

**Official Minutes  
Board of Regents  
Meeting of the Full Board  
September 5-6, 2024  
Juneau, Alaska**

## **1. Individuals Present**

### Regents Present:

Ralph Seekins, Chair  
Karen Perdue, Vice Chair  
Scott Jepsen, Treasurer  
Stephen Colligan  
Seth Church  
Joey Crum  
Paula Harrison  
Mary K. Hughes  
Dennis L. Michel  
Albiona Selimi

### Regents Absent:

Dale Anderson, Secretary

Pat Pitney, Chief Executive Officer and President, University of Alaska

### Others Present:

Aparna Palmer, Chancellor, University of Alaska Southeast  
Sean Parnell, Chancellor, University of Alaska Anchorage  
Daniel M. White, Chancellor, University of Alaska Fairbanks  
Matthew Cooper, General Counsel  
Luke Fulp, Chief Finance Officer  
Paul Layer, Vice President for Academics, Students, and Research  
Michelle Rizk, Vice President for University Relations and Chief Strategy, Planning and Budget Officer  
Brandi Berg, Executive Officer, Board of Regents  
Jennie Carroll, Faculty Alliance Chair  
Monique Musick, Staff Alliance Vice Chair  
Abi Spofford, Assistant, Board of Regents

## **2. Opening Items**

### **A. Call to Order**

Chair Seekins called the meeting to order at 2:29 p.m. on Thursday, September 5, 2024.

### **B. Adoption of Agenda**

*Note for the record: On behalf of Chair Seekins, General Counsel Cooper disclosed on the record that Seekins Ford entered into a sponsorship agreement with the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) Athletics with respect to the raffle for the support of the UAF Hockey Team. Chair Seekins made the proper written disclosure to the state ethics designee in the Governor's Office, who serves as the ethics supervisor for the chairs of those boards and commissions subject to the Executive Branch Ethics Act, including the Board of Regents. That ethics supervisor approved the transaction and the disclosure but cautioned Chair Seekins that he should not bring up the raffle at a Board of Regents' meeting. Since the disclosure of the sponsorship agreement has to be put on the public record to comply with the statute, and since Chair Seekins himself should not bring it up in order to comply with his ethics supervisor's guidance, General Counsel Cooper fulfilled the 'on the record' requirement.'*

**PASSED AS AMENDED** (amendment noted by \*)

**"The Board of Regents adopts the agenda as amended. This motion is effective September 5, 2024."**

Motion by Karen Perdue, second by Scott Jepsen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

### **3. University of Alaska Southeast Student Experience**

#### A. University of Alaska Southeast Student Experience

University of Alaska Southeast students Mr. Soren Thompson, Ms. Elizabeth Bruch, Mr. Finn Finnegan, and Mr. Randy Brannan shared their student experiences. (video timestamp 00:12)

### **4. Reports**

#### A. Governance Reports

Jennie Carroll, Faculty Alliance Chair, and Monique Musick, Staff Alliance Chair, reported on issues of importance to the faculty and staff at the University of Alaska. (video timestamp 14:32)

#### B. Chancellors' Reports

Chancellors Palmer, Parnell, and White updated the board on important campus issues. (video timestamp 36:46)

#### C. President's Report

President Pitney updated the board on issues of importance. (video timestamp 1:00:34)

### **5. Executive Session**

#### A. Executive Session

##### **PASSED**

**"The Board of Regents goes into executive session to discuss matters could affect the reputation or character of a person or persons related to the presidential assessment, honorary degrees, and meritorious service awards, and a naming opportunity at the University of Alaska Anchorage; to discuss matters required by law to be confidential related to personnel, labor matters, and current litigation; and to receive legal advice. This motion is effective September 5, 2024."**

Motion by Joey Crum, second by Karen Perdue.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

The Board of Regents went into executive session at 3:57 p.m. and concluded an executive session at 6:02 p.m. Alaska Time in accordance with AS 44.62.310 to discuss matters could affect the reputation or character of a person or persons related to the presidential assessment, honorary degrees, and meritorious service awards, and a naming opportunity at the University of Alaska Anchorage; to discuss matters required by law to be confidential related to personnel, labor matters, and current litigation; and to receive legal advice. The session included members of the Board of Regents, President Pitney, General Counsel Cooper, and such other university staff members as the president designated and lasted 2 hours and 5 minutes.

