that a smaller facility be built on Japonski Island.

To increase chances of the proposal's being approved by the Board of Regents, it should not require new capital appropriation, the officials said. That means that whatever ICC does could not cost more than the approximately \$650,000 left in the fiscal year 1985 appropriation and the \$3 million in federal money assigned to the project as of FY87.

Earlier this week Harris, ICC Dean of Instruction Dick Griffin and ICC Student Council President Frances Longshore were appointed to a consulting group to discuss the structure of the proposed Southeast university center.

The group is to meet again Monday with O'Dowd. After that meeting, O'Dowd is to present a proposal for the structure of the Southeast as well as the other two major administrative units to the regents at their Feb. 21 meeting.

Statement of the Executive Committee of the Kuskokwim Community College Council, adopted February 9, 1987.

Chairman Gene Peltola, Bethel; Vice-Chair Diana Silimperi, Bethel; members Sam George, Akiachak; Peter Tuluk, Chevak; David Cooper, Jr., Marshall.

The Kuskokwim Community College Council in November, 1986, unanimously adopted a position relative to the proposed restructuring of the University of Alaska. This position was stated in three parts: First, the Council opposed restructuring, believing that it would lead to an erosion of educational services to the residents of the Calista Region. Second, if restructuring of the University were to occur, the Council favored the establishment within the University system of a strong College of Rural Alaska that would preserve the community college mission and enhance the delivery of educational services to Western and Interior Alaska. Third, if the creation of a College of Rural Alaska did not appear possible in a manner that we believed protected the long-term interests of the residents of the Calista region, Council favored the separation of Kuskokwim Community College, or of a College of Rural Alaska, from the University system.

On December 5, 1986, the University Board of Regents adopted a motion relative to the restructuring of the University. We were encouraged by their statements that preceded this motion, calling for the preservation within the University system of the community college philosophy and mission, individual college identities, and active involvement of local/regional citizens in the governance of these institutions.

We have participated in good faith in subsequent deliberations within the University on the restructuring process. However, we have found that once generalities are replaced with specific proposals for combining existing institutions, the community colleges and their mission cannot be maintained. We find the resulting proposals confusing, conflicting, and non-representative of community college council concerns and opinions. Our own further deliberations have led us to the following conclusions:

1. The successful merger of Alaska's community colleges and universities is not possible. The community college mission and that of a university are distinctly different, and the community college mission cannot survive as an incorporated part of a university.
2. The implementation of the proposed restructuring will destroy the community college system and lead to a significant decrease in the educational services now provided to the students and communities served by community colleges.

3. The State of Alaska needs community colleges to train its citizens for Alaska's present and future jobs, to assist in the development of the state's human and natural resources, and to provide its citizens with both physical and psychological access to post-secondary education. These important tasks will not be accomplished within a university.

The Kuskokwim Community College Council Executive Committee, on behalf of the full Community College Council and the residents of the Calista Region, thus renews its strong opposition to the restructuring of the University of Alaska as presently proposed, and states its intention to support the separation of Alaska's community colleges from the University system.

We urge members of other Community College Councils to refuse to accept the dismantling of Alaska's community college system.

We request that the University Board of Regents seriously reexamine the proposed restructuring to assure that such a process would truly maintain their stated commitment to the state's community colleges and to consider additional alternatives to the present plan.

We petition the Alaska State Legislature to establish an independent community college system within Alaska as a commitment to post-secondary educational opportunities for all of Alaska's citizens.

We implore Governor Cowper to support the establishment of an independent community college system within Alaska as a firm commitment to the development of our state's human resources.

R E S O L U T I O N

OF

KETCHIKAN COMMUNITY COLLEGE COUNCIL

WHEREAS Ketchikan Community College has served the Ketchikan community since 1954; and

WHEREAS, Ketchikan Community College has enjoyed accreditation since 1979 and is presently accredited through 1994; and

WHEREAS, Ketchikan Community College has enjoyed a large measure of support from either the school district or the Borough Assembly each year since 1954; and

WHEREAS, the largest local private employer, Ketchikan Pulp Company, gave Ketchikan Community College 40 plus acres of land to be used in perpetuity for comprehensive community college instruction; and

WHEREAS, the Ketchikan Community College Council, a dedicated group of local and Prince of Wales' Island citizens committed to the mission of a comprehensive community college is better able to respond to identified community educational needs through local control; and

WHEREAS, the typical Ketchikan Community College student is a non-traditional student, average age of 35, married, employed full time, and who performs other community responsibilities as a mature adult; and

WHEREAS, sixty percent of Ketchikan Community College students are enrolled in Vocational/Technical classes; and

WHEREAS, two major industries projected for Ketchikan in the near future: a world-class mine estimating 950 job stations, and the Alaska State Ferry Maintenance Shipyard estimating 300 job stations equating to a demand for skilled employees not found in great supply in Ketchikan; and

WHEREAS, in a community of 14,044 persons, the tourism and travel industry is experiencing a heavy but positive impact with 312,829 persons arriving in Ketchikan, 182,489 by tour ship, 130,340 by air; and

WHEREAS, Ketchikan Community College, together with Southeast Center, Inc., a local non-profit partnership of 82 private businesses, city and borough governments, Ketchikan Visitors Bureau and Chamber of Commerce, and Sears Roebuck Foundations' Keep America Working Program has developed a two-year Visitor Industry Program (VIP) to prepare persons to enter Alaska's burgeoning tourist industry; and

WHEREAS, Ketchikan Community College is equipped, ready, willing, and able to prepare students for employment in the above and other local employment areas; and

WHEREAS, Ketchikan Community College has provided and continues to provide quality instruction in general education courses for student transfer to upper division instruction; and

WHEREAS, Ketchikan Community College is prepared to operate a quality instructional program during an era of reduced state funding; and

WHEREAS, the community colleges in Alaska have never enjoyed the fiscal and philosophical support of their sister four-year campuses; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Ketchikan Community College be established as an accredited institution within a statewide community college system funded through the Alaska State Legislature and governed by a local board.

ADOPTED THIS 25th DAY OF NOVEMBER, 1986 by the Ketchikan Community College Council.

# ALASKA STATE AFL-CIO

201 Commercial Dr  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501  
907 256-6284

319 1st Ave  
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701  
907 452-2233



MANO FREY  
Executive President

TO : University of Alaska Board of Regents, Alaska students and friends of Alaska higher education.

FROM : Alaska State AFL-CIO, Mano Frey, Executive President

RE : Proposed restructuring of the University

DATE : November 7, 1986

The Alaska AFL-CIO represents more than 31,000 workers who reside in this state. Since its inception 100 years ago the AFL-CIO has supported and enriched this nation with its commitment to public education that is accessible, non-discriminatory and affordable. The Alaska AFL-CIO has been and continues to be a strong advocate for the development of quality higher education and has supported courses, programs, and building construction that secures what is best for its Alaskan people.

The Alaska AFL-CIO has had the opportunity to study the proposed restructure of the University and concludes that such a proposal is not in the best interest of Alaska. We find the suggestions to be excessively vague, and inadequate. We find the process flawed in its narrowed development and conclusions. Public testimony demonstrates community opposition to this proposal. We encourage the Board to reject adoption of this proposal.

The Alaska AFL-CIO represents workers who attend the University and its eleven community colleges for skill development, job training, supplementing apprenticeship training and upgrade. Additionally, our statewide work force needs courses that are directed toward retraining programs as the world of work changes. We have found that within the University the Community Colleges have been the most responsive to our needs. We do not wish to see them merged or mixed in the manner presently proposed.

The Alaska AFL-CIO Executive Board adopts the following course of action:

The Alaska AFL-CIO rejects in total the proposal made on October 31, 1986 to restructure the University of Alaska.

The Alaska AFL-CIO reaffirms its resolution that Alaska's Community Colleges be separate and autonomous from the University of Alaska. We recommend that the Governor, Alaska Legislature, and Post Secondary Education Commission direct its efforts this legislative session toward development of a responsive, cost-efficient, comprehensive statewide community college system.

# ALASKA STATE AFL-CIO



MANO FREY  
Executive President

414 1st Ave  
Fairbanks Alaska 99701  
(907) 454-2111

Page 2

The Alaska AFL-CIO endorses a statewide initiative to place on the ballot legislation that would create an autonomous and separate statewide comprehensive Community College system.

The Alaska AFL-CIO Executive Board offers its assistance to any public interest citizen group that endorses these findings and resolutions.

Respectfully yours,

The Alaska AFL-CIO Executive Board



# AACJC LETTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

An award-winning national newsletter for community, technical, and junior colleges.  
Dew Farrell, Editor    Sus Friedman, Associate Editor

AACJC

November 18, 1986-No. 217

Dear Colleague:

SUPPLEMENTS
AACJC Board Brief
KAW Issue Paper
KAW Partnership Awards

Alaska  
Community  
Colleges  
Crisis

Strap on your seatbelts for this one. Donald O'Dowd, president of the University of Alaska, has presented a plan to the U of A Board of Regents to eliminate the eleven community colleges in Alaska by incorporating them into U. of A. Fairbanks, U. of A. Anchorage, and U. of A. Juneau, offering instruction only in the liberal arts and developmental education. Vocational and technical education programs would be pulled out of the community colleges and placed under a separate, centralized statewide vocational/technical unit of some kind. The State of Alaska has fallen upon tough economic times, and this is the answer of one university president to retrenchment. His answer is to destroy the comprehensive community college. It appears that during tough economic times, higher education tends to circle its wagons and shoot inward.

Destroying  
the Compre-  
hensive  
Community  
College

AACJC will be working closely with our Alaska friends to preserve the comprehensive community college, and we will keep you informed. This is a serious matter and time is limited. President O'Dowd states: "The proposal that I am putting forth can be reshaped before the December 4 or 5 meeting of the Board of Regents, but time is running out, not only because of the Regents meeting, but because a new budget must be submitted to the legislature very shortly and we must have in mind exactly what it is we want to accomplish by that time." Since the U of A Board of Regents has the legal authority over the Alaska community colleges, this plan could be put into action or modified at their December 4 or 5 Board meeting.

An  
Alternative  
Solution!!

How about an alternative solution? Why not delegate lower division course responsibility to the comprehensive community colleges. Let the three universities be upper division and graduate program universities--this would likely save much money and serve the citizens of Alaska in an efficient manner. There are cost-saving alternatives that the U of A Board of Regents must consider.

## Opportunity With Excellence

NATIONAL CENTER FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

ONE DUPONT CIRCLE, N.W. SUITE 410, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

202/293-7050



AACJC

American Association of  
Community and Junior Colleges

Office of the President

R E S O L U T I O N

- WHEREAS, the President of the University of Alaska has determined that the eleven (11) community colleges currently under the control of the University be abolished as individual functioning entities, and
- WHEREAS, as an alternative, the President has indicated a plan to assign all public higher education in the state to three (3) university entities, and
- WHEREAS, it is contemplated that virtually all vocational and technical education programs will be pulled out of community colleges and operated out of some type of centralized state structure, and
- WHEREAS, the basic service philosophy of the comprehensive community college is to provide access to programs of higher education to a broad area of citizens who would be adversely affected by deleting such opportunities for a significant number of non-urban residents of the state, and
- WHEREAS, community colleges in rural areas are the civic and cultural centers in small communities and eliminating that resource could have a devastating effect on the population of the respective community college service areas, and
- WHEREAS, comprehensive community colleges are the most cost-effective undergraduate education delivery systems in public higher education, including the State of Alaska, and

WHEREAS,

comprehensive community college educational programs and support services currently available throughout the state have been a national model for utilization of technology in the delivery of instructional programming to large geographical areas containing a sparse and diverse population, therefore be it

RESOLVED,

that the Legislature of the State of Alaska and the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska be strongly urged and encouraged to require and support the continued delivery of postsecondary educational programs and support services through a formal system of full-service, comprehensive community colleges strategically located for relative ease of access by the citizens throughout the State of Alaska, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED,

that the Legislature of the State of Alaska and the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska seek and carefully review alternative solutions to the economic concerns which they face and turn aside suggestions which could cause injury to the citizens of Alaska served by the comprehensive system of community colleges.

Passed unanimously this day, Thursday, November 13, 1986 by the members of the Small and/or Rural Community College Commission of the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges.



# AACJC LETTER

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES

An award-winning newsletter for community, technical, and junior colleges.  
Dale Parnell, Editor    Sue Friedman, Associate Editor

AACJC

Praise  
Due.  
Not  
Criticism

It is this very caring--this work with the at-risk population-- that brings the most criticism to community colleges, when it should bring the most praise. Certainly community colleges serve the typical college student, and they do that with excellent teaching and quality programs. But they also have their collective sleeves rolled up to work on literacy, job training, and the most intractable educational problems facing our country.

Alaska  
Update

It seems almost incomprehensible that in the great State of Alaska, the University of Alaska Board of Regents has voted to scrap their comprehensive community college program in favor of leaving largely intact three university departments of music, two university drama departments, two university schools of engineering, two university schools of education, and three university schools of business. This is happening in a state where 79 percent of the adult population does not hold the baccalaureate degree; at a time when the Secretary of Labor is telling us that three out of four job classifications will require some form of postsecondary education and training, but not necessarily a baccalaureate degree; at a time when technical education requires a better math, science, and literacy base than ever before. Technical education is a major emphasis of today's community college, but transfer education, economic development, and community service programming are also important initiatives.

This matter now moves to the Alaska legislature, where consideration could be given to separating community colleges from the university system.

KEEP MOVING

Student  
Success

Twenty years after he graduated, a highly successful community college alumnus saw his old college president. He commented to the president, "I will never forget what you told me at graduation... it made the difference in my life." The president asked what he could have said that made such a difference? The student replied, "As I accepted my diploma, you looked me in the eyes and said 'Keep moving, son.' I have been moving ever since!"

Could that be our slogan for 1987? As Satchel Paige said, "Don't look back...something might be gaining on you."

