



Governance Report

Volume 15, Number 5, December 2011



Coalition of Student Leaders

Nicholas S. Pennington, Speaker

The Coalition of Student Leaders has had a busy year. We have enjoyed the close working relationship between the Board and governance groups. When it comes to advising, the *Stay on Track* program looks like an exciting step in the right direction. We believe the focus on graduation rates is a healthy change of pace.

On behalf of the Coalition I would like to thank President Gamble, the Board and all those involved in getting the 1.5 million dollars put in the budget for advising. This will have a dramatic and direct effect on improving the efficiency and quality of students' time in the UA system. We look forward to having a similarly cooperative

discussion regarding future tuition rates.

We are gearing up for our annual Juneau legislative trip and will be happy to get a chance to work with the new Associate Vice President for State Relations Chris Christensen. This has been a banner year for student issues and again I'd like to thank all who were involved.

Nicholas Shane Pennington served two terms as president of the Kodiak College Student Government Association. He received an Associate of Arts through the Kodiak College and is pursuing a degree in Business Management.

Save the Dates:

**February 4-7, 2012
Student Legislative
Conference
Juneau**





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Staff Alliance

Juella Sparks, Chair

First, Staff Alliance would like to thank the Board for including the 3.5% increase in UA's FY13 budget request. We appreciate very much that you heard and responded to our concerns. Our efforts will now shift to advocating for UA's budget with the governor and legislature.

We also now need to work with President Gamble's administration on proposed changes to the employee education benefit and providing input on reviewing Regents' Policy. As always we value greatly the opportunity to provide input on the issues and vision of our university.

Finally with the announcement of her pending resignation, Alliance would like to take this opportunity before the board, to thank Beth Behner, CHRO for UA for her time and efforts in working with staff governance on issues of importance to the university and its employees. We will miss her poise and professionalism.

Juella Sparks was born and raised in Alaska and graduated from UAF with a B.B.A. in Management. After several years working for the state and starting a family, she came back to the university to work for Cooperative Extension Service in December, 2002. She was active in student government and moved quickly to being active in staff governance at UAF. In her words, "I am looking forward to working with Staff Alliance and the System Governance Council to strengthen our UA system, especially with two teenagers contemplating post-secondary education." Juella has in past years served as Staff Alliance vice chair 2007-2009, chair of the System Governance Council 2008-2009 as well as president of the UAF Staff Council 2008-2009 and again as vice president 2011-2012.

Note: Due to fast unfolding events surrounding Strategic Direction and policy and regulation review activities, the governance report for the Faculty Alliance and the System Governance Council will be given orally at the Board of Regents meeting.

The Governance Report is prepared by the University of Alaska System Governance Office, which serves the faculty, staff and student governance groups outlined in Regents' Policy 03.01.01 and accompanying regulations. Additional information on these groups may be accessed at <http://www.alaska.edu/governance> or by contacting Pat Ivey, 907-450-8042, pmivey@alaska.edu