### **6. Presidential Assessment Discussion**

#### A. Presidential Assessment Discussion

Chair Seekins led the presidential assessment discussion.

### **7. Approval of Honorary Degrees and Meritorious Service Awards**

#### A. Approval of Honorary Degrees and Meritorious Service Awards for Fall 2024 and Spring 2025

**PASSED**

**"The Board of Regents approves the list of nominees for honorary doctoral degrees as proposed for commencement exercises in the fall 2024 and spring of 2025, and authorizes Chancellors Parnell and White to invite the approved nominees and announce their acceptance. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."**

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Seth Church.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

**PASSED**

**"The Board of Regents approves the list of nominees for meritorious service awards as proposed. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."**

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Seth Church.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

## POLICY CITATION

**Regents' Policy 10.03.020.A.**

Honorary degrees may be conferred upon approval of the Board of Regents.

## A. Criteria

The criterion for individuals to receive an honorary degree from the University of Alaska is evidence of a significant and lasting contribution to the university, to the State of Alaska, or to the individual's discipline or profession.

**Regents' Policy 10.03.030.A.**

Meritorious service awards may be conferred upon approval of the Board of Regents.

## A. Criteria

The criterion for individuals to receive a meritorious service award from an MAU is evidence of significant public, academic, volunteer or philanthropic service to the MAU or one of its community campuses, or to an Alaska community.

## RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION

Recommendations submitted by the universities for recipients of honorary degrees and meritorious service awards were sent under separate cover for Board of Regents' review prior to the September 5-6, 2024 board meeting.

**8. Approval of a Naming Opportunity at the University of Alaska Anchorage**

## A. Approval of a Naming Opportunity at the University of Alaska Anchorage

**PASSED**

**"The Board of Regents approves the naming of an interior entrance to the Alaska Leaders Archives within the University of Alaska Anchorage/Alaska Pacific University Consortium Library at the University of Alaska Anchorage and authorizes Chancellor Parnell to announce the naming at a time of his choosing. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."**

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Seth Church.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

## POLICY CITATION

In accordance with Regents' Policy 05.12.090, Naming of Campus Facilities: Formal Naming of Campus Facilities and Infrastructure, official naming of all "significant" buildings, building subcomponents such as wings, additions, auditoriums, and libraries, streets, parks, recreational areas, plazas and similar facilities or sites will be approved by the board.

## RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION

The Board of Regents was asked to approve the naming of an interior entrance to the Alaska Leaders Archives within

the University of Alaska Anchorage/Alaska Pacific University Consortium Library at the University of Alaska Anchorage. The proposed name was sent to the Board of Regents under separate cover prior to the September 5-6, 2024 board meeting for discussion during executive session.

## **9. Approval of the Amended Consolidated Endowment Fund Agreement**

A. Approval of Amended and Restated Combined Endowment Fund Agreement and Amendment #3 between the University of Alaska and the University of Alaska Foundation

### **PASSED**

**"The Board of Regents approves the amended and restated Combined Endowment Fund Agreement and Amendment #3 between the University of Alaska and the University of Alaska Foundation as approved by the University of Alaska Foundation Board of Directors on June 13, 2024. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."**

Motion by Joey Crum, second by Scott Jepsen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

UA Chief Financial Officer Fulp and UA Foundation Interim President Northcutt presented the proposed amended and restated Consolidated Endowment Fund Agreement between the University of Alaska and the University of Alaska (UA) Foundation for the board's discussion and approval. The UA Foundation Board of Directors approved the new agreement and Amendment #3 on June 13, 2024. (video timestamp 00:09)

The changes include:

- Agreement: Administrative updates (i.e., dates, position titles, signature block names, address, grammar).
- Amendment #3 to the agreement: The annual endowment management fee for the Land Grant Endowment will be lowered from 50 to 20 basis points. Correspondingly, UA will increase the amount of support for other UA Foundation services provided to UA by \$500,000 per year. Through this change, the net amount of funds paid to the foundation should not materially change.