*Dale Parnell*  
Dale Parnell, Editor

AACJC LETTER is an award-winning newsletter published weekly by the American Association of Community and Junior Colleges, National Center for Higher Education, One Dupont Circle, N.W., Suite 410, Washington, D.C. 20036. Available as a membership service (\$72 of Institutional, International, Educational, Foundation, and Corporate membership dues pay for one annual subscription to the AACJC Letter) or by subscription: \$72 for 50 issues or \$36 each subscription ordered in groups of 10 or more. Second-class postage paid at Washington, D.C., and additional mailing offices (ISSN 0745-0435). Postmaster: Send address changes to AACJC Publication Sales, 30 S. Eakin Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22304

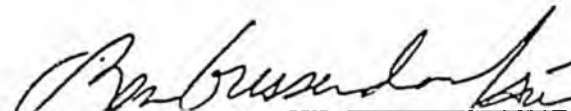
November 19, 1986


President Donald O'Dowd  
University of Alaska  
Juneau, Alaska

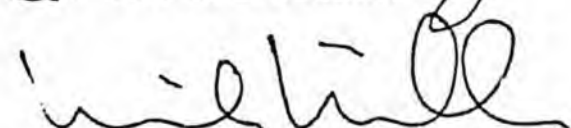
Dear President O'Dowd:

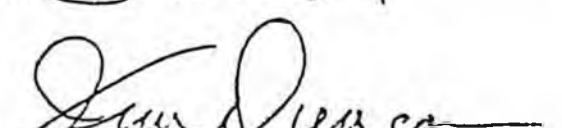
We are writing to express our support for the University of Alaska Juneau, Ketchikan Community College and the Islands Community College. UAJ is an institution which services the needs of all of Southeast, not just Juneau. We are very concerned about the effectiveness of UAJ to provide outreach to the other communities of Southeast if the proposed reorganization is adopted. We would encourage you to review the impact on all of this region and evaluate the potential for increasing instead of decreasing the educational programs available to serve Southeasterners.

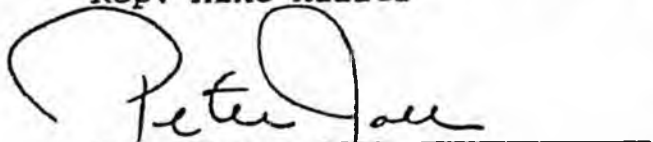
Thank you for your consideration of our concerns.

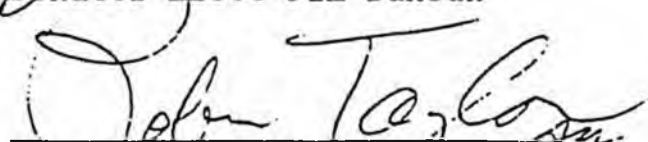
  
Rep. Ben Grussendorf

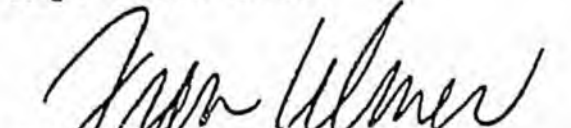
  
Senator Bill Ray

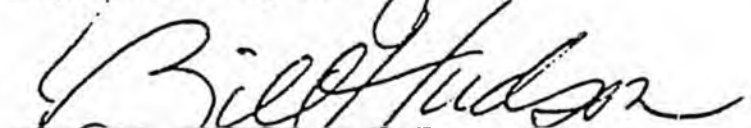
  
Rep. Mike Miller

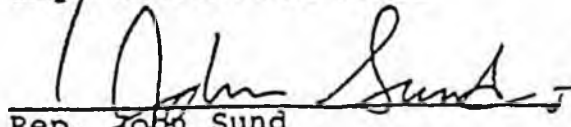
  
Senator-Elect Jim Duncan

  
Rep. Peter Goll

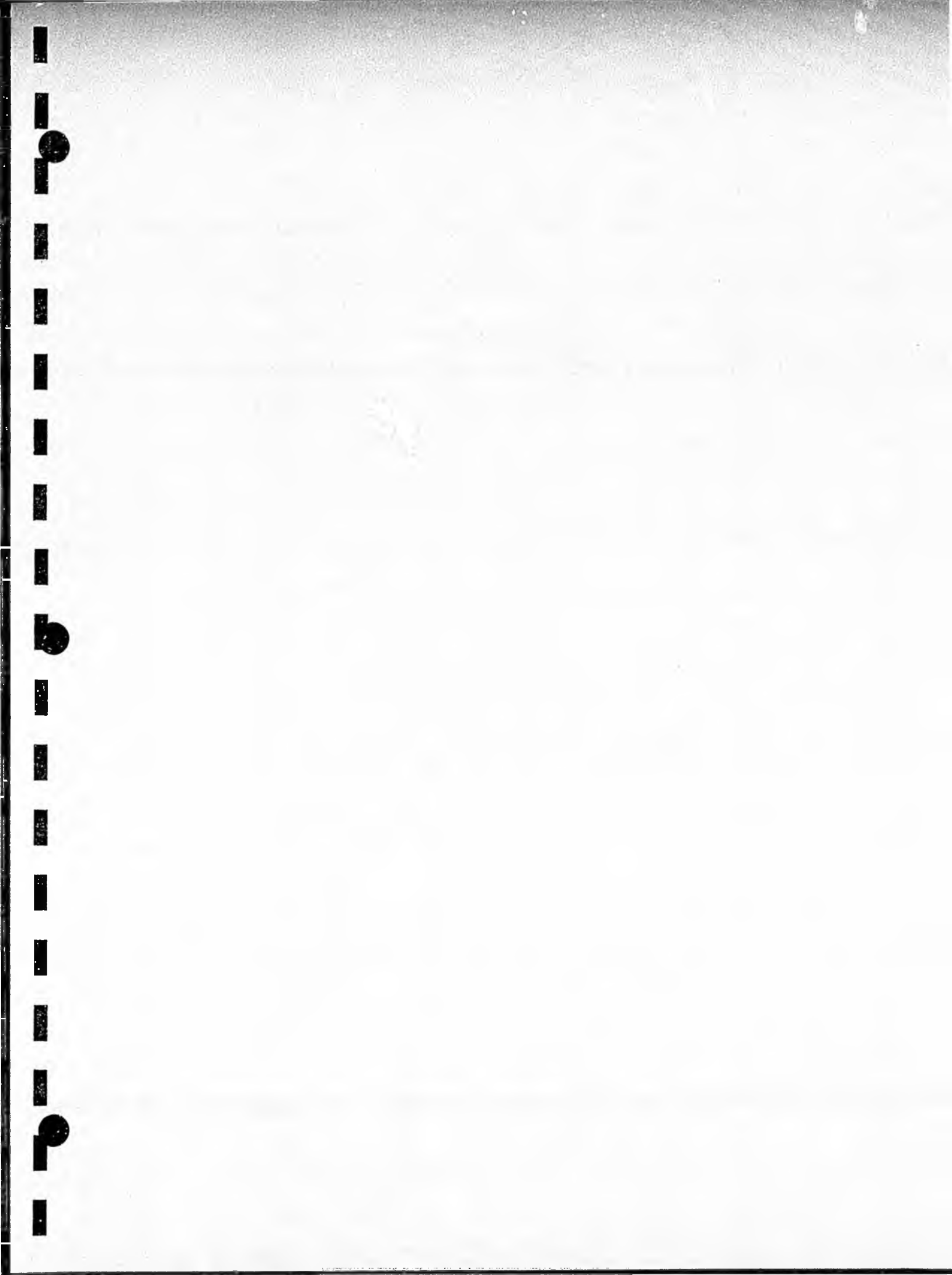
  
Rep. Robin Taylor

  
Rep.-Elect Fran Ulmer

  
Rep. Elect Bill Hudson

  
Rep. John Sund

  
Senator Dick Eliason



SECTION 7

ALASKA NEWSPAPER COVERAGE

Further evidence of widespread public outrage at the notion of eliminating the community college in Alaska is found in the following statewide newspaper clippings. These clippings demonstrate that the time has come for the community colleges to stand on their own as a separate system. This system will continue to deliver the kinds of valued services to Alaska and its citizens needed for economic health and social stability.

# O'Dowd to unveil plans to combine UAA, ACC

By Jan Mireles  
Times Writer

University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd is expected to unveil Friday a university reorganization plan to merge the University of Alaska-Anchorage and Anchorage Community College.

The announcement is scheduled for a meeting of the university's Statewide Assembly, according to university sources. The assembly represents university faculty and staff.

The merger of UAA and ACC would form a new entity that also would take control of parts of the University of Alaska's Community Colleges, Rural Education and Extension division. That office currently has its headquarters in Anchorage and administers the university's rural education programs and 10 community colleges.

News of the plan has employees of local campuses scrambling to find out how their jobs would be affected. One administrator, who spoke on the condition he remain anonymous, said the campuses were virtually at a standstill because of rumors and fears about jobs being lost.

O'Dowd announced in September intentions to redesign the university system as a result of state cuts in university funding, saying operations would have to

See Merger, page A-8

---

Continued from page A-1

---

be scaled back.

Roughly six weeks of campus inspections ended last week during a weekend meeting in Fairbanks between O'Dowd and university system chancellors. O'Dowd unveiled the reorganization plan and told chancellors not to talk about it until Friday.

The university system lost more than \$25 million this year as its state funding fell from \$167.8 million in fiscal 1986 to \$143.5 million. Other funds bring

In addition to merging the Anchorage campuses, O'Dowd's reorganization would divide responsibilities now handled by the Community Colleges, Rural Education and Extension division between Anchorage and Fairbanks. The new Anchorage university would take charge of Matanuska-Susitna Community College and other community colleges to the south, said those familiar with the plan. The Fairbanks campus would pick up the rest of the state's community colleges, they added.

Lyon said any reorganization plan will mean fewer jobs overall.

Rumors prompted ACC instructor Gerald Park to seek a meeting with O'Dowd. Park is president of the university's community college faculty union. Park met with O'Dowd for an hour on Wednesday but said the total budget to \$265 million.

While the rumor mill gathered steam this week, officials at ACC and UAA tried to keep a tight lid today on the contents of O'Dowd's Friday speech.

"I am conscience-bound to neither confirm or deny any rumors brought to me," said ACC Chancellor Herb Lyon.

O'Dowd did not return phone calls from The Times this morning.

President of the University of Alaska Board of Regents Roy Huhndorf said this morning, "The release is going to be a general outline. It is not approved by the regents, and it won't be until the December meeting." He said public comment would be taken before any plan is adopted, but would make no further remarks about Friday's announcement. He is scheduled to appear with O'Dowd at the meeting.

# Merger: Reorganization plan

Administrators at the two Anchorage campuses said O'Dowd has gathered support for merging the schools and for creating a new entity to control community college and rural education programs.

UAA Chancellor Clark Ahlberg was to appear at Friday's meeting but backed out because of pressure from other chancellors.

"My colleagues are of the opinion that the stage ought to belong to the president and the president of the university regents," said Ahlberg.

little was accomplished.

"I'm still somewhat in the dark on what will actually go down," Park said. "Most of the people are quite upset. They're concerned about the future of the university and about losing their jobs."

Park said he did not know how the union will respond to the reorganization.

While rumors about a merger spread through the university community, the name of an administrator who would become a "super chancellor" and head the unit remains unknown. Insiders who once speculated that either ACC chancellor Lyon or CCREE chancellor Marvin Looney would win the post have backed away from such statements, saying O'Dowd is likely to launch a nationwide search.

Lyon said O'Dowd's announcement is in keeping with the university's time schedule. O'Dowd said this fall he planned to share proposals to allow time for public comment before taking the plan to university regents for final approval in December.

The university plans a public hearing on the reorganization plan Wednesday from 6 to 11 p.m. in the Anchorage School District administration building at 4600 DeBarr Road.

Hearings must be held before the regents can approve a plan at their December meeting. Approval of the plan in December would give the university the required six months to notify employees of layoffs before the new fiscal year begins on July 1, 1987.

O'Dowd will make his remarks beginning at 9:30 a.m. in the Performing Arts Center on the ACC campus.

---

News of the plan has employees of local campuses scrambling to find out how their jobs would be affected. One administrator, who spoke on the condition he remain anonymous, said the campuses were virtually at a standstill because of rumors.

---

OCT 31 1986

## Makeup of Sitka's ICC Uncertain, Harris Says

By SUSAN FROETSCHER  
Sentinel Staff Writer

Islands Community College apparently will no longer have its own separate administration, but will be managed by administrators of a newly restructured University of Alaska at Juneau, the ICC staff was told today.

The restructuring plan came from University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd in a statewide audioconference assembly during which he advised the employees of the far-flung university system of the drastic cost-cutting and revenue-raising measures he plans to take to cover a \$60 million gap in his budget.

(See related Associated Press story.)

"It looks like we're no longer a separate accredited institution," said Jerry Harris, ICC president, to staff members surrounding him in an ICC classroom during a break in the assembly.

About his proposed restructuring, O'Dowd said: "This is not an unusual description of a public educational institution."

Harris said he could not comment about how the restructuring will specifically affect Sitka until he learns more details about the president's proposal, until the administrator for the Juneau center is chosen and sets policy, and until a budget is set.

"It (the restructuring) apparently means that whereas Sitka formerly had its own independent accredited community college, it will now have some kind of center which will be administered from Juneau and with whatever vocational education being administered from Anchorage," Harris said.

Harris agreed with O'Dowd that the system would be less responsive to the needs of Alaskans.

"I suspect that is the way we will feel it in Sitka," Harris said. "The magnitude is hard to know at this point." He said the impact for ICC staff and students could be "devastating."

Harris added: "It is bound to be one more negative impact on the economy

of Sitka." Also, Harris said, the change could put a stop to the planned move of ICC from its Sawmill Creek Road location to Japonski Island, on the Mt. Edgecumbe High School campus. Bids for that project have been opened and negotiations are under way, he said. Also, he said, some talented people could be drained from this community.

"The loss of positions seems to be an almost certainty," he said. "But which I don't know yet."

O'Dowd repeatedly reminded his audience, especially during hostile questioning from Anchorage, that his proposed solution still will not balance the university system budget.

One questioner criticized O'Dowd for what he called a "million dollars worth of salary and benefits sitting on the stage," and asked the university to cut at the top rather than at the bottom.

"That was precisely what my talk was about," responded O'Dowd, adding he expects a cut in chancellors, vice-chancellors and other administrative positions.

At ICC, staffers crowded into the audioconference room responded with frowns, sighs and even some groans, but the mood was good-natured afterward.

Only those in the Anchorage hall had the opportunity to ask questions at this morning's assembly. Harris said an audioconference with other community college administrators and the Community College Regional Educational and Extension Service is set for this afternoon.

A public teleconference hearing on the community college plan is scheduled for 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the Sitka Legislative Information Office.

ICC staff and Sitka's cooperative extension and marine advisory agents took detailed notes throughout the audioconference.

The university system must pull specialized skills together to make its programs have an impact on the economic development of the state. O'Dowd stressed.

NOV 1 1986

# University plan gets mixed reaction

By Jan Mireles  
Times Writer

A plan to reorganize the state's university system is being praised as a gutsy attack on revenue shortfalls and criticized as an unfair dismantling of higher education.

University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd is recommending the university combat a \$60 million revenue shortfall by merging community colleges with universities, trimming payrolls, raising tuition fees and eliminating intercollegiate sports.

O'Dowd presented an outline of the plan in Anchorage Friday during a session of the State-wide Assembly. The assembly represents

university staff, faculty, students and alumni. The session was broadcast to more than 60 sites across the state.

