

**Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage**

**Resolution #20-05: Vote of No Confidence in UA President Johnsen**

SPONSORED BY: Student and Academic Affairs Committee

WRITTEN BY: Rose Kruger, *Sergeant at Arms*  
Alex Jorgensen, *Speaker of the Assembly*

ENDORSED BY: Jamie Bagley, *Vice President*

DATE: October 25th, 2019

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WHEREAS: On September 24th, 2019 the University of Alaska (UA) community became aware of a series of coercive and intimidating [letters](#) that UA President Jim Johnsen sent to the chancellors of UAA, UAF, and UAS as well as other documented examples of the president excluding the chancellors from other important decision making moments that as chief executive officers they should be involved in; and,

WHEREAS: The oppression of regional leadership in combination with outcries from students, faculty, and staff caused the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) to send a [letter](#) to the UA Board of Regents noting lack of compliance with [Accreditation Standards 2.A.1 and 2.A.2](#); and,

WHEREAS: ip has consistently been called into question during his entire tenure as president; receiving a vote of no confidence from the [UAA](#) and [UAF](#) Faculty Senates and a letter of concern from the [UAS](#) Faculty Senate in 2017 over the deeply flawed Strategic Pathways process followed by a reconfirmation of vote of no confidence by the [UAA](#) Faculty Senate and a vote of no confidence by the KPC Faculty Senate; and,

WHEREAS: President Johnsen advocated against regional leadership during the strategic pathways process to consolidate the teacher education programs and was ineffective at leading university leaders forward once the decision had been made, the exact same process occurred in 2019 when the UAA School of Education lost its CAEP accreditation. He was unable to lead the university system forward after the Board of Regents voted 6-5 to not reapply for programmatic accreditation, demonstrating his continued inability to unify stakeholders in the wake of unpopular decisions; and,

WHEREAS: All of these decisions show a general trend of disregard for the wants and needs



WHEREAS: The lack of leadership from President Johnsen has fostered an environment of uncertainty amongst UAA Faculty, resulting in low morale and teacher retention rates, ultimately affecting the quality of education across all universities; and,

WHEREAS: In the trying times that lie ahead, the University of Alaska requires a leader that has the support of institutional stakeholders and one that is able to lead the university using principles of shared governance, even during times of crisis.

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THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED

That the Union of Students at the University of Alaska Anchorage has no confidence in President Jim the student body we were duly elected to represent and protect; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED

That the Union of Students at the University of Alaska Anchorage urges the Board of Regents to remove Jim Johnsen from his role as President of the University of Alaska System; and,

THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY FURTHER RESOLVED

That the Union of Students at the University of Alaska Anchorage calls upon the UA Board of Regents to seek a leader who commands the confidence of regional stakeholders and can lead our university system to a prosperous future.

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PASSED BY A 10 0 0 VOTE OF THE USUAA ASSEMBLY



Approved  Vetoed

October 30, 2019

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Clare Baldwin, *Student Body President*

Date