## **10. Approval of a Resolution of Celebration for the 25th Anniversary of the University of Alaska Scholars Award Program**

A. Approval of a Resolution of Celebration for the 25th Anniversary of the University of Alaska Scholars Award Program

### **PASSED**

**"The Board of Regents approves the resolution of celebration for the 25th Anniversary of the University of Alaska Scholars Award Program. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."**

Motion by Joey Crum, second by Karen Perdue.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska Scholars Award Program was established in 1999 to encourage Alaska's best high school students to attend and graduate from college in their home state; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Award is a merit scholarship awarded to the top ten percent of each high school graduating class for attendance at the UA system; and,

WHEREAS, before the UA Scholars Program was established, many top students left Alaska to attend college outside; and,

WHEREAS, the program's founding was a turning point for the UA, consistently attracting an average of forty percent of eligible high school graduates to attend UA and stay in Alaska compared to ten percent before the program started; and,

WHEREAS, nearly 80 percent of UA Scholars across the UA System return after their first year; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Program changed the face of post-secondary education in Alaska, and has become one of the most successful financial aid programs in Alaska history; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Program is funded by revenue from property sales and development on university lands; and

WHEREAS, over \$76 million in scholarship awards have been made through the UA Scholars Program since its inception; and,

WHEREAS, an estimated 4,000 UA Scholars were the first in their family to attend college, demonstrating that the program helps make post-secondary education more accessible; and,

WHEREAS, more than 10,453 students have benefited from the UA Scholars Program since 1999; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars' six-year graduation rate averages 55 percent; and,

WHEREAS, over 25 years, more than 7,700 degrees and certificates have been awarded to UA Scholars; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Program helps address the educational attainment gap, which is essential to secure economic prosperity, and ensure Alaskans are ready for today's fast-paced, highly competitive job marketplace; and,

WHEREAS, UA Scholars represent all corners of Alaska, serving as ambassadors between their community and the university; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Board of Regents seeks to support the enrollment objectives of the universities; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Board of Regents recently increased the UA Scholars Award to \$15,000;

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Program is welcoming its 25th cohort this Fall Semester; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska officially recognizes and celebrates the 25th Anniversary of the UA Scholars Award Program, and its impact on our students and the state of Alaska; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents welcomes the 25th Class of UA Scholars and congratulates them on their enrollment in the UA System; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be appropriately engrossed and conveyed with a copy incorporated into the official minutes of the September 2024 meeting of the Board of Regents. (video timestamp 27:32)

### **\*10.1. Approval of a Resolution of Appreciation for Matthew Cooper** (added)

#### **PASSED**

**"The Board of Regents approves the resolution of appreciation for Matthew Cooper. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."**

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Seth Church.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper, General Counsel for the University of Alaska, has served with unwavering dedication and distinction since joining the Office of the General Counsel in December 2011, and subsequently becoming General Counsel in 2020; and,

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Matthew Cooper has been a trusted legal advisor to the Board of Regents, system administration, and the broader university system, providing invaluable counsel and leadership across a diverse range of complex legal matters, including contracts, facilities management, university athletics, and governance; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper's legal expertise and guidance have been instrumental in navigating the university through some of its most challenging legal and operational issues, ensuring sound decision-making and securing the institution's mission and long-term success; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper's dedication to public service is exemplified by his role as a respected member of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly, where he previously served as presiding officer; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper has further established his commitment to the Fairbanks community through his several volunteer roles with the Midnight Sun Council, Boy Scouts of America; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper, in his role as General Counsel, has been recognized by the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a Patriotic Employer for his support of the Guard and Reserve; and,

WHEREAS, these roles demonstrate a deep commitment to the well-being of the broader Alaskan community; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper believes strongly in solving conflict through consensus and collaboration rather than edict; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper's leadership, intellect, and professionalism have earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues, who have greatly valued his thoughtful legal analysis and ability to provide clear direction, especially during times of significant change and challenge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska formally recognizes and expresses its deep appreciation to Matthew Cooper for his outstanding service, leadership, and contributions as General Counsel; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution :be engrossed and presented to Matthew Cooper with heartfelt gratitude, with a copy incorporated into the official minutes of the Board of Regents' September 5-6, 2024 meeting. (video timestamp 28:48)