University of Alaska Board of Regents President Roy Huhndorf later described the plan as an attempt to "improve delivery of services" while streamlining the structure and administrative positions.

State Rep. H.A. Red Boucher, D-Anchorage, attended the session and congratulated O'Dowd publicly for developing the plan. Later he called on legislators to focus attention on university funding problems.

"What Dr. O'Dowd has done is challenge the entire community — both academic and political — to stop this dartboard approach to funding education," Boucher said. "Nobody has had the guts to lay a plan on the table."

The actual announcement, however, did little to calm local campuses abuzz with rumors about what form the reorganization will take.

Ron Spatz, a professor at the University of Alaska-Anchorage and president of the State-wide Assembly, called the plan a "positive" approach to a critical problem. He said the assembly is not ready to endorse the plan.

"It is thought-provoking and positive," Spatz said. "It will be considered seriously."

But student leaders at Anchorage Community College labeled the plan vague and unfair. The lack of specifics, said student leader Ric Hamelnote, gives students little hope of preventing the university from dismantling ACC. ACC students lined up to question O'Dowd after his remarks, each one asking for some guarantee that ACC would not be lost in a merger.

"We still don't really know" what it means, Hamel said. "Given that we have only one month to combat this, he's not playing fair."

Hamel said students want a "guarantee" that non-traditional students served by ACC

will have a place in the newly proposed university.

ACC Chancellor Herb Lyon spent Friday afternoon roaming the 32-year-old campus and visiting with employees and students. Many, he said, were still reeling from O'Dowd's news.

"People are trying to figure out what (reorganization) means," he said. "I'm visiting and listening. They're asking questions for which there are no answers yet."

Lyon said his focus will be to protect ACC's mission and prevent the community college from becoming a "second fiddle" in the new unit.

O'Dowd said the role of community colleges and universities is not mutually exclusive.

"Nothing in my idea of a private university denies access," he said. The two roles can be merged, he said.

Huhndorf predicted the university community will be more receptive to the plan

given time to digest its approach. He said regents want to assure the public continued access to higher education.

"We'll see a much different response when people have a chance to reflect on what we've heard," Huhndorf said. "There is a romantic attachment to structures and a natural resistance to change. These are emotional reactions that have to be expected."

The emotions will have to be set aside for the time being, O'Dowd said late Friday. He said everyone will have to wait until after December to see a detailed roadmap of reorganization efforts. First there will be time for public comment and then regents must approve or amend the plan at their December meeting. It would take several months after that, he said, for a more complete plan to emerge.

O'Dowd said he was encouraged by Friday's response.

"People acknowledge the need. They do want more specifics," he said.



Packed house: Local citizens fill hearing on UAJ reorganization plan.

RECEIVED

# Hearing brings out army of UAJ supporters

By BRUCE SCANDLING  
THE JUNEAU EMPIRE

If there is any truth to the adage about strength in numbers, then administrators trying to redesign the University of Alaska system face an army of opposition in Juneau.

About 300 people attended a public hearing Monday night to tell officials they don't like a plan to scale back the University of Alaska-Juneau as part of a reorganization of the statewide system.

They waved signs, applauded loudly and didn't hesitate to speak out.

Sixty-five people paraded to the microphone during the four-hour session and pounded home a common message: Because the local campus is just beginning to thrive, this is a terrible time to strip it of programs.

Testimony most often centered on four themes:

- Opposition to a proposal to move the base of the graduate fisheries program from Juneau to Fairbanks. "That makes about as much sense as transferring caribou migration studies here to Juneau," said Rep. Mike Miller, D-Juneau.

- A master's degree program in public administration deserves to remain centered in Juneau, the capital and seat of government. "Where else can you walk into the governor's office ... and get your questions answered?" said David Smith, a graduate student in public administration.

- Reducing vocational and technical offerings by cutting back the community college system - eliminating Juneau-Douglas Community College and others - would leave local residents and all Alaskans without valuable programs. "This is a vocational state, we need vocational training," said Clark Jones, a Department of Education official.

- Because the reorganization plan was first announced on Friday, little time was available to prepare for the public hearing in Juneau. "It has made reflective thought almost impossible," said Jim Bradley, president of the UAJ citizens' advisory council.

The huge turnout was prompted by a proposal to restructure the statewide university system in the wake of budget cuts linked to the decline in state oil revenues.

In a speech Friday in Anchorage, university president Donald O'Dowd unveiled a plan which would include stripping all graduate programs from UAJ, eliminating Juneau-Douglas Community College and reducing local faculty.

The local campus would become a four-year liberal arts college and house few vocational or technical studies, under the plan.

Major changes also have been proposed for the Anchorage and Fairbanks university campuses, as well as other statewide university and community college programs.

Three university administrators and a public information officer were on hand Monday in Juneau to take the first dose of local reaction.

Public hearings are scheduled later this month in Anchorage and Fairbanks, and a statewide teleconference is planned Thursday from 6 to 9 p.m. Juneau residents who wish to listen or testify can participate in Room 205 of the Capitol.

If Monday's hearing in Juneau was a precursor of public reaction from across the state, then university administrators should brace themselves.

It was a night for politicians, political candidates, professors, Native leaders, teachers, lawyers, students and just about everyone else with an opinion.

Please turn to Page 10

# UAJ meeting...

Continued from Page 1

Testimony from each speaker was limited to three minutes by an electronic timer which buzzed loudly and stopped people in mid-sentence, prompting one complaint about the "Gang Show" atmosphere of the hearing. But people weren't dissuaded.

The commons at Juneau-Douglas High School was jammed when the hearing began at 7 p.m. By 9:30, an estimated 100 people still were on hand. When the hearing ended just after 11, about 60 people remained, still applauding each speaker.

Denald Behrend, provost and vice president of the statewide system, told audience members their comments would be considered as officials continue deliberations on the reorganization plan.

He said no proposal will be final until it is approved by the board of regents, which must cope with a bleak financial picture and soon present some sort of spending plan to the legislature.

"There is nothing set in concrete, there cannot be anything set in concrete," Behrend said. "I go with a heavy heart because we have a (budget) problem it seems we are being asked to be magicians with."

The regents are scheduled to meet Dec. 4 in Fairbanks, but it still is not clear when a final decision on the reorganization plan will be made. O'Dowd has said the regents might not act until March.

Sherman Carter, vice president for finance, pointed Monday night to \$40 million in university spending cuts over the past two years. They face another \$21 million cut next year if the budget picture doesn't change.

He said some sort of spending plan must be presented to state officials by December or January. And he said university administrators are still juggling numbers.

"There is a fundamental financial problem. ... I'd just like to plead for the empathy of you good people," said Carter, who later started the crowd buzzing when he left the hearing at 9 p.m. to catch a flight to Fairbanks.

In an interview this morning, Behrend said he was not surprised by the large show of support for UAJ. But he said he believes there are misconceptions about the reorganization proposal.

He said part of the blame is due to the way the restructuring plan was released to the public - in a single speech with little backup information.

The redesigned fisheries program, for example, could bring more students and research work to the Juneau campus, Behrend said. The proposal calls for a new emphasis on fisheries study throughout the university, he said.

Although graduate degrees would be awarded only in Fairbanks, and would require one or two semesters of classroom study there, much of the fisheries lab work would be conducted in Juneau, he said.

"I don't see that the (plan) moves any people away from Juneau," Behrend said. "In fact, there might be an increase."

The same is true for the master's degree program in public administration, he said. The degree would come from the University of Alaska-Anchorage, but much of the course work would be offered in Juneau.

Still, he said there is little doubt that some programs will be scaled back in Juneau and across the state, even though officials expect opposition in every community.

"What I heard last night is, 'We want to keep all the undergraduate programs, all the graduate programs and all the vocational-technical programs,'" Behrend said. "That strikes me as people saying we want to keep what we have, plus have more."

The future for vocational and technical programs in Juneau, and across the state, is apparently cloudy.

Under the restructuring plan, Behrend said most community colleges would be eliminated. Vocational and technical courses, coordinated from Anchorage, would be offered in local areas only a needed basis.

He indicated there would be little money available for avocational programs such as woodworking or auto shop.

He also turned back suggestions made Monday night that the reorganization plan is designed to fuel public indignation and ignite strong support for the university in the upcoming session of the legislature.

"This is not simply a move to attract a lot of public outcry," he said. "It's not a maneuver just to get us off the hook."

Behrend said more details about the reorganization plan will be made available as university officials prepare information for the regents.

Part of that information will include a transcript of the Monday night meeting in Juneau. Bradley said he paid a court reporter to transcribe the entire hearing and present copies to the regents.

Here's a sample of some of the testimony:

• Jean Ann Alter, former president of the Juneau City-Borough Board of Education, reminded officials that the university is operated with public money. She said all deliberations on budget decisions and program cuts should be made in public.

• Deputy Mayor Jamie Parsons, reading from a resolution passed Monday by the Juneau City-Borough Assembly, said officials should reconsider the reorganization plan. As six other assembly members stood behind him, Parsons said Juneau should have a strong university with graduate programs serving all of Southeast Alaska.

• John Hope, a representative of the Tlingit-Haida Central Council, said a strong but small university is essential for the needs of Native students. "We believe the people we represent are more comfortable in an educational setting such as Juneau," he said.

• McKie Campbell, a Senate Resources Committee aide, urged officials not to eliminate successful graduate programs in Juneau. "Budget cuts are a reality," he said. "I believe, however, that to achieve these cuts by cutting programs that are working does not make sense."

• Rosemary Antel, a parent, artist and instructor, said the reorganization plan should not have been released without information about projected cost savings. "I am absolutely appalled that this was put forth with no budget details," she said. "Where's the logic, where's the figures? I would like to see them."

NOV 4 1985

## Merger endangers local vocational education

By POLLY CRAWFORD  
Associate Editor

The faculty and administration at the Kenai Peninsula Community College aren't panicking — yet.

Instead, according to College President Les Vierra, they are reacting with disbelief and consternation over the proposal announced over the weekend that would merge the community colleges into the university system.

When the actual details of the proposal are revealed, that's when the morale at the college will plummet, Vierra predicted.

The proposal made by the president of the University of Alaska would merge the Mat-Su Valley Community College, KPCC and the Anchorage Community College with the University of Alaska in Anchorage, making them branches of the university.

The other community colleges would also be merged, according to Vierra, getting rid of an entire level of administration, Community College Rural Education and Extension.

The proposal is supposed to save \$5 million in university and college administrative costs. Currently, administrative costs total \$18 million. In addition to doing away with CCREE, the proposal calls for salary cuts among administrative personnel. It would leave four levels of administration — one at each four-year campus, Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau, and a central administration.

One of the first, most noticeable, effects of the proposal would be the gutting of KPCC's vocational program. The programs in specific danger, because of lack of enrollment by students with a declared major, are engineering design drafting, petroleum engineering aide, computer electronics and welding. The equipment, Vierra said, would be mothballed, sold or moved.

The Anchorage Community College campus, which already has a strong vocational education program, would be responsible for the program statewide. Of the other community colleges, KPCC is the only one with a vocational program.

See MERGER, page 25

Continued from page 1

Vierra doesn't believe centralizing the administration will save any money at KPCC except for cuts in salary. He said the college has undergone administrative cuts over the past two years, and is left with six administrators. One, Tom Wagoner who is dean of the college, will be retiring and will not be replaced, thereby completely eliminating the dean level of administration that was in place several years ago.

That leaves Vierra as campus president, Dennis Simmons in charge of community relations, student government and the secretarial pool, Carol Swartz as director of the Kachemak Bay campus, Marci Zimmerman as finance officer, and Paul Rochon in charge of facilities maintenance and custodial services. There are also about 15 support staff members.

Vierra said that regardless of how the central administration works, those local administrative duties will still have to be done. "Money still has to be collected and bills paid," he said.

The proposal will have to go through the Board of Regents at its December meeting. According to Bob Williams, a local resident who is on the board, there are pluses and minuses in the proposal.

He believes centralizing the vocational program will save money, particularly in Bush communities which often end up paying for an instructor who has no one to teach. He believes the business and computer training available at KPCC will be continued because there is a large enough population base to support the classes. He also believes the petroleum technology program will be maintained, although Vierra has fears it might go.

Vierra said that enrollment in that program is way down right now because of the slump in the oil industry, and if the university system imposes its criteria for enrollment to maintain a class — based on Anchorage's population — that program could be cut, even though he believes the industry will be hiring again in several years.

Williams said another positive result of the merger will be that more courses transferable to a four-year degree will be made available locally. Conversely, traditional community college courses may be easier to transfer to Anchorage, Fairbanks or Juneau, while in the past Williams said it's been easier for community college students to transfer their credits to colleges outside.

But it's that same transferability that

Vierra fears will undermine the entire purpose of the community college. He said the currently only about 10 percent of KPCC's 1,282 students transfer to a four-year college although 151 of the 386 students with declared majors are in a transfer program.

"The missions of the community college and the university are two separate things," Vierra said. "We meet the needs of the students here." He said community college students traditionally are exploring the idea of going to college, or are taking courses to increase their hirability or are upgrading their jobs. Many are high school drop-outs who, as adults, discover they need more education. "We give people a second chance to start all over again. For us to be a part of a four-year university, we would have to absorb their mission. The money will go to the degree program. Now, when money is cut, we make sure we still keep our mission alive. We will be the only state in the union without a public community college system."

Vierra said that KPCC has not been involved in the reorganization struggle, and he fears that if they are merged, they would still have no say in the programs offered at the local level.

He also fears the political pressure on the

Legislature, which in the past has been the determining factor as to what part of the state gets what. For instance, he said KPCC got one building by working through the system, but has gotten buildings through phase five of its building program by working through the Legislature. He said that's a big reason why there are community colleges throughout the state, such as Bethel, Nome and Kotzebue, that don't meet the state's own criteria of a 200-student enrollment. But because of the strength of those local legislators, he doesn't see that changing.

Williams said he understands the local communities' concerns that their programs would be dictated by the university, and he wants to make sure the local community would have a voice in its program.

But at the same time, he said, "We have to look at what we have to do to correct a university that has grown in a hodge-podge manner...There's no way our institution is really going to deal with a reduced budget without saying we're going to bite the bullet."

He also said that after the December meeting, he intends to make himself available to local groups for questions.

# KuCC to become a branch campus to UA-Fairbanks

By Michael Fagan

It there was a light side for Kuskokwim Community College faculty and staff on Friday, Oct. 31—Halloween 1986—it was brief: a staff member was overheard joking to her working comrades, "We better start using up the KuCC letterhead."

The news—there's no other way to say it—was bad from UA President Donald O'Dowd. His speech delivered in Anchorage Friday essentially pictured the end of the community college system in Alaska.

