

RESOLUTION:

The UAF Faculty Senate, in support of student retention and success, resolves that a

comprehensive Student Learning Community be established on the Fairbanks campus.

**UAF Student Learning Commons Proposal**  
**Student Academic Development & Achievement Committee**  
**April 2009**

RESOLUTION:

The Faculty Senate in support of student retention and success resolves that a comprehensive Student Learning Commons be established on the Fairbanks campus in partnership with the Rasmuson Library. The Student Learning Commons would provide and coordinate tutoring, supplemental instruction, computer-assisted instruction, access to informational and instructional technologies, curricular advising, and counseling to all undergraduate students at UAF. Its technology and information-management capabilities would further extend UAF's reach to include rural students.

**1. Rationale**

A failure to retain and nurture students obstructs the mission of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, which is to promote excellence, student success and lifelong learning. Faculty, departments, committees and administration confirm that many

students entering UAF need assistance in order to succeed. All student success

experts conclude that increased support services are needed to address

orientations and success workshops at a single locale purposely designed to direct and enrich their educational experience. These services will be available both to local students and to students at a distance.

Students participating in the SLC will develop the skills and attitudes necessary for the attainment of academic, career and life goals, including one or more of the following: increase their knowledge of the subjects they are studying, improve their grades, become proficient in using technology and web resources they need for success, become more

**Proposed Vision** The base of a comprehensive learning center is not just a pool

## Services

To support student success and improve student learning at UAF, a student learning commons located within the Rasmuson Library will provide integrated services to

enhance individual and group learning experiences. Most of the library literature about learning commons confirms “The news from the front lines is that the information commons established in college and university libraries are a success. These new spaces

are wildly popular with students . . .” (Spencer, M. [2006] “Evolving a new model: the information commons,” *Reference Services Review*, 34 (2), 242-7). The UAF Student Learning Commons integrates personal help, instructional and information technologies, and versatile spaces. This model enables students to conceptualize the work for their

courses and related learning activities: search for and evaluate information to support

In addition, a mentoring program pairing new students with more experienced students will

The goals of the commons are to provide: coordinated learning support for all students at

tutors; and tutoring labs (Math Lab, Writing Center, Developmental Math Lab, Developmental Writing Lab etc.) in areas where significant numbers of students need assistance to pass courses.

The expected outcomes are as follows: students will use the available learning support activities; students will be directed to appropriate support activities throughout the UAF system; advising will be available for students within two business days of request;

course.		
Group Tutoring	Tutoring unit	Throughout the semester

... 4. Aerial photograph, photocopied, a clothed scanner

possibly equipment for oversize and color productions and should be conveniently close to



## Student Support Services Program

### University of Alaska Fairbanks Program Overview

The **Student Support Services (SSS)** program provides opportunities for academic development, assists students with college requirements, and serves to motivate students towards the successful completion of their

All services are provided free of charge to eligible students. Our program is staffed with both professional and certified student tutors.

**Retention**

~~Participating SSS students have been retained~~

**Comparison of UAF SSS participants, eligible non-participants and IIAF students**

