

Board of Regents
Special Meeting of the Full Board
July 28, 2015
Anchorage, Alaska

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Full Board Action

1. Approval of Resolution of Appreciation for Patrick K. Gamble

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the resolution of appreciation for Patrick K. Gamble. This motion is effective July 28, 2015.”

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble served with distinction as the 13th University of Alaska President from his appointment by the Board of Regents June 1, 2010 until his retirement September 1, 2015; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble earned a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics from Texas A&M University, a Master of Business Administration from Auburn University, Alabama, and is dedicated to the life-long pursuit of knowledge and learning; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble served as a fighter pilot in the U.S. Air Force, retiring as a four-star general in command of Pacific Region U.S. Air Forces, and prior to that assignment, was director of Air Force Air and Space Operations in the Pentagon, served as commander of the Alaskan Command, was assigned director of NATO operations and logistics during Bosnia operations, and served as Commandant of Cadets at the U.S. Air Force Academy; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble’s life of public service underlies his fundamental character: a consummate gentleman, who is bright, dedicated, caring and humble, with an incredible work ethic, who does his best to be fair to all, while always keeping the big picture in mind; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble is an excellent problem-solver, with well-honed, innovative and forward-thinking skills which have served the university, the state and people of Alaska well during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble is well-read and an articulate orator, able to speak in detail and with accuracy on just about any subject imaginable when queried, whether prepared or spontaneously; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble’s emphasis on collaboration and coordination across UA resulted in the development of the UA Summit Team, focusing leadership on system change and leading to the development of a common statewide calendar, the “Come Home to Alaska” enrollment promotion program, the institution of single password login systemwide, progress toward shared Core Values and many more initiatives of significance, which represent unprecedented collaboration between multiple stakeholders; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble’s high valuation of people and his focus on team building and leadership development training positively impacted the more than 140 university leaders under his direction who took part in 360 assessments through the Center for Creative Leadership. In addition, he implemented a strengthened Executive Leadership onboarding process, which promotes an understanding of university culture and organization, and the broadening of views from individual areas of responsibility to organization-wide perspectives; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble relying on a sincere and deep seated belief in the power of shared governance, led a major institutional directional change initiative to drive the university forward as a student-centered higher education institution and promote excellence by focusing on student achievement and attainment, securing partnerships with Alaska’s schools, public and private entities, promoting UA research and Arctic policy, and displaying accountability to the people of Alaska. This legacy program, Shaping Alaska’s Future, resulted in the identification of 23 effects or outcomes the entire university system has committed to achieve, and which was officially adopted in Regents’ Policy; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble served University of Alaska students specifically by launching the Stay on Track program to encourage full-time students to reach their graduation goals more quickly and at less cost; by including sexual orientation in the UA non-discrimination policy, giving credit to student advocates for their organized, professional, persistent and data-driven advocacy; and most recently by listening to student groups and advocates and ultimately supporting a systemwide smoke-free policy; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble’s forward-thinking notion of continuous improvement and institutional look at efficiencies, alignments and priorities implemented years prior to the state’s current financial crisis was opportune, and while it does not make it easy, it provides the framework to make cuts more thoughtful and efficient; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble’s focus on partnerships and strategic positioning of the University of Alaska has led to advanced partnerships in aerospace and unmanned aerial vehicles, and promising workforce development plans for fishing and maritime industries as well as mining occupations; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble effectively represented the University of Alaska students, faculty, staff and the Board of Regents in testimony to the Alaska Governor, the Alaska Legislature and other state leaders, proving to be a powerful and reasoned advocate and counsel for the University of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble has set the University of Alaska moving forward on a path that builds on excellence and enhances its sustainability as it heads into a difficult period of financial challenges with a rapid change in the higher education landscape; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble's liberal, and sometimes confusing, use of military analogy often provided ammunition for the press...including: take cover, under fire, boots on the ground, bogey, mission, on the frontline, line of sight, keeping our powder dry, guns blazing and lobbing grenades. His choices of budget report cover designs was also clearly influenced by his military career, with camouflage and top secret stylized design elements; and

WHEREAS, Patrick K. Gamble's retirement in September 2015 capstones a lifetime of serving our country and our state.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the University of Alaska Board of Regents recognizes Patrick K. Gamble's commitment to the university and its students is a deep and genuine one and extends to him this statement of sincere appreciation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be appropriately engrossed and conveyed to Patrick K. Gamble with a copy to be incorporated into the official minutes of the July 28, 2015 meeting of the Board of Regents.

2. Appointment of University of Alaska President

PASSED

“The Board of Regents appoints James R. Johnsen to serve as president of the University of Alaska System, effective September 1, 2015. This motion is effective July 28, 2015.”