The movement of UA policymakers away from supporting community colleges in this state is especially damaging to the positive momentum set by KuCC educators in the last couple of years. It was only months ago that a new slate of courses were established here for the certification of teachers. That was a major accomplishment toward the goal of increasing the number of native teachers. Bethel was a place where Bush residents could live and study—with much more ease than in the state's urban centers—and four years later return to their home villages as teachers and needed role models.

In short, the university's budget shortfall—late August of this year—amounted to about \$40 million. Too, the university was told in early October by the governor that it would have to sustain a reduction of another \$21 million if FY 88. That added reduction brings the university to a \$60-plus million (35 percent) loss of revenue over a two-year period. All planned cuts are expected to go into effect in Fiscal Year 1987, which begins with July of next year.

Although final decisions have not yet been made by the Board of Regents (scheduled to meet Dec. 4 and 5) and the legislature (meeting in the early spring of 1987), the die has been set, according to KuCC President Lin Laughy. In interpreting O'Dowd's comments, Laughy explained that the state's community colleges will become branch campuses of the University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

He speculates that KuCC's present staff of 45 will be cut in half, that the function performed by the Bethel branch campus will be an Associate of Arts transfer program for UAF, that there will be less autonomy here, that village audioconference courses might be eliminated, that the Yup'ik language Center here might be axed, and that community development efforts will be scaled back substantially.

Laughy acknowledges, however, that integration of university services will be improved with fewer autonomous units operating.

Criticisms said of a centralized education system include the poor working history of urban policymakers and administrators attempting to operate campus programs in rural parts of the state located hundreds of miles away. The history of State Operated Schools point to that.

The community college philosophy is different from that of the university philosophy, agree many in the

UA policymakers see Bethel, under this program, as its outreach target; before, UA and KuCC had seen Tun-tuliak as its outreach target.

The economic impact on Bethel is serious. With the possibility that there will be one-half the payroll, there will be that much less dollars circulating through the retail sector. Further, those KuCC staff who lose their jobs have little prospect for finding other employment here in their same field. As a result, it is likely that there will be a housing glut beginning with the summer of 1987.

Of special interest will be the future of the health aide training program at KuCC. Although dollars spent on two faculty members and one teaching coordinator in this department comes out of the college's general fund, it is a program which is highly valued throughout the Delta, especially by Yukon Kuskokwim Health Corporation officials.

Some of the highlights of O'Dowd's speech are as follows:

—The state's "educational needs are best served by an extensive outreach capability."

—The education system here is "expensive and not very efficient."

—"To the best of my knowledge, a loss in operating funds of this magnitude has not been experienced by any other major public university since World War II."

—Basic assumptions include: "For at least three years the funding for UA will not increase by more than a small percentage of its current operating level of \$143.5 million." And "there will not be a noticeable growth in enrollment in the next few years."

See KUCC page 4

## KUCC from page 1

business of higher education. It's a centralist/elitist mind-set versus a general education for the masses mind-set.

—“The University must continue its commitment to serve the rural and native population of the state.”

—“The University can only be restructured one time in the next decade or the next generation.”

### **Juneau: from a univ. to a college**

O'Dowd called for the University of Alaska-Juneau to be restructured as an undergraduate college, and to seek to establish a 15-to-1 student/faculty ratio, as compared to its current ratio of 10-to-1.

### **UAF & Tanana CC merger proposed**

He proposed that the University of Alaska-Fairbanks and Tanana Valley Community College be merged. And that UAF “would establish a college to serve rural Alaska which would deliver bachelor of arts courses to the operation.

### **Comm. Colleges no longer separately accredited**

“The current campuses of the Community Colleges, Rural Education & Extension Division, not included in the Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau consolidations, namely

Chukchi Community College, Northwest Community College, Kuskokwim Community College, Kodiak Community College and Prince William Sound Community College, would become university centers of the rural college at the University at Fairbanks and would offer courses leading to the associate in arts and bachelor degrees at the local sites.

“These centers would no longer be separately accredited but would derive their accreditation from the University at Fairbanks, as would all of the rural education sites. A rural college would have many advantages, such as transferring credit from this college to other units of the university would be essentially automatic and avoid much of the confusion that currently exists.

### **UA will be “less responsive”**

“There are losses to consider. The University would be less responsive to the needs of the people. If additional reductions in appropriations are imposed, high quality programs in specific areas would have to be eliminated which would deprive Alaskans of educational opportunities within the state, forcing them to go Outside in order to further their education in particular fields. The university has traditionally played a pronounced community development role throughout the state and that involvement would be substantially diminished.

## Hold back the axe from KuCC

University of Alaska president Donald O'Dowd has released a plan for the elimination of the Kuskokwim Community College, as we know it.

We recognize the pressure Mr. O'Dowd is under having to cut \$40 million from the university system. The timing is poor. So is the plan to make KuCC into an extension of the U of F, and turn it into a glorified correspondence school.

The needs of the area are too great for that.

It is interesting to note that rural (bush) input was scheduled after the plan was announced. That's poor timing. Better to have let the rural areas of the state have its say before the plan was engraved in stone.

There will be teleconferences scheduled for Nov. 17 and 18 on the subject. We urge all interested individuals and groups to build concise, convincing testimony and deliver it to the powers that be on that date.

We must not accept the plan as is. Something can and must be done to keep the Delta's most important educational institution alive and growing.



Times photo by Herb Swanson

Participants at Wednesday night's hearing on plans to consolidate the state's university system carried posters fashioned from a newspaper article in which ACC Chancellor Herb Lyon suggested the community college be independent of the UA system.

# UA merger plan draws hostile crowd

By Jan Mireles  
Times Writer

Anger and accusations dominated a public hearing Wednesday on proposals to restructure the University of Alaska.

More than 250 people crowded into the Anchorage School District administration building to attend the 3½-hour hearing. A common complaint heard throughout the hearing was that proposals to restructure the university lacked detail and threatened the community colleges' abilities to respond to community needs. University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd attended the hearing and later defended the university's intentions.

"We have not spelled out the details. We don't know enough to do it. This is a concept. It has to be done by the people who do it," he said.

The university administration is holding public hearings across

the state on plans to restructure the university system in face of a \$60 million budget gap.

O'Dowd has proposed merging community colleges with universities, trimming payrolls, raising tuition fees and eliminating intercollegiate sports to meet a state budget target of \$121 million for fiscal year 1988. His plan is scheduled to go to the University of Alaska's Board of Regents for consideration early next month.

The issue of merging community colleges with universities proved the drawing card for the hearing.

After a half-hour of testimony in support of college athletics, some of those attending spoke of preserving the mission of the state's community colleges.

Dozens of Anchorage Community College students and faculty attending the meeting wore yellow buttons bearing the message "No." Others carried placards

See Merger, page B-3

# Merger: ACC students, faculty opposed

---

Continued from page B-1

---

fashioned from an Anchorage Times article in which ACC Chancellor Herb Lyon suggested the college explore the possibility of splitting from the university system to form an independent community college.

Lyon said later he did not know about the posters and was disappointed by the negative attacks on the University of Alaska-Anchorage.

"I turned about 16 shades of red when I saw them," he said. "I'm not comfortable with that (attacks). I'm embarrassed by strident comments in any direction." Testimony from 57 of the participants was against the proposed merger, with only a handful suggesting the merger could create a stronger university system.

The testimony divided Anchorage's education community into two camps, with ACC supporters launching repeated attacks on the University of Alaska-Anchorage's ability to serve non-traditional students.

"ACC exists to serve students," said Don Schulz, an Anchorage teacher. "At UAA, students exist to serve the university."

The statement and others like it drew frequent applause. The crowd booed and heckled O'Dowd, suggesting that the former New York university administrator be given a one-way ticket back to the East Coast.

Another critic accused O'Dowd of being a philosopher king who would dismantle the university system and then abandon it for the next administrator.

Lyon said the criticism masks the underlying message that "there is a group of people that is feeling very threatened" by the reorganization.

"I hope we can get beyond the emotion and on to problem solving," Lyon said.

## KPCC awaits word on university reorganization

The proposed reorganization of the University of Alaska may have a resounding effect on the local branch of Kenai Peninsula Community College.

And then again, it may not, said Carol Swartz, director of the Kachemak Bay Branch of the college.

"No one knows anything," she said. "Right now I'm guessing along with everyone else."

She was to have learned more in a teleconference Thursday night with university President Donald O'Dowd.

Last Saturday Mr. O'Dowd unveiled a plan to reorganize the state's entire program of higher education. The community colleges would be consolidated with the nearest University of Alaska branch, forming a new college.

"This would be a system with a different basic structure. It is not simply a reorganization which moves names and boxes around in a chart," Mr. O'Dowd said.

"We must develop a new university, one which is smaller, one with a restricted mission and, above all, one which is still of high quality."

The reorganization comes on the heels of actual and proposed cuts to the university's budget. The school may have to operate on \$82 million next year. This year's budget is over \$143 million.

Mr. O'Dowd has offered no details of his plan to Kenai Peninsula Community College administrators, according to Ms. Swartz. Those plans were expected to come

See "KPCC." Page 22

## ... KPCC awaits word

Cont. from Page 19  
out at the Thursday night teleconference, which can be heard in the Kachemak Bay Branch on Pioneer Avenue at 7 p.m.

All state community colleges are administered by the University of Alaska. There has been talk in the Alaska Legislature of

separating the two. Those discussions may get more serious now that the university faces such serious financial trouble, Ms. Swartz said.

The local branch, which will receive title to the old Post Office building in a dedication ceremony next Friday, may be luckier than some branches, she said.

It's the most cost efficient branch of the most cost efficient community college in the state, Ms. Swartz said. And it owns a building.

"Otherwise, I think the handwriting would be on the wall," she said.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1986

# Confusion

## College teleconference prompts pleas for specifics

By PAUL APFELBECK  
Daily News Staff Writer

People in Ketchikan and throughout the state expressed confusion and concern to state university officials during a Thursday night teleconference on reorganization of Alaska's community colleges.

"I want to find out exactly what the proposal is," said Bruce Gifford, director of student services at Ketchikan Community College. "Rumors are rampant. We'd like to know exactly what the college is going to look like after the restructure." Gifford spoke in an interview during the teleconference.

The issue facing Ketchikan Community College (KCC) and the 11 other community colleges in Alaska is the planned marriage of the two-year schools into three larger universities centered in Juneau, Fairbanks and Anchorage. The plan, which first emerged Friday, was presented by university president Dr. Donald O'Dowd as a way to save \$40 million for the state system of post-secondary education.

"The funding is gone and therefore the programs must be reduced," O'Dowd said in an interview Thursday afternoon.

O'Dowd said he "anticipates" the continued existence of KCC, "with a basic faculty and a smaller administration."

"Our choice is to retain the programs before the administration," he said. "Our intention would be to combine the Juneau, Sitka and Ketchikan into one educational unit."

But the specifics of how the schools would be combined, where staff would be relocated and how programs would be affected are items O'Dowd and another staff person are still formulating, he said.

That lack of specifics bothered many of the participants at Thursday night's teleconference, including

KCC president Dr. John Menzie.

"There's a lack of specifics," Menzie said in an interview during the teleconference. "There are gaps here you could drive a truck through."

Many others across the state echoed Menzie's concern.

The reorganization plan was "hashed out in secret" and presented without monetary figures or specifics, said Nome's Bob Rubadeau. Rubadeau said he is a member of the Northwest Community College advisory board.

"Without that type of information, we have no opportunity to make meaningful decisions," Rubadeau said.

"The plan is too vague," said Sitka's Frances Longshore. "The university should go back and finish their paperwork instead of trying to get the people to buy a big pig in a poke."

Others testifying said the local colleges and smaller communities are being overlooked by university administrators.

"It's a real concern that decisions will be made elsewhere that affect the people of Bristol Bay," said Henry Kilmer of Dillingham. Kilmer is the superintendent of schools in the western Alaska town.

Ketchikan School Board member Jim Alguire expressed a similar sentiment in a letter addressed to university Board of Regents president Roy Huhndorf and read to teleconference listeners.

"We wonder how the dissolution of the local community college can be proposed at the highest level of decision-making without the Ketchikan Gateway Borough School District or superintendent's office being contacted," Alguire said.

"We further suggest that you schedule hearings in Ketchikan before you finalize plans to dissolve

the second oldest community college in the state," he said.

Paul Young, from Port Alexander, was next in line on the teleconference line. "It sounds like you've got a tiger by the tail down there," he said.

Saying that college services at the University of Alaska's Juneau branch can "barely service Juneau," Young continued, "Let's not try to fool the public that services can be offered from three locations for the state."

O'Dowd said repeatedly that vocational and training programs were not targeted by the plan, and defended the reorganization by saying the plan maintained the colleges in a time of declining revenue.

According to a time line provided by O'Dowd Thursday afternoon, the Board of Regents will approve the reorganization in early 1987, with the "new structures in place" by July 1, 1988.

The Board of Regents is the final authority on the reorganization, O'Dowd said.

# UA Reorganization Plan Stirs Protest

By Sentinel Staff

Islands Community College would be less responsive to Sitkans if a proposed restructuring plan for the University of Alaska is put into place, said Sitkans who testified at a teleconference hearing Thursday night.

About 20 Sitkans attended the hearing that was designed for all communities in the state except Anchorage, Fairbanks and Juneau, which had separate public hearings. The university conducted the hearings.

UA is facing at least a \$40 million shortfall due to a decline in state oil revenues.

The restructuring plan involves cutting administrative staffs from the various community college and creating three separate institutions. University of Alaska at Juneau, Ketchikan Community College and Islands Community College would be merged "with a regional mission offering developmental courses and associate and bachelor degrees," read a summary prepared by the university.

Each community college advisory board should meet with its local governing body and prepare proposals on the community's ability to contribute to the community college needs, suggested Susan Ness, a Juneau resident.

UA President Donald O'Dowd told Valdez residents their community college would not sustain the same percentages of budget cuts as other schools because that community college is the only one that receives substantial local government support.

Valdez contributed \$4 million to Prince William Sound Community College during the past eight years.

Ed Oetken, of Sitka, expressed concern that more of the state loans for Alaskans would go out of state. He asked the university leaders to determine the number of people the restructuring would affect.

About one out of every five adults in Sitka has contact annually with ICC, Teresa Holt, director of adult basic education offered by ICC, testified. She said no four-year institution in the state comes close to that level of participation and support.

"The present plan could irrevocably damage adult community education in this state," Holt said and added the

community colleges have excellent records of success in small communities, leading many students to employment.

She said those familiar with the past record of the university have no confidence in the "lip service" paid to development studies proposed in the restructuring plan.

Carol Williams of Hoonah praised ICC, and noted that one class alone this term will help four students achieve pay increases and provide two people with permanent employment.

"I'm afraid many mergers and cuts will snowball into something we don't want," she said. She also said she feared students would not wish to conform to the changes and go elsewhere for education or discontinue education.

