Charter

An accord between the student leaders of the University of Alaska who participated in the 1993 Fall Student Leadership Conference at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, September 24-26, 1993...a vital step in, "Building the Net."


Preamble

In order to promote communication between students on each campus of each university in Alaska; to improve the lives and leadership of the students of our universities; to provide for an effective and powerful student voice in matters effecting the University of Alaska; and to enable and develop the leadership for Alaska's future; we do hereby establish this charter of the Coalition of Student Leaders of the University of Alaska, this day, Sunday, September 26, 1993.

Article I. Name

The Board of Regents hereby grants the authority for a mechanism for student system governance consisting of a network of Student Governments to be named the Coalition of Student Leaders, hereinafter “the coalition.”

Article II. Network Membership Constituencies

A. Official Members

- Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks
- Kuskokwim Campus Student Government
- Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage
- Prince William Sound Community College Student Association
- Kachemak Bay Student Association
- Kenai River College Student Union
- Kodiak College Student Association
- Matanuska-Susitna Student Government
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Juneau
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Sitka
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Ketchikan

(June 2013)

B. Ex-Officio Members

The following are ex-officio local constituent groups:
C. Other Ex-Officio Members

Other ex-officio constituent groups include military extension students, campus extension, part-time, and correspondence students; as well as student clubs, residence life governments, and other student organizations.

D. Lapse of Membership

Any local constituency that does not participate in meetings and activities of the Coalition for an entire year shall be removed from the list contained under Clause A and included in the list contained under Clause B, as an ex-officio member.

Article III. Purposes and Authority

A. Authority

The Coalition receives its authority by policy 03.01.01 and policy 09.01.01 of the University of Alaska Board of Regents, which derives its authority from the Constitution and statutes of the State of Alaska. The Coalition shall carry out its functions subject to the authority of the Board of Regents and the President of the University.

B. Purposes

1. Representation

To provide official representation for the students of the University of Alaska in matters which affect the general welfare of the University and its educational purposes and effectiveness.

2. Consultation

To provide consultation to the President of the University and the Board of Regents on student affairs issues.

3. Communication

To serve as an instrument by which information, which is of interest and concern to the university system students, may be freely collected, disseminated, and discussed.

C. Responsibilities

Coalition responsibilities include, but are not limited to student affairs issues such as tuition and student fees, financial aid and scholarships, residence life, minority and rural student services, club and social activities, student media and radio, student health, safety, student grievances, student tools and resources, and student employee relations.

Article IV. The Student Regent and the Speaker of the Coalition
A. The Student Regent

1. Selection

The Student Regent shall be selected in the manner prescribed by law, thus having the authority to be the primary spokesperson for the students of the University of Alaska. The Coalition may conduct an advisory vote among the qualified candidates and forward the results to the Governor of Alaska or their representative.

2. Duties

The Student Regent shall act as the primary spokesperson for the Coalition. The Student Regent shall serve as the primary contact for the Coalition to the President of the University of Alaska and the Board of Regents.

B. The Speaker of the Coalition

1. Selection

The Speaker of the Coalition shall be selected by the Coalition from among the nominees submitted by coalition members. The nominees shall be University of Alaska students in good academic standing at the first General Meeting of the academic year. The Speaker’s term shall be one academic year from July 1 through June 30 beginning July 1, 2006. Nominations shall be submitted to the Coalition by April 1. A Pro-Tempore shall be selected from among the voting coalition members at the first meeting of the academic year and shall serve as the Speaker in case of the Speaker’s absence.

2. Duties

The Speaker of the Coalition shall preside over all meetings of the Coalition. The Speaker has the authority to set the meeting time, place, and agenda.

Article V. Representation

The Coalition of Student Leaders shall have four seats on the System Governance Council. One seat shall be filled by high density schools defined as those schools with an enrollment headcount of 5,000 or more students. Two seats shall be for medium density schools defined as those schools with an enrollment headcount of 1,000-4,999 students. One seat shall be for small density schools defined as those schools with an enrollment headcount of under 1,000 students.

In selecting student representatives to the four seats on the System Governance Council, representatives shall be elected by the density schools that they represent. The high-density schools shall vote on their representatives, the medium density schools shall on their representative and the lower density schools shall vote on their representative. The Student Regent shall have the tie-breaking vote in case of a deadlock. Elections shall take place at the fall student leader conference.

Headcount shall be determined by the official enrollment statistics from the previous spring.
semester. Changes in a school's density shall be a standing agenda item for the fall student leader conference.

The student governments within each university shall make every effort to build regional networks and interact with each other on a regular basis to resolve regional student issues.

**Article VI. Meetings**

A. General Meetings

General Meetings should take place whenever statewide student leadership conferences are held. All conference attendees may participate.

B. Open Meetings

All meetings of the Coalition are open meetings in accordance with the Alaska Open Meetings Law.

C. Quorum

A quorum for any meeting of the Coalition of Student Leaders shall be five of the voting members listed in Article II, Section A.

**Article VII. Roles**

A. Ad Hoc Committees

The Board of Regents, the President of the University or the Coalition may establish a Coalition task force to consider complex system issues relating exclusively to student affairs. These ad hoc committees shall, in all cases, include governance representatives appointed by the Coalition or Coalition Constituencies as appropriate. These ad hoc committees are a formal part of shared governance, and as such, are subject to the Alaska Open Meeting Law.

B. Coalition Office

The Coalition shall have a Student Information Office to organize and support its efforts. The office shall:

- create and maintain student leader directories
- distribute a statewide governance report, research statewide student issues as directed
- insure that student publications are distributed among all voting members
- provide staff for the Leadership Council, General Meetings and ad hoc committees
- publish and distribute single-issue summaries as needed
- provide resources for grass-roots mobilization and coordination

C. Grass Roots Organizing

The Coalition may provide support, coordination, and resources for grass roots movements on any student issue and may initiate such movements.

**Article VIII. Relief, Compensation, and Fear of Reprisals**
Students participating in student governance activities will be allowed excusals from class requirements if necessary and student employees will be allowed time off. Student governance officers not otherwise compensated shall be granted a three (3) credit tuition waiver upon each semester of successful service completed if funds are available. Students in governance are empowered to carry out their governance responsibilities to the best of their abilities without interference or fear of reprisal.

**Article IX. Amendments**

A. **Ratification**

   This Charter shall go into effect upon acceptance by a majority of the groups listed in Article II, Section A above and upon approval by the President of the University of Alaska and the Board of Regents.

B. **Amendments**

   Amendments to this charter shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the groups listed in Article II, Section A.
Standing Rules

Established October 2, 1994; Revised December 4, 1994, May 19, 1995, and April 5, 1996

Rule 1. All meetings of the Coalition of Student Leaders will be audio conferenced.

Rule 2. The coalition will follow Robert's Rules of Order.

Rule 3. The ability to vote, nominate, or make motions is restricted to those students who are officially recognized by their student government.

Rule 4. The number of action items is limited to five per meeting and the number of information items to ten per meeting, except during the fall or spring conferences.

Rule 5. There shall be the following categories for awards and recognitions from the coalition:

- Most Active Student Government
- Volunteer Service to Alaska Students
- Attendance Awards
- Positive Attitude Award
- Benefitting the Net
- Most Valuable Staff Member