

December 16, 2016

To: UAF Employees and Students
From: Interim Chancellor Dana Thomas
RE: FY18 Budget Update

Yesterday afternoon, Gov. Bill Walker released his state budget proposal for fiscal year 2018.

The proposal includes about \$325 million for the University of Alaska system, which is the same funding level as our current fiscal year. In this difficult fiscal climate, we appreciate the governor's recognition of the importance of Alaska's higher education system in his budget proposal.

The governor's budget now goes to the Legislature for consideration during their regular session, which begins January 17, 2017.

As many of you already know, flat state funding translates to a reduction in the services or programs we can offer. That's because our fixed costs—for things like utilities, debt payments,