A list of concerns prepared by students around the state was presented by Frances Longshore, an ICC student.

The students objected to the 15-day comment period — deadline is Nov. 15 — and to the lack of specific savings figures.

"The plan is another rip-off of rural Alaska by urban Alaska," said the sheet prepared by students. "It destroys the community college system and steals money and services from communities all over the state and funnels them into the three big cities."

The sheet continued: "The plan depends on people in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau telling the rest of us what we ought to learn. Time and again, experience in Alaska shows that when people in the cities decide what people in the rest of the state need, they turn out to be wrong."

The community college students also stated they believe the community-college system is better suited for Alaska than is a university system.

After the teleconference, Longshore went to the assembly and asked members to oppose the restructuring plan, and said: "This plan will eliminate the community college."

O'Dowd also told students alarmed about a testing proposal that the tests given prior to entry into the system would be for guidance rather than admissions purposes. However, junior taking proposed tests would be expected to meet certain standards.

# Proposal divides colleges

## ACC staff, students upset over merger

By LARRY CAMPBELL  
Daily News reporter

When University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd presented his plan to revamp the state's higher educational system, he didn't know he was proposing another unhappy marriage between Anchorage Community College and University of Alaska-Anchorage.

Those two already tried wedlock 10 years ago. ACC people didn't like it then. They still don't.

"One of the jokes around here is, 'We don't see anyone around here going out and buying an engagement ring,'" says Ron Crawford, a history and film teacher at Anchorage Community College. "To the merger, we resoundingly say no, no, no."

All this week, ACC advocates and their counterparts around the state have been shouting down O'Dowd's scheme to streamline the state's expensive and top-heavy university system. Top administrators are arguing economics. But teachers and many students believe they are in a turf war over educational philosophies and the survival of community colleges in Alaska.

Drastic change of some sort seems urgent for the state's university system. The Alaska Legislature wants it. The university system's Board of Regents wants it. Most of all, budget constraints demand it. As with every other aspect of the state budget, there is room for less in the university budget.

"Expectations continue," said Board of Regents President Roy Huhndorf. "Unfortunately, funding does not."

O'Dowd's proposal to the regents next month looks like this: Instead of 14 independent or quasi-independent campuses, Alaska would have three main universities with only three administrations, in Fairbanks, Anchorage and Juneau. Community colleges would remain physically where they are, but they would become extensions of the main university in their region.

In Anchorage, that means ACC and University of Alaska-Anchorage would meld into a single school, with one administration, one

See Back Page, **MERGER**



Anchorage Daily News/Fran Durner  
UAA's Donald O'Dowd



Anchorage Daily News/Bob Hall:nen

ACC philosophy instructor John Rolston: "If all this goes through, you watch. Someone will come along in five years and say, 'Hey, we need a community college here.' "

# MERGER: ACC faculty and students oppose college consolidation

Continued from Page A-1

records office, one student loan office, a single educational department and so on.

Each of the three new schools would offer two-year university degrees, as community colleges do now, as well as four-year and graduate degrees. The vocational and technical programs now scattered about the state would be pulled together into one institution, probably based in Anchorage.

The merger would certainly mean a reduction in jobs, but mainly among administrative people. Those jobs would be lost to budget cuts anyway, O'Dowd said. In the two years it would require to complete the plan, most of those jobs would be done away with by attrition, he said.

The actual budget savings would be minor initially, maybe \$5 million in the first year. But the goal is efficiency for years to come. O'Dowd said the proposal gives Alaska a streamlined, more sensible higher education system, one that can be justified with confidence when regents go to state lawmakers for annual budgets.

When O'Dowd came to Alaska more than two years ago, he looked around at the system he would be commanding and scratched his head. He saw, he said, fief-like campuses scattered from Kotzebue to Ketchikan. Each had its own administration, course offerings, student unions, instructor associations, even stationery. No other state in the nation had such a tentacled beast of a higher education system. But then, each tentacle held buckets of oil money to spend.

If that's the way Alaska buys higher education, he said he figured, so be it. But it certainly looked extravagant.

"If you had called me in as a consultant, I would have said it's not very economical," O'Dowd said.

A worldwide plunge in oil prices has done away with all that now. A statewide university budget of \$169.8 million only a year ago will plummet to \$143.5 million for fiscal year 1987. Even with a pledge of support from Governor-elect Steve Cowper, more cuts could come.

According to O'Dowd, the state's university system, in the shape it's in now, can't take much more surgery. A snip at this college and a cut at that campus would mean not just slightly reduced service, but would begin a process of collapse at each institution.

Better to consolidate, O'Dowd has said; merge, eliminate duplication; create just a few new, comprehensive schools that would provide the same types of services in more efficient form.

O'Dowd is suggesting something entirely different than has ever existed in Alaska. Seasoned university administrators call them "urban universities."

Before he left UAA, former chancellor David Outcalt talked of the Anchorage campus someday becoming an urban university. His replacement, interim chancellor Clark Ahlberg, who is heading UAA this year, said he came from an urban university, Wichita State.

"We offered a whole range of services, a whole range of degrees," Ahlberg said. "We scheduled classes at night, on weekends. We geared courses to what the community wanted. That's what could happen here."

But if O'Dowd's merger concept is approved by the university regents next month, community colleges may have to be brought along kicking and screaming.

Whether by design or error, O'Dowd's plan, community college boosters believe, will kill easy access to higher education for thousands of Alaskans who would never go near a traditional four-year university.

Community colleges routinely have easy admissions policies. They offer a wide variety of classes that have nothing to do with earning an English, math or biology degree. Community colleges are exactly what their name implies, supporters say.

In their minds, the melding would eventually erode the qualities people like about community colleges — no entrance or placement exams to put off students, no rigid emphasis on earning a degree.

But what the new school would look like is not clear either, even to O'Dowd. He said details have been purposely left out to allow for fine-tuning of the merger.

But ACC philosophy teacher John Rolston said, "It's more like he's asking for a blank check."

"It's a turf war, plain and simple," ACC's Crawford said. "I don't think O'Dowd has any idea of what we really do here. I respect him and I respect his courage, but he's simply wrong."

O'Dowd has said repeatedly that those kinds of qualities won't necessarily be lost in his new school. Those are the qualities he said he wants to hold on to. But no one believes him.

"We don't trust him," said Cammie Walker, an ACC accounting student. "I think the things that make ACC, or any community college, different, those things will wither away, no matter what he says."

Anchorage Community College and University of Alaska-Anchorage have been married once before. In the mid-1970s, a new organization under then-Provost John Lindauer abolished the name ACC, threw out community college stationery and insisted ACC instructors answer their phones "University of Alaska-Anchorage."

That changed again in 1978, and ACC emerged as its own institution. Ex-spouse UAA lived next door. Life calmed down for awhile, although some instructors admit even some of their students weren't always sure which school they were attending.

That kind of history is one reason why ACC advocates have been the loudest at shouting down the proposed merger and holding on to their identity.

"All we can go by is history," said another philosophy teacher, Bob Kuhner. "We've had a revolving door administration here for years. And every new one says, 'Let's forget the past, let's work toward the future.' Rah, rah, rah."

"And it never changes. Within a few weeks we've got the same problems again."

ACC advocates have mounted a quick and heavy campaign to save their campus. Meetings are scheduled with community groups. The student body has been educated. Just about anyone out there this week could quote statistics proving how efficient ACC is at delivering more education for less money.

A month ago, most people wouldn't have had any idea what those figures were.

But when opponents of the merger plan are asked what they would do, many fall back on some of the same solutions the bureaucrats have failed with before: Cut fat from the top. Cut here and there. Spread the misery around a bit. Consolidate some things, but not everything. We'll make it work this time.

Some ACC advocates have even offered the idea of asking Anchorage residents to make ACC a community college in the most basic sense, with dollars. For just a few tax dollars more, Anchorage could buy a portion of ACC. But that may be difficult in a town where some voters decided in October they weren't willing to foot the bill for local police service.

No other state in the nation has even built such an unwieldy university system as Alaska, and that's the main problem.

How did it get that way? University regents who watched the system grow say it was simple political realities.

Oil meant wealth for Alaska. Wealth meant not having to say no. If people in Nome or Kenai said they needed something, their state representative could give it to them.

What Alaska ended up buying was a far-flung system of independent institutions justified by want, but not necessarily by practicality.

"We would send a budget to the legislature, and sometimes it would come back to us a lot different," said Huhndorf. "We have less control over the budget than many people realize. But in those days, we could afford it."

While lawmakers were more than willing to add, the subtraction has fallen to the university president and the regents. That, too, is political reality.

But teachers aren't arguing in terms of politics and dollars. They argue in terms of missions, philosophies and traditions.

"They have been talking about creating a 'Harvard of the North' in Anchorage for years," said ACC Spanish teacher Diana Conway. "That's not what people want."

There's no guarantee that O'Dowd's proposal is a panacea, either. But right now, his is the boldest plan. Whether successful or not, higher education in Alaska would never look the same again.

So far, those most enmeshed in the university system have been making the most noise about the merger. Average residents, in Anchorage and every other community in the state, have so far been silent. What are they willing to pay for? What do they want? Do they want to continue a state student loan program that ships 65 percent of its loan money to schools Outside, or build a renowned four-year school at home?

Or do they want to take finger-style guitar, simply because it makes them feel good?

Philosophy teacher Rolston smiled. "If all this goes through, you watch. Someone will come along in five years and say, 'Hey, we need a community college here.'"

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1986

**you tell 'em**

## ‘Should ACC be consolidated with UAA?’

University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd has proposed consolidating south-central community colleges, including Anchorage Community College, with the University of Alaska Anchorage.

President O'Dowd says university administration must be streamlined to cope with rapidly shrinking state funding. Supporters of the plan say it will save \$5 million a year. A similar consolidation has been proposed for the Fairbanks-area campuses.

Opponents say such moves are bound to hurt the quality of education, especially at the community colleges, which serve non-traditional students. Defenders of ACC say the campus is already the most cost-efficient in

the university system.

Will community college programs be helped or hurt by merging with a full-fledged university? Are there other ways to reduce overhead in higher education? Could the university system raise enough money from non-state sources to stave off such a massive reorganization?

We'll publish your response Saturday. Send comments to PEOPLE'S FORUM, the Daily News, Box 14-9001, Anchorage, 99514-9001. **LETTERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOON THURSDAY.** Please limit letters to 200 words and include a daytime phone number.

Anchorage Daily News

Friday, November 7, 1986

### ACC serves more at less cost

I am attacking President O'Dowd's sincerity in addressing the needs of Alaskan higher education. Anchorage Community College is the largest institute of higher education in the entire state. It operates on the lowest cost per credit hour of any branch of the university system, according to the statewide system's own budget records of FY 85-86.

It exists to service the educational needs of the Anchorage public, the largest city in the state. Its mission is to provide courses that help people improve existing job skills, to offer adults with satisfactory careers an opportunity to cultivate interest in fields outside their profession, and to smooth the path for those people returning to a formal classroom after years of absence.

It's obvious that Anchorage does not want a four year standard university as its only resource of higher education. If Anchorage Community College is the largest and most efficient part of the state educational system, serving the largest city, how can we justify changing something that already works?

— Marie Henry

### Eliminating ACC is failure

My letter is in reference to the proposed restructuring plan announced by President O'Dowd of the University of Alaska, which advocates absorbing all community colleges statewide into three centralized standard four-year universities, with a "restricted mission" to serve the full-time degree-seeking student, to "better the quality of Alaskan education."

According to O'Dowd's own organization (budget records of the Statewide System for 1985), 451,000 total credit hours are currently in production for FY 1986. Of these 230,000 (over half) are in community college systems

throughout the state. Obviously, the most popular branches of higher education in Alaska are the community colleges, servicing those students seeking to improve job skills and pursuing personal cultural interest. Eliminating the community college concept is a direct failure to serve the Alaska public.

— Bob Reisch

# O'Dowd plan rekindles decade-old feud

This is the second of two articles on the proposed reorganization of the University of Alaska.

By Jan Mireles  
Times Writer

A proposal to reorganize the University of Alaska has rekindled a decade-old feud between Anchorage Community College and the Anchorage university campus.

The feud pits administrator against administrator, student against student and teacher against teacher in an occasionally bitter debate over whether ACC and UAA will merge to become a new institution.

Ten days ago, University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd proposed a statewide reorganization plan, including a proposal to merge community colleges with universities.

O'Dowd said the plan is a response to a \$60 million loss in university revenues and the realization that the state cannot support the existing university structure.

In an Anchorage speech broadcast to education centers across the state, O'Dowd said, "We must develop a new university, one which is smaller, and with a restricted mission, and above all, one which is still high quality."

The announcement sparked an immediate outcry from the community college sector. Locally, ACC instructors and students have rallied against the merger, claiming the school and its students would be lost in the bureaucratic shuffle. Leadership groups have pledged to fight any attempts to "dismantle" ACC.

Though less strident in its criticism of the proposal, the college administration has shied away from supporting O'Dowd's plan. Instead, ACC administrators have proposed that the community college be split from the university system and seek local funding for support.

Across the street, the UAA community remains largely silent on its neighbor's actions. There, faculty and students have adopted resolutions "supporting the concept" behind O'Dowd's proposed merger and suggesting

See Proposal, page A-8

Continued from page A-1

its development could expand services to Alaskans while reducing administrative overhead.

O'Dowd has said his plan is a broad framework and that it will take the efforts of individual campuses to develop its details.

"We have not spelled out the details. We don't know enough to do it," O'Dowd said. "That has to come from the people who would be doing it."

Not satisfied, ACC has been gathering ammunition for its battle against what one instructor termed the "sounding death knell for ACC."

#### The schools:

The first of Anchorage's colleges, ACC is 32 years old. College offerings include career education courses, vocational training, remedial education and a two-year liberal arts program.

Administrators, students and faculty talk proudly of ACC's commitment to opening the doors to life-long education. Entrance requirements are not stringent, allowing greater access to education, Chancellor Lyon said.

ACC has a faculty of about 350 instructors teaching more than 12,000 students, many of them adults pursuing college for the first time or seeking training for a new career.

In 1975 ACC entered a turbulent period in its history. The university underwent a reorganization that merged the community college with UAA. ACC continued to offer lower-division courses as well as vocational training. UAA offered junior- and senior-level courses. The idea was to be able to offer four-year and graduate programs in Anchorage with students beginning their career at the community college.

The anger started in 1977-78 when the university began to offer lower-division work and the faculty began to feel threatened, said Randy Miller, dean of community relations at ACC.

"They felt the university was dipping into their area. The community college felt like it was a second-class organization."

With the formation of a rural community college administration in 1978, ACC and UAA were clearly split, and separate chancellors were appointed to administer their programs.

That history appears in part, at least, to be the root of ACC's fear of being swallowed once again.