## **11. Committee Reports and New Business**

### **A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee**

In addition to the action item, the committee received an update on the Alaska College of Education Consortium, heard reports on institutional and specialized program accreditation and enrollment, including the community campuses, and received written reports on academic program teach-outs and the student information system modernization. (video timestamp 39:50)

### **B. Ad Hoc Committee for Recruitment, Retention, and Graduation**

The committee received an overview of the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) and student aid, held a panel discussion on APS, student aid, and inter-agency opportunities, followed up on key initiatives, and held an executive session. (video timestamp 40:12)

The committee held a special meeting on August 13, 2024, to discuss recruitment, retention, graduation, and the committee meeting schedule.

The committee held a special meeting on July 23, 2024, to discuss recruitment, retention, graduation, national trends, and key initiatives.

### **C. Audit and Finance Committee**

In addition to the action items, the committee heard the external auditor's comments, reports on the state small business credit initiative, audit and compliance status, the UA System Office Audit and Compliance Services Fiscal Year 2024 Annual Report, a financial briefing, a healthcare analysis, held an executive session and received written reports on fiscal year 2025 property insurance and enterprise risk management. (video timestamp 42:00)

### **D. Facilities and Land Management Committee**

In addition to the action items, the committee received updates on the University of Alaska Anchorage and Fairbanks hockey ice arena P3, the University of Alaska Fairbanks campus housing revitalization, heard the land management fourth-quarter report, and the land grant initiative update, held an executive session, and received written reports on capital project approvals – delegation of authority report, IT, the schedule of projects for potential board approval and construction in progress reports. (video timestamp 43:14)

The committee held a special meeting on August 20, 2024, to discuss the land grant initiative, and held an executive session.

## E. Governance Committee

The committee held a special meeting on August 27, 2024, to review the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges Principles of Trusteeship and the top strategic issues for boards. (video timestamp 44:13)

## **12. Consent Agenda**

### A. Approval of Consent Agenda

#### **PASSED**

**"The Board of Regents approves the consent agenda items 12.B.1., 12.C.1-2., 12.D.1-3., and 12.E.-F. as presented. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."**

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Seth Church.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Seth Church, Stephen Colligan, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

### B. Academic and Student Affairs Committee - Item from September 5, 2024

#### 1. Approval of Academic Degree Recipients

##### **PASSED**

"The Board of Regents approves the list of degree recipients for the summer and fall of 2023 and the spring of 2024. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."

### C. Audit and Finance Committee - Items from September 5, 2024

#### 1. Approval of an Amended and Restated Declaration of Trust for the Education Trust of Alaska

##### **PASSED**

"The Board of Regents approves the amended and restated Declaration of Trust for the Education Trust of Alaska as presented. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."

#### 2. Approval of an Amended and Restated Governance and Investment Policy for the Education Trust of Alaska

##### **PASSED**

"The Board of Regents approves the amended and restated Governance and Investment Policy for the Education Trust of Alaska as presented. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."

### D. Facilities and Land Management Committee - Items from September 5, 2024

#### 1. Approval of the 1815 Bragaw Building Disposal Plan and Delegation of Authority to Approve Leases for 1815 Bragaw Street

##### **PASSED**

"The Board of Regents approves the disposal plan and authorization of the chief strategy, planning and budget officer or the chief finance officer or designee to lease any and all space at 1815 Bragaw Street Building at or above fair market value. This authority is in effect until revoked by the board. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."

#### 2. Statement of Requirements Approval for the Seward Marine Center Research Vessel Operations Infrastructure

##### **PASSED**

"The Board of Regents approves the statement of requirements request for the University of Alaska Fairbanks Seward Marine Center Research Vessel Operations Infrastructure project as presented in compliance with the approved campus master plan, and authorizes the university administration to include the project in the university's year one capital budget with an estimated total project cost of \$103,800,000. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."

#### 3. Schematic Design Approval for the University of Alaska Anchorage Alaska Leaders Archives/Consortium Library

Renovation - Phase 1PASSED

"The Board of Regents approves the schematic design approval request for the University of Alaska Anchorage Alaska Leaders' Archives/Consortium Library Renovation – Phase 1, as presented in compliance with the campus master plan, and authorizes the university administration to complete construction bid documents to bid and award a contract within the approved budget, and to proceed to completion of project construction not to exceed the available funds up to \$19,546,640 for Phase 1 of this project. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."

