

RESOLUTION:

The UAF Faculty Senate respects the goals of, but nevertheless rejects joining "Complete College America." Instead, the UAF Faculty Senate urges the Alaska State Legislature and the administration of the University of Alaska to support and encourage programs that recognize Alaska's considerable regional diversity and are tailored to address the goals of Alaska's students, rather than to bind Alaska to a rigid set of one-size-fits-all national education rules. Our best strategy is to provide support, preparation, and access to programs and degrees without

The stated national problem is insufficient completion of higher education degrees in the context of an increasing need for workers with post secondary education. Significant problems cited are a national 40%

- Replace semesters with 4-8 week terms, "with fewer courses per term and fewer weeks away

- "Utilize year-round attendance; no summers off."
- Require a prescribed set of courses and course sequencing for each program to reduce the complexity of registration, course selection, and the need for course advising.
- "Compress classroom instruction to reduce seat time requirements and allow students to proceed

at an accelerated pace." Classroom instruction is to be supplemented by other resources, e.g., online technology.

- "Emphasize remediation" in regular courses

- "Require a certain number of credit hours be taken through online courses."
- "Offer prior learning assessments that allow students to demonstrate mastery of college-level

to direct the educational system from outside, to reorient it toward a specific set of priorities and “uniform metrics.”

Like Complete College America, No Child Left Behind sets an ambitious goal for an educational system and imposes a rigid structure and set of requirements to force institutions to adopt its priorities and

other, locally developed solutions that would be more effective. They also crowd out educational experiences that are not deemed to be “essential.” Similarly, the Complete College America program would eliminate much flexibility and choice both in terms of how UAF adapts to a changing world and

meeting needs of its students, and in terms of options that the students themselves have at UAF.