Still to enter its adolescence, UAA will celebrate its 10th anniversary as a university next year. The school began as a senior college, expanding to its current status in the late 1970s.

More than 4,000 students attend the school, which has about 290 faculty members.

The university's stated mission is to provide undergraduate and graduate education as well as opportunities for research.

Many of its students are people returning to college with the average student being 27 years old, according to administrators.

#### The debate

The debate over whether ACC and UAA should combine to form a new university is hardly a week old, but already the reasons against a merger number in the dozens.

The ACC argument focuses on the college's policy of offering easy access to the institution and educational programs tailored to community demands.

ACC supporters say O'Dowd's plan lacks guarantees that the college's open admissions policy and remedial education programs would be preserved.

Administrative savings, a public perception of efficiency and a larger Anchorage unit could be considered pluses, said Lyon. But the negatives, he said during a college "town meeting" last week, outweigh the benefits.



# Proposal: Plan splits educators

A merger means losing the ability to respond to community needs, limiting education opportunities, reducing services to students and likely ending "meaningful and responsible" vocational education, he said.

UAA leaders stand on the opposite side of the fence. Ron Spatz, president of both the UAA Campus Assembly and Statewide Assembly, said the plan is thoughtful and offers a "strong concept" from which to build a stronger university.

He said he is puzzled by the lack of understanding among his colleagues that the university's financial status has mandated a restructuring. The UAA campus has unanimously endorsed the idea of a merger.

UAA Chancellor Clark Ahlberg said his campus is intrigued by the proposal.

"People are generally optimistic," he said. "It holds promise for creating a new and more significant institution in Anchorage."

He offered a hesitant response to Lyon's pursuit of an independent ACC. "That's a judgment for Dr. Lyon and his staff to make. It doesn't seem a most propitious time for the city to take on an additional tax burden," Ahlberg said.

Ahlberg, however, raised a separate issue — the fact that community colleges employ union faculty members while the state's universities do not. Though he has worked at institutions similar to that proposed by O'Dowd, he said it will be difficult to integrate a union and non-union faculty.

## The attack

Fearful of losing control and the ability to continue its present goals, ACC has taken a defiant stand against the proposal.

On the Monday following the proposal more than 200 people gathered on campus to protest a merger. Out of that meeting came the administration position:

"It is our consensus," said Lyon, "that we feel at this time that the answer (to a merger) is no."

Lyon's disclaimer that the proposal was not a "mutiny" statement was overshadowed by evidence that the resentment over past relations between the two campuses survived the years.

"This merger is going to turn many ACC students into second-class students," said longtime ACC instructor John Rolston, whose remarks echoed colleagues and students attending the two-hour meeting.

A Tuesday gathering of the ACC Campus Assembly evoked a similar response with the membership's executive committee, endorsing a resolution to oppose any attempts to "dismantle" ACC's "comprehensive" educational offerings.

The anger surfaced again.

"We have always been the stepchild of the University of Alaska," said welding instructor Don Snahr. "Now, with this merger, we're going to become the bastard stepchild."

The more private displays of anger went public on Wednesday when the university held a public hearing on the proposed reorganization. More than 250 people attended the 3½-hour session.

People from ACC showed up in force, carrying placards supporting an independent community college and wearing buttons which read, "NO."

Throughout testimony, the crowd jeered speakers who supported the plan and applauded statements attacking UAA as being insensitive to students.

After educator Michael Mitchell noticed O'Dowd wearing the button upside-down, he quipped: "That is so when you look down you can read the message ever so clearly." The crowd delighted in the barbed comment and cheered.

Few UAA leaders attended the meeting. Those who did spoke in favor of the plan.

"The Student Association of UAA sees the merger as an elimination of administration, not of programs, instruction or services," said Paul Wellman, executive vice president of the group.

Later, Lyon said the emotional attacks are understandable, but a disappointment.

"I'm embarrassed by that," he said. "It's sending a message that there is a group of people who feel very threatened by this."

## O'Dowd's response:

Much of the fear about missions being lost and programs being cut is unfounded, according to O'Dowd. Though many specifics of the restructuring plan are unknown, he said, the university is not going to walk away from Alaska.

"The restructuring is necessary. The (proposed) three unit structure — given our size — is about all we can attempt," he said. "I envision a university with fewer administrators, not with fewer students and faculty."

O'Dowd said community colleges would continue to offer education in rural areas but would be administered by Fairbanks, Anchorage or Juneau campuses.

Bachelor's degrees would be offered in education, management and social services, he said. Vocational courses would be centered in Anchorage, but could be offered at local campuses based on community needs.

O'Dowd said remedial programs would continue to be a priority in the new university structure and that the public will have access to education.

## College merger bad idea, ACC grad says

Dear Editor:

Before we hastily make the important decision about the direction of Alaska's higher education, we must first seriously consider the advantages and disadvantages of such an action.

Sadly enough, the only advantage to the proposed merger of Anchorage Community College with the University of Alaska at Anchorage is that of saving money. Ironically, however, the merger will actually decrease the total enrollment of "new" college students, thus decreasing the total amount of monies generated by the students.

Granted, times are tough here in Alaska with the current world oil situation, and we must tighten our money belts. However, higher education is the lifeblood of Alaska's future and cannot be compromised. The very worst solution to these tough economic times is to slice the educational programs of this state. By doing so, we are slicing our own throats.

The disadvantages of this proposed merger are many, and they will affect our city and state for years to come. First, the Anchorage business community benefits greatly from the "products" of ACC. In two short years a student has the opportunity to achieve an education that is highly marketable here. Anchorage only stands to suffer from this merger.

Second, the current enrollment at ACC is 10,025 students, compared to UAA's 4,343. ACC's

---

### Letters to the editor

enrollment represents 4 percent of Anchorage's entire population. The students at ACC are vehemently opposed to this merger, and many will choose to leave this great state to attend a community college outside rather than enroll at UAA. The state of Alaska has lost enough people already to this budget crisis and cannot afford to lose any more of her most valued resource.

Third, history tells us that our economy works in cycles, and that we are currently at the low end of the economic curve. Our economy will improve in the future, but if we merge the two schools we will be stuck with the consequences even during brighter economic times.

I consider myself an excellent example of the power of ACC. I arrived in this state in August of 1985 with no job and no prospects (I was a military dependent). I enrolled in the Architectural Engineering and Technology program at ACC in September. In April of this year, after two short semesters at ACC, I started working for an engineering firm downtown as a drafter for \$9 an hour. That may not seem like much to some people, but with only two semesters of drafting instruction, it meant a great deal to me. That, my friends, is the beauty of Anchorage Community College in a nutshell.

As a student of ACC and a

member of ACC's Architectural Engineering and Technology Community Advisory Council, I feel compelled to tell the people of Anchorage that we are on the verge of inflicting irreparable damage upon Alaska's higher education program. Anchorage stands to lose a great deal from this merger regardless of what the experts say is "best" for this situation.

Who will benefit from this proposed merger? Certainly not the student. Certainly not the city of Anchorage. And certainly not the great state of Alaska. We are the future of Alaska. Please don't slice our throats.

Wake up Anchorage, before its too late.

Steve Godfrey  
Anchorage

**UA proposal 'deeply flawed'**

# Put off restructure plan, TVCC asks

By **BILL KELDER**  
Staff Writer

Calling the University of Alaska reorganization plan "deeply flawed," the Tanana Valley Community College Council has asked the university's Board of Regents to "suspend judgment on the proposed plan."

An assistant to UA President Donald O'Dowd said the resolution passed by TVCC's council Monday night and other criticisms of the reorganization plan were premature and based on misperceptions of what the plan is designed to do.

The council's resolution also objected to University of Alaska-Fairbanks Chancellor Patrick O'Rourke's reference to community college students as "casual" students.

The reference indicate a "serious lack of commitment and support for the mission of the Community College and its students," the resolution said.

The resolution is signed by TVCC council members Michael Andrews, Joseph Beedle, Lucy Carle, Gordon Cooper, Hugh Fate, Tim Jensen, Sandy Juneby, John Kelly, Charles Lundfelt, Debbie Miner-Schweers, Jan Steele and Gale Vick.

Both O'Dowd and O'Rourke were out of the state Tuesday and today, and unavailable for comment. They will return in time for a public meeting on the plan to be held at the  
(See TVCC, Back Page)



**WENDY REDMAN**  
UA special assistant  
"Consensus needed"

## TVCC

(Continued from page 1)

Noel Wien Public Library Thursday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. But O'Dowd special assistant Wendy Redman said Tuesday criticism of the plan's implementation is premature.

"We need to get a consensus on an overall restructuring plan first," she said. "Once we have the plan, there are dozens of ways to implement it, but we need the plan first." She said the university's regents, who will vote on the reorganization plan at their meeting Dec. 4-5, will also have to approve, at a later date, any process for the plan's implementation.

"We're basically talking about a one to two-year process," Redman said.

At the heart of TVCC's discontent with the plan is its call to merge the community college and UAF into a new entity.

"Redman told me that TVCC, as it presently exists, would be eliminated," said TVCC President Mike Metty. He said his main concern was that the special needs of TVCC's 2,000 to 3,000 annual students would be met under any restructuring plan.

"I told him that TVCC as a separate, autonomous entity would cease to exist," Redman said. "UAF as it presently exists would cease as well; the new entity would combine elements of the two campuses. But it is important to stress that it is implicit in President O'Dowd's plan that all students in the statewide system—be they full-time, part-time, or casual students—will have the same access they now have to meet their academic needs," she said.

"Our emphasis in reorganizing the university is to maintain the high level of academic delivery services and job training skills we now provide throughout the state with the fact that we will have to accomplish this with less money," Redman said. "To this end, we are trying to eliminate a good deal of high administrative costs and administrative duplication."

At present, the university has 11 separate, autonomous community colleges throughout Alaska, each with its own president.

Redman said she believes that all segments of the university, as well as the public, would be allowed to offer their recommendations regarding the implementation of any restructuring plan. She said it is too early to say how the restructuring plan would affect "student A or student B."

Metty said students and faculty have a right to know how they will be affected by the plan before being asked to support it. He questioned the placement of administration for all vocational skill programs in Anchorage, as called for under



**MIKE METTY**  
*TVCC president*  
"What about students?"

O'Dowd's proposal.

"We need to focus on three questions," Metty said. "First, what ought we do to provide locally viable employment skills to non-degree students? Second, how do we stay accessible and open to adults and others in the community who need special courses but, again, are not necessarily seeking a degree? Third, how do you focus on local needs if there isn't some mechanism for local citizen input?"

"The proposal to consolidate administration in Anchorage does not mean that we intend to cut back on all vocational programs," Redman said. But she said administrative costs would have to be cut through consolidation to mitigate possible cuts to programs. She said the priority in vocational programs would be given to those that are related to jobs within a given region.

"We simply have to learn to do more with less money," Redman said. "And we have to take things one step at a time. First we need to recognize that restructuring is necessary and approve an overall plan for this. Then we begin debating, at all levels, the process we will present to the regents to implement the restructuring plan," she said."

Ketchikan, Alaska, Wednesday, November 12, 1986

# KCC president responds to college plan

By PAUL APFELBECK  
*Daily News Staff Writer*

Ketchikan Community College president Dr. John Menzie has formally responded to a plan by state officials to combine Alaska's post-secondary schools into three large universities.

"I think our assumptions are the same," Menzie said in an interview Monday. "There has to be some change in the university system. When the budget goes from \$168 million to \$122 million, something has to give."

In a letter to Community College Rural Education and Extension (CCREE) chancellor Marvin Looney, Menzie proposed an audioconference with the CCREE assembly, which is a governing body for Ketchikan Community College and other state community colleges. Menzie also suggests in the letter that administration of Alaska's system of post-secondary education could be concentrated in one location while allowing local schools autonomy, or have Ketchikan Community College become an independent school under local control.

The response emerges from a plan proposed Oct. 31 by university president Dr. Donald O'Dowd to combine Alaska's community colleges and universities into three schools based in Anchorage, Juneau and Fairbanks, with community colleges acting as extension schools.

"The primary thing is the preservation of the community college system," Menzie said, adding the value and worth of community colleges is "beyond challenge."

Placing his hand on O'Dowd's Oct. 31 speech, Menzie said:

"Based upon this plan... there's no longer any community colleges in Alaska. Evidently he (O'Dowd) does not value them the same way I do."

But Menzie added his letter, combined with responses from the other 13 community colleges in the state, might sway O'Dowd.

"I think he is wise enough to entertain other ideas," he said.

In his letter, Menzie suggests a "horizontal structure instead of a vertical structure" where community colleges would maintain the same services they do now, but administration would be centralized in Anchorage.

"You can have a common personnel and purchasing system," he said. "(In my suggestion) they're all in one building... instead of each school having its own purchasing system. It makes sense to consolidate."

Another suggestion would have Ketchikan Community College become an independent school under local control.

"Put it to the community," Menzie said. "Let the citizens of Ketchikan decide if they want to have an independent community college or if they want to be part of the university system."

Locally-run community colleges are a standard feature in California and Wyoming, Menzie said.

Menzie's letter should be in the hands of the CCREE assembly when that group meets with O'Dowd and the university executive committee Nov. 25, he said.

O'Dowd has said the Board of Regents should approve the reorganization by the end of this year, with implementation of the plan completed by July 1, 1988.

## Delta residents may have input to UA plan Nov. 17-18

A teleconference linking Bethel and Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta villages with University of Alaska officials in Anchorage is scheduled for November 17.

About a dozen or more villages will be hooked up to the Alaska Network teleconference which will be held from 2 pm to 4 pm and from 6 pm to 8 pm in Room 118 of KuCC.

Area residents have expressed major concern about the future of Kuskokwim Community College, under the U of A President's reorganization plan. That plan calls for the elimination of the community college as it exists now, and an extension of the U of A in a greatly reduced form to take its place.

At a teleconference on Nov. 6 with the U of A, local residents went on record supporting the continuation of the community college. The Bethel Chamber of Commerce said "The Kuskokwim Community College is of tremendous value to the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta, and to the community of Bethel. The long-term benefits to the area are many-fold. The training and retraining of the labor force in this area of unusually high unemployment is significant.

We urge you to reconsider the reorganization plan and make adjustments so that the Kuskokwim Community College may continue in its present form, or as close to it as possible.

The reorganization would deal a devastating blow to the emerging business community in Western Alaska."

Vicki Malone testified that the plan "was not acceptable, because it relegated us to a university extension center. The process was not acceptable," she said, "because it had not had adequate public hearings, and they had failed to involve the Post-Secondary Commission in reviewing and commenting on the plan."

Lin Laughy, president of KuCC, told the U of A that people in the Delta are just hearing about the plan, and have not had a chance to respond.