**E. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of May 23, 2024**PASSED

"The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its regular meeting of May 23, 2024 as presented. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."

**F. Approval of Revisions to the Industrial Security Resolution**PASSED

"The Board of Regents approves the Industrial Security Resolution as revised, to reflect the changes to the University of Alaska Southeast provost and authorizes the chair and secretary of the board to sign the resolution. This motion is effective September 6, 2024."

**RATIONALE/RECOMMENDATION**

The president and selected members of the university administration are routinely designated by the Board of Regents to handle any duties and responsibilities relating to classified information in connection with contracts with the Department of Defense and other federal agencies. These individuals are given an extensive security screening and are the only members of the university administration to have access to classified information.

The university has received similar security clearances since the mid-1950s. Execution of the resolution means that regents and other members of the administration will not have access to the classified information and are not in a position to affect the handling of classified information, thus do not need to be processed through security clearance procedures. The resolution is identical to resolutions previously passed except for changes to the University of Alaska Southeast provost.

**13. Generative AI at UA: Responsible Management of New Technology & Opportunities****A. Generative AI at UA: Responsible Management of New Technology & Opportunities**

A presentation and discussion of Generative AI and its importance in the higher education context. The presentation looked at GenAI, its impact, opportunities in higher education, and data privacy, risks, and cybersecurity considerations for UA. Chief Information Technology Officer Shier led the discussion on AI. (video timestamp 46:48)

**14. Budget and Tuition Discussions and Initial Review of FY26 Operating and Capital Budget Requests****A. UA Budget Discussion**

Board members, President Pitney, and administrative staff discussed the UA budget. (video timestamp 1:56:50)

**B. Tuition Discussion**

President Pitney and Vice President Layer discussed the academic year 2026 tuition proposal. (video timestamp 3:40:25)

**RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION**

In 2022, the board adopted a tuition and student fees policy (P05.10) establishing its tuition-setting philosophy. As part of the board's tuition policy, additional differentiation based on the considerations of optimizing enrollment and revenue, and mission alignment may also be considered by the universities.

In November 2023, the board voted to keep tuition rates flat for this academic year (AY25; Fall 2024 and Spring



2025). AY25 marks five years of flat tuition at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and the University of Alaska of Southeast (UAS) and two years of flat tuition at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF), preceded by increases to set a single base undergraduate rate.

For AY26, the proposed modest increases of 3 percent across the system to all resident tuition rates and 5 percent to the non-resident rates will allow the universities to address rising costs while maintaining their level and quality of services. When coupled with stable enrollment growth, these increases will generate between \$3 million and \$4 million of additional revenue.

Proposed Rates for FY26 (Fall 2025)

UAA and UAS	AY2025		AY2026		Change	
	Resident	Nonresident <sup>1</sup>	Resident	Nonresident <sup>1</sup>	Resident	Nonresident <sup>1</sup>
Lower Division	\$234	\$800	\$241	\$840	3%	5%
Upper Division	\$282	\$848	\$290	\$890	3%	5%
Graduate	\$513	\$1,079	\$528	\$1,133	3%	5%

UAF	AY2025		AY2026		Change	
	Resident	Nonresident <sup>1</sup>	Resident	Nonresident <sup>1</sup>	Resident	Nonresident <sup>1</sup>
CTC tuition <sup>2</sup>	\$234	\$800	\$241	\$840	3%	5%
Undergraduate <sup>3</sup>	\$289	\$855	\$298	\$898	3%	5%
Graduate	\$539	\$1,105	\$555	\$1,160	3%	5%

<sup>1</sup> In 2023, the board policy was changed to replace the term "nonresident surcharge" with "nonresident tuition".  
<sup>2</sup> Applies to CTC, Bristol Bay, Chukchi, Interior Alaska, Kuskokwim, Northwest Campuses (all offerings are 100-200 lower division).  
<sup>3</sup> The UAF lower division and upper division tuition rates have been combined into a single rate called "undergraduate." Applies to academic programs offered through Troth Yeddha' Campus to include the university system definitions "Fairbanks Campus" and "Rural College." Both include 4-year and graduate degree programs offered on the Troth Yeddha' location.