### So much for 'institutions'

Dear Editor,

When University of Alaska President, Donald O'Dowd declared immediately prior to the November 4 election that there is a new mission for that State "institution", people in Juneau have a good reason to cringe. The University of Alaska, Juneau, is a highly-respected school while State Government is an institution.

The urban-based U of A institution has tried to gobble up rural and community colleges around the state for years. With State revenue shortfalls, Dr. O'Dowd now seems to think he can do what has not been politically feasible before.

As a graduate student at UAJ (who attended the UAA institution years ago before switching my matriculation to Alaska Methodist University where I graduated with a bachelor degree in 1974) I now find myself again attending school—here in Juneau. Hopefully the U of A institution will allow me and my classmates to conclude the graduate degree program at this school.

The so-called "new mission" of the State university-institution appears to continue putting old-fashioned

politics ahead of meaningful educational priorities. President O'Dowd's latest election-eve reorganization proposal appears to reinforce popular skepticism; Juneau is where political decision are made about the future of Alaska, but emphasis for Technical-Vocational education and graduate studies are to be re-institutionalized at other campuses under the new plan.

With only a couple of semesters to go here for a Master's Degree with Technical/Education emphasis, I am, of course, disappointed in President O'Dowd's plan to gear UAJ down to a milktoast undergraduate institution. However, it is my hope that he and the U of A Board of Regents will gain some Alaska political schooling before the new Administration and 15th Legislature convene in Juneau.

We ALL may then have a lot to learn.

Sincerely,

Donn R. Liston

# Mat-Su College students, teachers question plans for consolidation

By CONNIE BRANDEL

Frontiersman staff

Staff and students at Mat-Su Community College say there are too many questions and too little time to evaluate a proposed restructuring plan for the University of Alaska.

In comments made in a written statement and via a teleconference public hearing last week, teachers and students tried to learn more about the future of MSCC under the consolidation plan announced by University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd.

(Continued from Page 1)

No other specifics of the plan have been released, and the concept currently is in the public-hearing stage.

Another teleconference to gather input from the Valley and rural areas of the state has been set up for Monday, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. in Room 212 in MSCC library building.

The UA board of regents is scheduled to vote on the plan at its Dec. 4-5 meeting in Fairbanks, said Al Okeson, MSCC president.

Okeson also said he did not have many specifics other than what O'Dowd outlined in his original speech.

Electronics instructor John Rogers said the position statement written on behalf of the MSCC staff and faculty was adopted by the Alaska Community College Federation of Teachers, the union that represents fulltime faculty. Rogers is the MSCC campus representative for the union.

In addition to pointing out the time constraints, the concerns outlined in the letter include:

"...The proposed reorganization will so drastically alter the community concept as to dissolve it altogether."

•Community colleges might be reduced to "mere satellite sites for the four-year university with poor libraries and poor services."

•The number of teachers who will lose their jobs, and what the status will be of those who

O'Dowd's speech two weeks ago outlined the consolidation of the UA system into three main campuses at Fairbanks, Juneau and Anchorage. It proposed that UAA and Anchorage Community College merge into a new unit, and that the Mat-Su and Kenai Peninsula community colleges join that unit.

If approved by the UA board of regents, the plan is expected to take two years to implement. It is designed to cope with a \$40 million reduction in state revenue during the past two

remain.

•Whether individual campuses will have autonomy to offer specific classes, a guaranteed minimum amount of funding, and administrators to handle local concerns.

About a dozen staff members and students attended last week's hearing in Wasilla.

On Wednesday, Rogers said he made copies of O'Dowd's speech available to community leaders before the hearing, "but so far I haven't heard a huge response from the community. The students are upset about it, and I think if there were more information out, others would be upset, too."

During the hearing Rogers pointed out that "the missions of the community college and the university are different," adding that the restructuring plan is "a mistake Alaska cannot afford."

In a later interview he added that he has seen other attempts to reorganize the system "and it's nothing to get overly enthusiastic about. The two-year schools usually come out on the short end."

During the hearing, instructor Ted Berry questioned who would teach upper-division classes at the community college site; whether community college teachers without doctorate degrees would be phased out; and whether the administration would be taking salary and benefit cuts.

Student Barbara Mishler commented that "reorganizing with the emphasis on baccalaureate degrees will disen-

years.

Among the points in his proposal specifically related to MSCC, O'Dowd stated that resident vocational-technical classes would be offered only at the Anchorage site. The new college unit at Anchorage also would offer instruction at the associate, baccalaureate and masters levels.

His proposal also states that students will be required to take an entrance placement exam and a competency test at the beginning of their junior year.

(Please see College Back Page)

franchise more than half of the community college population."

David Smith, MSCC student body president, said Wednesday that students were concerned about the mandatory testing, and which programs would remain in the Valley.

He described the tests as expensive and a deterrent to many students who might want to attend classes.

He described O'Dowd's plan as "an ivory tower idea of a four-year institution in this state. He doesn't want vocational schools all over that will be thorns in the side of the four-year schools."

Elizabeth Fallon, a fulltime English instructor at the college, said the faculty's concerns were somewhat divided.

"You can't help but be a little selfish and worry about your job," she said in an interview. "But we're as much concerned about the mission of the community college as our own jobs."

She added, "I worry that a four-year institution won't serve our needs. The majority of students here are parttime. A lot aren't degree-oriented. We don't offer a degree in art, but we teach a lot of art here because the community asked for it."

MSCC President Okeson said Wednesday his best, but tentative, information on the status of the vocational classes is that some would stay and some would be moved to Anchorage.

College

# Q. 'Should ACC be consolidated with UAA?'

## A O'Dowd owes community some answers

Anchorage has half the state population. Anchorage has had a community college for 25 years that I know of. It was around before "oil." I have used this facility off and on during that time and am using it at the present. I am not willing to give up ACC without a lot of explanations.

What do we have to lose? What are our options? Why haven't we been better informed?

How about some answers, Mr. O'Dowd!

— Harriet Warner

## A 'Non-traditional' courses should be preserved

It's not a question of whether ACC should be consolidated with UAA: It undoubtedly will be done out of financial necessity. The question is how to preserve the popular ACC programs for non-traditional students to retain ease of enrollment and to continue with the wonderful variety of classes. Low overhead has been the hallmark of the ACC administration. How can the current ACC listing of classes be offered when the overhead will double or triple under UAA administrative control?

I'm one of those "non-traditional" students. Like many of my acquaintances, I take ACC classes for personal enrichment and stimulation, and not with any intent of obtaining a degree. The two dance classes I have taken with Jill Crosby have been a delight, and I fear that the dance program along with similar popular offerings may be dropped after consolidation, under the misguided philosophy that they have too few "degree-bound" students.

— Julie Sprott

## A Both types of education should remain available

I feel that such a merger would not be of any harm to the student bodies of either institution so long as we remember that the two schools were created to serve two different purposes. One was made to meet the needs of those seeking a four-year degree in a specified field. It is important that there is such a place in Anchorage so that students

here are not forced to go Outside to receive a quality education, and a degree. This university is a bargain. It offers a fine education at a fair price, and it has a constitution which offers almost unlimited power to its students. It is something which we cannot afford to lose.

Neither can we afford to lose ACC. ACC was created to meet the needs of professionals seeking to further their education in their career field, and to serve the needs of the community by offering courses in areas of public interest. A merger would not be a poor decision so long as the avenues to both types of education remain open to the people who seek it. However, if such a merger leads to elimination or cutbacks on the education currently offered by both these fine schools, the effect would only be harmful. Let's not let economy rule education.

— Katya Bowen

## A Too many Alaskans would be denied a college career

I am a product of ACC. I started at ACC in 1983 as a returning student. Now I am a math tutor and teaching assistant in the CORE program which is designed to help those Alaskans who could never go to college under the regular university entrance requirements.

I object to "merging" with UAA because I believe that too many Alaskans would be cut off from any chance to pursue a college career.

Because of programs like the learning center and the innovative curriculum at ACC — programs which are termed "remedial" in the university system — I am now helping others learn what I have learned at ACC. This process of self-improvement for many Alaskans must not be placed in jeopardy for any reason.

I agree that the four-year schools must continue — but so must the community colleges.

The four-year schools serve their special students — but we serve a much larger number of students in a totally different way. And we in the community colleges feel that the elitist attitudes of the university system would, in a "merged" university, prevent the community colleges from doing what we do so well — serving the majority of Alaskans who choose to go to college!

— Shelia Riley  
President

ACC African American Assoc.

## A At least plan will solve parking problem

President O'Dowd has devised an ingenious solution to the parking problem at the UAA/ACC campuses. Restructure, merge, and eliminate the opportunities that now exist for approximately 70 percent of the ACC student body to seek higher education, and the campuses will more closely resemble a ghost-town than the vital institutions we have today.

I am concerned that community college programs and students will be hurt by the merger that is being proposed, and President O'Dowd's vague restructuring outline does nothing to alleviate those fears.

As I see it, this new entity will exist to serve the full-time, four- or two-year degree seeking student exclusively. The non-traditional student, who because of outside responsibilities cannot attend day-time classes and carry a full schedule, will be relegated to the status of a second-class citizen. They would only be afforded the opportunity to register for classes after all others have selected, and would be required to pay fees in addition to the regular credit and lab fees to cover the extra cost that their part-time status generates.

Unless I can be guaranteed that this will not happen, I will be actively seeking out and lending support to alternate plans that allow the community college to continue in the present budget crunch.

— Maureen Hamel

## A 'Energy' will be lost if plan goes through

Combining is not the answer. There are a lot of good things that revolve and come of ACC. The individuals involved in ACC and the community itself also benefit. Because it means people care enough for themselves and others, to try and better themselves. The school puts out a lot of energy and enthusiasm. The community benefits from ACC, because with people trying to help themselves, the less the community will have to provide for these people. Combining the two colleges will take away a lot of energy, because not as many people will be able to develop themselves and continue their education.

The community college has a different purpose than the university does. UAA makes you take classes that are actually irrelevant to the degree desired. ACC allows you to specialize in specific fields, and allows more hands-on training. We need a community college environment. Please help save ACC from extinction.

— Pam Laribee

## A We're running the risk of damaging both

A university, as its name implies, is a universal institution. Thus UAA's educational goals have more in common with Oxford, the Sorbonne or Moscow General University than with ACC.

A community college, as its name implies, is an institution shaped by its immediate environment. Thus Anchorage Community College is different from Kenai Peninsula Community College or Kuskokwim Community College.

President O'Dowd's hastily-presented and ill-defined plan gives lip-service to preserving the goals of both types of institutions but provides no concrete mechanism for doing so. Because of his background in four-year colleges, he focuses on full-time and degree-oriented students at the expense of the great majority of community college students who enroll for personal development.

The university system has gone through numerous reorganizations before. Every new administrator hired from Outside re-invents the wheel. Perhaps each new president feels he must justify his own high salary, free car and housing allowance by appearing to be busy and useful.

The work hours wasted in task forces and meetings over the next two years to implement the new plan will negate any of the supposed budget savings. Worse yet, we run the risk of damaging two equally valid but completely different systems of higher education.

— Diana Conway

## A Plan is nothing but an act of 'political desperation'

Dr. O'Dowd's proposal establishes a framework for the elimination of our outstanding community college system. Period. He would have us believe his plan was motivated by financial necessity. I disagree. Clearly this is a political maneuver.

This is not a plan borne of economic necessity. It is rather an act of political desperation. O'Dowd is president of a foundering, mediocre university system which is not cost effective. He proposes sacrificing our outstanding, cost effective, working community college system in an attempt to salvage an expensive, wasteful, malfunctioning university system. This smacks of an elitist attitude which has no place here.

The university system has existed as a parasite on the community colleges until now. In hard times, this foolish parasite proposes to consume its host in one gluttonous gulp.

No! Protection must be given to the students of this state who depend upon their community colleges to provide educational opportunities which are never provided by universities.

— Dave Dai

## A UAA top administrators should resign

I get the feeling those proposing the consolidation of UAA and ACC would also be the ones in power after the merger. So if the system's financial woes force the change, to avoid any appearance of a "power-grab," I offer the following solution. To show good faith for their proposal, UAA top administrators should submit their resignations immediately, to become effective upon completion of the transition to one institution. Running of the new single organization would then be taken over by the ACC administration. It has a proven track record, providing the "best education bang for the buck." The now jobless UAA bosses could apply for rehire as positions became available, with a preference given over new hires.

I'm reminded of my parents' solution to the bickering of my brother and I over the spoils of a night of Halloween trick-or-treating. One of us could divide the candy as he saw fit. The other, however, had first choice between the two piles. As I remember, we got a fair split

— Mike Storrs

## A Perhaps UA should merge into ACC instead

The proposed merger may be a good idea if it is done very carefully and not hastily. Hopefully, ACC would not get lost in the bureaucracy that seems to prevail at UA. It may be a better idea for UA to merge into ACC. From listening to people in my classes at ACC, it seems the majority fears getting absorbed in UA's image. Every time I have dealt with UA, I have found the school and atmosphere in general to be stuffy, stifling and overall forbidding and intimidating to the average citizen. There is no reason it has to be this way. Maybe ACC could teach UA something.

Also, anyone given any consideration to the impact that a merger would have on the military community in the state? Currently, UAA is not even represented on Elmendorf AFB. They have no classes or office. ACC has a well-run program with a wide variety of classes offered at times when most military people can attend. These educational opportunities enable those of us in the military to better ourselves and improve our jobs, which in the long-run improves the whole defense of Alaska. I would hate to see these benefits get lost or reduced by the proposed plan.

— Kim Williams

## A How far will ACC students have to 'walk?'

Once before, briefly, the two schools were merged. Before the merger ACC had a fine library in the center of its campus. A place where students studied before, between, and after classes. It was the best used educational facility on campus. The merger produced the Consortium Library on the UAA campus, a much larger, "better" library, with greatly expanded services ... but not for ACC students. The library is now a 20-minute walk from ACC, a necessary walk because there is little parking available at the library. Since ACC students are typically full-time workers and part-time students, there is no time for the 40-minute round-trip. Did a better merged library create a better education for the ACC student, 11,000 of them? Now we can look forward to the merging of all ACC's educational services. How far do our students walk this time?

— Robert Kuhner  
Philosophy teacher, ACC

## *Proposed college merger makes no sense*

Dear Editor:

The proposed merger of UAA and ACC by president O'Dowd makes no sense to me at all for several reasons.

First, most ACC students are employed full time, and cannot attend a university full time. Only 28 percent or less of the courses proposed by president O'Dowd are scheduled after 6 p.m., whereas ACC offers over 50 percent of its classes in the evening.

Second, ACC students' objectives are primarily to learn new or improve existing job skills, or personal enrichment through such classes as art, dance, or music. Only 16 percent of ACC students are enrolled primarily

---

### Letters to the editor

to get transfer credit. If they are only students UAA will gain by making an Anchorage University, then it will be much more financially troubled than the current system.

Third, why eliminate the most efficient and largest campus in Alaska? ACC spends less than one-third per credit-hour what some of the other campuses in the state spend.

As an ACC music student, I have neither the time nor the desire to declare a major, apply for admission, take placement exams to study subjects I'm not interested in, then wait until the

last registration day (unless I am a full-time student taking at least 12 credits), then take only the left-over classes.

There is a lot more fat in the existing system that could be trimmed to meet the budget — like some of the inefficiencies, upper-echelon paychecks, expense accounts, and travel. O'Dowd's proposed university is geared toward the full-time, day-time student. Community colleges and universities are like apples and oranges, and Anchorage needs both. There are other alternatives.

Chris Bond  
414 E. 14th Ave.

# A message to the University of Alaska — leave ACC alone

Here they came again, yet another batch of well-meaning bureaucrats bent on saving what is quaintly referred to as the University System; and once again these earnest bumbler, led by University of Alaska President Donald O'Dowd, have what seems to them to be a neat idea: We'll just combine the university with the community college system!

Wrong.

O'Dowd, being a relative cheechako, is to be forgiven for coming up with this previously failed experiment. But, since he is obviously surrounded with dullards who don't have a clue regarding the nature of reality, it might be useful to get back to the basics. Clear away all the obfuscation, and we're talking about three different institutions: Anchorage Community College, the University of Alaska-Anchburg, and the University of Alaska-Squarebanks.

Or, if you need a one-to-one comparison, call it ACC versus the university. That's what it comes down to in this town. And, when you get right down to it, there's one simple reason that those of us who are veterans of previous skirmishes are alarmed by the latest proposal.

It's simple. We don't trust the University of Alaska.

Now, I have served my time in both institutions, along with a stretch at Alaska Pacific University back when it still had a couple of Methodists in storage, and I have a



**satch carlson**

great regard for the programs and staff at UAA. But any university is a political system dedicated, as are all political systems, to its own survival; scratch the surface of the idea of combining UAA and ACC and you'll find a layer of belief that, if push came to shove, we could do *without* ACC; after all, the *university* is the *important* thing, isn't it?

There is an element of snobbery in this kind of thinking, and I think it goes all the way up to the Board of Regents. That's why I have long maintained that the systems, rather than being combined, should be completely separate, including separate Boards of Regents.

That's the only way we'll ever get rid of the ugly step-child syndrome.

You see, ACC is hardly prestigious. Why, almost anybody can wander over and take classes. There aren't any Master's programs; the staff people are usually called teachers or instructors instead of professors; the place is made of squat concrete bunkers instead of ivory towers. And the philosophy of the place, the *mission*, if you will, is hardly one of outstanding academic achievement.

All ACC does is give the people of Anchorage a place to go to learn the stuff they want to know.

They've been pretty successful in this regard for more than a quarter of a century, long before anybody could even drag a dime of University money away from Fairbanks, the monetary sinkhole of the University system. (At that, when UAA started nosing its way into the Anchorage tent, it was breaking promises made to fledgling AMU not to open a four-year school here, but that was probably inevitable.) Nobody objects to having the university here until there comes again the ugly talk of "combining" UAA and ACC, at which point some of us start gathering tar and chicken feathers and waiting for O'Dowd to visit the campus.

Under the guidance of Eugene Short, ACC grew from a hodge-podge of interesting classes held, usually, at night in local high-school classrooms to a consolidated collection of courses and programs; it has served the people of this community well. But what has this success engendered in the collective mind of the university? A certain amount of envy, really, as well as a kind of ill-guided contempt for ACC in general and its classes in particular. I once sat in a class at the

university and listened to the instructor — come to think of it, he may even have been a professor — denigrating and denouncing a similar class taught across the road at ACC. The distance between these two campuses is a lot wider than a 15-minute walk, I think, and the philosophical differences unbridgeable.

Which is probably as it should be.

So while it is clear that the university system has to make some cutbacks and concessions, perhaps we ought to start looking for something that will work, without destroying two fine — and very different — institutions. There are certainly some tough questions to be answered: Do we really need a campus in Juneau? If so, why not move oceanic studies and marine biology completely out of Fairbanks to the balmy Southeast? Come to think of it, do we really need the campus in Fairbanks? Make some decisions regarding the basic structures of the university system if you must — but leave the community colleges, especially ACC, alone.

James Thurber said it best in his fable about the orioles and the foxes (who first liberated — and then, of course, ate — all the orioles): *Government of the orioles, by the foxes, and for the foxes, must perish from the earth.*

---

Satch Carlson is an Anchorage columnist.

---

# More comment on UAA-ACC merger proposal

## Merger is best for all concerned

Yes, ACC should be merged with UAA, Mat-Su and Kenai into a new university. It makes good economic and educational sense. Alaska cannot afford excess administrators on the public payroll or the alternative of slowly bleeding the higher education system to death.

Why don't the ACC people believe President O'Dowd's commitment to maintain the community college mission? They are worried about an "identity crisis" and recalling a decade-old argument.

Wake up ACC! UAA, Mat-Su CC, and Kenai Peninsula CC also lose their "identity" in this merger. The people you fought with 10 years ago are long since gone. The university president has no axe to grind with you -- he is making a bold and courageous move to save quality education for Alaska. The taxpayers will not vote to increase their taxes to save your "identity."

This is a great opportunity for Anchorage to become the major center for higher education in this state. ACC is the most efficient school in the system. UAA is the most efficient university. Let us draw on those strengths and the talents of the faculties and students of all four institutions to create the best for all.

— Pat Walle

## Try alternative approaches first

Over the next several years up to 80 percent of new jobs in Alaska will not require a bachelor's degree. Training for these new jobs will require workers to upgrade skills or retrain. New entrants in the work force will need technical or vocational education.

Community colleges specialize in meeting these educational needs. Unfortunately, under President O'Dowd's proposed restructuring of the university system, community colleges will no longer exist in Alaska.

Perhaps the statewide university system should be restructured into two units, a University of Alaska system and a Community Colleges of Alaska system. Or perhaps certain administrative functions, such as payroll, personnel, and purchasing could be combined to reduce administrative overhead. The people of Alaska should not allow such a basic service as education to be so radically changed until alternative "restructurings" have been fully explored.

— Gerry Busch

## Merger forgets some students

The proposed merger will only benefit degree-seeking students. What about the people that only need a class or two, or the people just interested in expanding their knowledge? No more evening classes, only day classes for the degree-seeking students.

Your help is needed. Your voice and opinions are needed, and in a hurry. The Board of Regents will vote on this on Dec. 4. Please, get involved, your help is needed, now!

— Kim Lubbes

## ACC founded for the community

I am an ACC student who is opposed to the ACC/UAA merger. Two years ago I enrolled in the CORE program at ACC after 15 years' absence from the academic world. The CORE program gave me the confidence to continue on toward an associate degree in human services. This program as well as others exist at ACC to support and encourage students who would otherwise become lost and disillusioned in a traditional setting such as UAA.

What will happen to the non-traditional students and dedicated teachers? What opportunities will be available to the people in the community who want to take a class for enjoyment or self improvement?

Anchorage Community College was founded for the community. It should remain a separate entity so that it can continue to meet the needs of the citizens of this community.

— Marti Tryck

## Consolidate colleges separately

Considering the difference in missions of both institutions, I think the community needs to decide which one would better serve their needs. I am in favor of consolidating the community colleges separately and having the universities offer the more advanced and graduate degree programs instead of competing for the entrance level students.

Unfortunately, President O'Dowd and the Board of Regents have not left very much time to consider new proposals.

— Michael K. Gaunt

## Let Anchorage save ACC

What the University of Alaska has done is put the residents of Anchorage to take the brunt of the shortfall for all of the schools throughout Alaska. Of the cuts proposed, nearly 80 percent of the savings will come from cutting Anchorage Community College.

This is so sad, because ACC is the most cost-effective college in Alaska. For every credit hour at ACC the total cost to the school is \$201.42, compared to \$454.48 at the University of Alaska-Anchorage and \$738.07 at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks.

This merger cannot possibly be the best solution to the budget problem. The ACC Council has proposed that ACC become an independent community college instead of merging with the University of Alaska. Student fees generate 22 percent of ACC's budget. State support and federal would be about 58 percent of the budget, and 20 percent could be derived from a one-third-mill rate increase with the vote of the residents of Anchorage. This would amount to a \$33 increase per year on a property value of \$100,000.

I think it's only fair that the people of Anchorage be given an opportunity to keep the best post-secondary education in Alaska. As a full-time student at ACC, full-time employee, and a full-time mother of two children, I know I could not continue my education under the structured setting of the University of Alaska.

— Nancy V. Hendrickson

## Non-traditional student shut out

As a continuing student of ACC, I am completely and totally against President O'Dowd's ill-conceived merger proposal. Not only is it unjust and thoroughly vague in some very important areas, but O'Dowd states that his main objective is to save money. Well that's fine, but has he really thought of the ultimate cost?

If his proposal gets rushed through as he wishes, the non-traditional student will have the open doors of ACC slammed very hard in his or her face.

UAA only caters to itself; as it is an institution that concentrated on pure academia and relies on high costs and entrance level screening to keep out undesirable students.

ACC is a student/community oriented institution. Lets work to keep it that way.

— Brett A. George

## Schools like apples and oranges

The proposed merger of UAA and ACC by President O'Dowd makes no sense to me at all.

First, most ACC students are employed full-time, and cannot attend a university full-time. Only 28 percent of the courses proposed by President O'Dowd are scheduled after 6 p.m., whereas ACC offers over 50 percent of its classes in the evening.

Second, ACC students' objectives are primarily to learn new or improve existing job skills, or personal enrichment through such classes as art, dance, or music. Only 18 percent of ACC students enrolled primarily to get transfer credit.

Third, why eliminate the most efficient and largest campus in Alaska? ACC spends less than one-third per credit-hour what some of the other campuses in the state spend.

As an ACC music student, I have neither the time nor the desire to declare a major, apply for admission, take placement exams to study subjects I'm not interested in, then wait until the last registration day (unless I am a full-time student taking at least 12 credits), then take only the left-over classes.

There is a lot more fat in the existing system that could be trimmed to meet the budget — like some of the inefficiencies, upper-echelon paychecks, expense accounts, and travel. Community colleges and universities are like apples and oranges, and Anchorage needs both. There are other alternatives.

— Chris Bond

## There are better alternatives

Donald O'Dowd would have us trade in our old university for a more streamlined model which even he hasn't figured out how to operate, and like a high-pressure salesman he'd like to push the deal through before we have time to discover what's wrong with it. If his plan will result in the eradication of self-interest courses and the open admission policy currently in effect at ACC, then he's turning his back on the largest and most cost effective family of the university community, all in the interest of a 3.49 percent savings in the budget. Surely there are better alternatives.

— Craig Coray  
adjunct faculty, ACC music

## Proposal moves much too fast

The proposed merger of community colleges into the university system is too much too fast with too little public input or thoughtful planning. I am absolutely amazed that a decision of this magnitude which affects so many people "must" be made by Dec. 4. It seems to lend credence to the saying that there is never enough time to do it right — but always enough time to do it over.

This is a proposal which deserves very careful and thorough scrutiny of all possible options and that simply cannot happen between now and the next meeting of the Board of Regents on Dec. 4.

If you share my concern I urge you to contact not only the regents but your legislative representatives as well. Please remember that in the final analysis you can care enough to get involved and try to make a difference — or take what you get.

— Chris A. Tollady

## O'Dowd should slow down

Should ACC be joined with UAA? Should a gopher be put into the same cage with a gopher snake? Or a cabbage with a goat?

Dr. O'Dowd has decreed that universities are more important than community colleges.

The trouble is O'Dowd hasn't consulted anyone but himself and other goat-minded experts. He hasn't consulted the people of Anchorage, who have been served very well by the efficient, accommodating, and unassuming community college.

I think O'Dowd needs to slow down and do some thinking. After he has, he will see that it is important to not join the community college with the university.

— Jim Donally

## Plan may be final ACC's solution

The few dollars which may be saved through the merger of these two great institutions will be lost at the expense of the continued education of thousands of Anchorage citizens.

There are many ways of reorganizing the post secondary educational delivery system in the state of Alaska instead of merging UAA and ACC. It would behoove Dr. O'Dowd and the board of regents to solicit alternatives from the public instead of dictating a partial reorganization plan which has been presented as a final solution. Unfortunately, it may be the final solution for ACC.

— Michael K. Mitchell

Anchorage Times  
Anchorage, AK

NOV 18 1986

# Community college backers propose merger alternatives

By Jan Mireles  
Times Writer

A coalition of Anchorage Community College supporters is proposing alternatives to University of Alaska proposals to reorganize and merge ACC with the University of Alaska-Anchorage.

William Borah, acting chairman of the ACC Council, outlined the coalition's alternatives during a news conference today. Borah said the recommendations came from meetings between the ACC Council — which consists of community members appointed to oversee ACC operations — and ACC staff, faculty and student leaders.

The ideas will be presented to university regents at their December meeting, Borah said.

One of the proposals would establish a single University of Alaska and a single Alaska Community College. The community college would be based in Anchorage, but the council made no recommendation for a site for the new university.

Community college programs would be offered in other communities around the state, said Borah.

The coalition opposes UA President Donald O'Dowd's plan to save \$5 million of a \$60 million budget shortfall anticipated for fiscal 1988 by merging the state's community colleges and universities.

University revenues have fallen \$25 million in

two years because of cuts in state funding.

Borah said ACC supporters believe the plan does not save enough money to warrant change and does not preserve the community college role of providing easy access to higher education.

A \$60 million budget problem cannot be solved with a \$5 million Band-Aid, he said.

"The priority of focus should be emphasizing the \$60 million shortfall," said Borah. "It (O'Dowd's plan to restructure the university) does not address the issue of the budget."

The loss of Alaska's community colleges, Borah said, is too high a price to pay for savings of \$1 million locally and \$5 million statewide.

Borah said the university should instead concentrate on preventing layoffs and program cuts expected because of the larger \$55 million shortfall.

"They've put the cart before the horse," he said. "We haven't even begun to look at the real problem" of how to save jobs and programs.

Borah outlined three coalition alternatives to the O'Dowd proposal and estimated the savings.

- A single University of Alaska and a single Alaska Community College; \$7.2 million.

An independent community college system with a separate board of regents. Anchorage would administer statewide community college programs. The move, according to coalition estimates, would save between \$6.5 million and \$7 million annually.

- The university would establish four administration units. Under that proposal, UAA would re-

tain its status and all community colleges would be combined into an Alaska Community College to be based in Anchorage. Approximately \$5 million would be saved annually.

Borah said O'Dowd's plan "takes 'community' out of education. It is a no-confidence vote in Alaska."