**C. Initial Review of FY26 Operating and Capital Budget Requests and the Long-range Capital Plan**

**POLICY CITATION**

Regents' Policy 05.01.01.A. – Budget Policy, states, "The budget of the university represents an annual operating plan stated in fiscal terms. All budgetary requests shall be adopted by the board prior to submittal to the Office of the Governor or the legislature."

**RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION**

President Pitney and Vice President Rizk led a discussion on UA's FY26 Operating and Capital Budgets and the long-range capital plan. The operating budget discussion will provide the board with considerations for the FY26 operating budget. The capital budget presents the deferred maintenance strategy and long-range capital plan priorities. (video timestamp 1:56:50)

**15. UA Priority Strategies and Roadmap to Empower Alaska Discussion**

## A. UA Priority Strategies and Roadmap to Empower Alaska Discussion

Board members, President Pitney, and administrative staff discussed the UA Priority Strategies. (video timestamp 4:14:19)

### **16. Update on Progress to Reinvigorate IP Monetization at UA**

#### A. Update on Progress to Reinvigorate Intellectual Property Monetization Across the Universities

Dr. Nettie La Belle-Hamer, University of Alaska Fairbanks vice chancellor for research, and Dr. Aaron Dotson, University of Alaska Anchorage vice chancellor for research, presented a report on university-generated intellectual property and commercialization. (video timestamp 4:25:17)

### **17. Alaska Native Success Initiative Update**

#### A. Alaska Native Success Initiative Update

Senior Director for Alaska Native Success and Partnerships Komakhuk, Alaska Native Education & Outreach Executive Director Yatchmeneff, Associate Vice Chancellor for Rural, Community, and Native Education Black, and Associate Vice Chancellor for Alaska Native Programs Cadiente Brown, presented an update on the Alaska Native Success Initiative. (video timestamp 4:51:15)

### **18. Employee Feedback Survey Update**

#### A. Employee Feedback Survey Update

Chief Human Resources Officer Dahl provided the Employee Feedback Survey update. (video timestamp 5:27:11)

### **19. Regents' Closing Comments**

#### A. Regents' Closing Comments

Staff Alliance Vice Chair Musick thanked the board for including the governance leaders in the board meetings.

Faculty Alliance Chair Carroll echoed Staff Alliance Vice Chair Musick's comment.

Regent Selimi said it was a good meeting, she enjoyed the discussions and is looking forward to the future and finishing her last year of college.

Regent Church was encouraged to see the investment of time and effort at the universities that contribute to these meetings.

Regent Colligan thanked General Counsel Cooper for his service; said the board has had several meetings with tough discussions; thanked Chief Human Resources Officer Dahl for the employee survey presentation; appreciated the Alaska Native Success Initiative presentation and stated it was a successful meeting.

Regent Jepsen said good conversations took place, noted the successes of the Alaska Native Success Initiative, thanked Chancellor Palmer for hosting the meeting, stated student success is the most important issue, and that the board's decisions affect students.

President Pitney thanked Chancellor Palmer for hosting the meeting; stated all benefit-eligible employees were paid on Friday, September 6, and noted appreciation for the board's support.

Regent Perdue said it was a good board meeting, noting public comment is how the board and the university discover things, and it's a good thing; reminded everyone about the upcoming student survey and the 3280 degrees awarded last spring.

Regents Hughes thanked Chancellor Palmer for hosting the meeting and thanked the board for its preparation for this meeting.

Regent Michel thanked the board and staff and said he enjoys being part of this team.

Chancellor White thanked Chancellor Palmer and her staff for hosting the meeting and stated appreciation for Vice Presidents Layer and Rizk and the work they do for the institutions.

Chancellor Parnell thanked the vice chancellors and all university staff for making it possible for everyone to attend these meetings and for providing the best information to the board.

Chancellor Palmer is grateful for UA's wonderful students, staff, and faculty and for the board's thoughtful consideration of the complexity and challenges before it, and thanked her team and Executive Officer Berg for their efforts to make the meeting successful.

Regent Seekins recognized Executive Officer Berg for her outstanding work and the job she does to keep the board organized and thanked university staff for what it does to make it easier for the board to do its work. (video timestamp 5:41:06)

## **20. Adjourn**

### **A. Adjourn**

Chair Seekins adjourned the meeting at 2:21 p.m. on Friday, September 6, 2024.

## **21. Public Testimony, from September 3, 2024**

Isaac Nyameke, a Fairbanks Ph.D. student from Africa, shared his experience with the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) and his work with the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Breeann Spain, a University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) gymnastic team member, said the team supports the university's strategic plan, shared its academic progress and volunteer efforts, and invited the board to its intrasquad meeting on November 18, 2024.

Jamilia Duffus, a UAA gymnastic team member, shared the team's volunteer activities and said the Green and Gold Saturday meet is scheduled for February 4, 2025.

Tyler Robertson, Anchorage, asked if the campus student handbook supersedes Regents' Policy.

Jensen Willingham, Ketchikan, shared his experience with the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) maritime training center and its programs.

Annette McCotter, Fairbanks, noted the ease of receiving scholarships from Native corporations and spoke in support of mineral resource development.

Elaina Mack, a UAA women's basketball team member, shared her student-athlete experience and said Seawolves are ambassadors for UAA.

Verena Wong, a UAA gymnastic team member, said the program is transforming lives and communities through diversity and noted UAA has gymnasts from around the world.

Forest Wagner, Juneau, spoke in support of the Troth Yeddha fellowship program, shared his research, and thanked the board for supporting research efforts at UAF.

Nell Baker, a UAA cross-country track and field team member, shared the team's recent race information; said the athletes are ambassadors for UAA and noted team members are from around the world.

Nicholas Parlago, Fairbanks Ph.D. interdisciplinary student, shared his experience at UAF and spoke in support of UAF attaining R1 status.

Tara Palmer, a UAA faculty member, stated some faculty members are not being paid on Friday, September 6, and hopes the work to complete the payroll process is done promptly, as colleagues deserve to be paid on time for the work they have completed.

Cameron Kuhle, Fairbanks, spoke in support of the Troth Yeddha fellowship program and in support for UAF's R1 status.

Trish Womack, Fairbanks, stated her car was stolen from the UAA campus and for student safety purposes, supports better cameras on campus.

Tim Hinterberger, UAA WWAMI professor, shared his experience with the program and the need for additional faculty for the expanded program and stated adequate compensation for all programs and faculty.

Katie Bethard, Seawolf Hockey Alliance president, encouraged the board to support UAA hockey and the new ice arena next to the Avis Alaska Sports Complex.

Douglas Cost, UAF School of Education associate professor, spoke in support of increased compensation to keep pace with inflation and his experience with the department.

Jill Dumesnil, Juneau faculty and United Academics (UNAC) president, shared information regarding the start of the new semester and her experience at UAS; said purchasing power is reduced and salary is not keeping pace with the consumer price index.

Melanie Arthur, UNAC contract manager, stated unknown members of UNAC will not receive paychecks on Friday, September 6.

Claudia Ihl, Nome Campus, shared her experience at the campus; stated student headcount is not the only measure and is not accurate for other issues facing the rural communities; noted salaries are low, and COLA is less than accurate and said there are many obstacles, including the lack of support from its main campus.

Deborah Van Dyke, Fort Yukon, stated the campus closure in 2021 left a huge void and encouraged the board to consider a UA presence in the Yukon Flats area.

Christopher Boss, Ketchikan Maritime Center assistant professor, shared his experience with the university, its programs and the coastal community businesses.

Sparky Anderson, UAA ski coach, shared his involvement with student-athletes and stated support the FY26 athletic budget.

Joe Olston, Anchorage, stated support for UAA athletics and its student ambassadors.

Debra Steed, UAF Community and Technical College assistant professor, said there will be no paychecks on Friday, September 6, due to non-keyed timecards.

Dana McGuire, UAA term faculty, shared her experience with high school and college students and the career options available to high school students.

Tav Ammu, Dillingham, shared his experience in rural Alaska, rural enrollment and the issues getting in the way of rural students enrollment, and said most students are not full-time and UA needs to meet rural students where they are.