Official Minutes
Board of Regents
Meeting of the Full Board
September 12-13, 2019
Anchorage, Alaska

1. Individuals Present

Regents Present:
John Davies, Chair
Sheri Buretta, Vice Chair
Dale Anderson, Secretary
Lisa Parker, Treasurer
John Bania
Cachet Garrett
Darroll R. Hargraves
Mary K. Hughes
Gloria O’Neill
Karen Perdue
Andy Teuber

James R. Johnsen, Chief Executive Officer and President, University of Alaska

Others Present:
Rick Caulfield, Chancellor, University of Alaska Southeast
Cathy Sandeen, Chancellor, University of Alaska Anchorage
Daniel M. White, Chancellor, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Michael Hostina, General Counsel
Myron Dosch, Chief Financial Officer
Paul Layer, Vice President for Academics, Students and Research
Michelle Rizk, Vice President for University Relations and Chief Strategy, Planning and Budget Officer
Roberta Graham, Associate Vice President of Public Affairs
Mark Kondrak, Chief Information Technology Officer
Keli Hite McGee, Chief Human Resources Officer
Brandi Berg, Executive Officer, Board of Regents
Maria Williams, Faculty Alliance Chair
Mattew Mund, Staff Alliance Chair
Teresa Wrobel, Coalition of Student Leaders Vice Chair
Raegan Kelliher, Assistant, Board of Regents

2. Opening Items

A. Call to Order

Chair Davies called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. on Thursday, September 12, 2019.

B. Adoption of Agenda

PASSED AS AMENDED (amendment noted by *)
"The Board of Regents adopts the agenda as amended. This motion is effective September 12, 2019."

Motion by Dale G Anderson, second by Cachet Garrett.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta, Gloria R O’Neill

C. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of June 6, 2019
PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its regular meeting of June 6, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Dale G Anderson.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta, Gloria R O'Neill

D. Approval of Minutes - Board Retreat of June 7, 2019

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its board retreat of June 7, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Dale G Anderson.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta, Gloria R O'Neill

E. Approval of Minutes - Special Meeting of June 19, 2019

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its special meeting of June 19, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Dale G Anderson.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta, Gloria R O'Neill

F. Approval of Minutes - Emergency Meeting of June 28, 2019

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its emergency meeting of June 28, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Dale G Anderson.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta, Gloria R O'Neill

G. Approval of Minutes - Special Meeting of July 15, 2019

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its special meeting of July 15, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Dale G Anderson.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta, Gloria R O'Neill

H. Approval of Minutes - Emergency Meeting of July 22, 2019

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its emergency meeting of July 22, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”
I. Approval of Minutes - Special Meeting of July 30, 2019

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its special meeting of July 30, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”

J. Approval of Minutes - Emergency Meeting of August 7, 2019

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its emergency meeting of August 7, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”

K. Approval of Minutes - Emergency Meeting of August 20, 2019

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its emergency meeting of August 20, 2019 as presented. This motion is effective September 12, 2019.”

3. Public Testimony

A. Public Testimony

Deena Bishop, Anchorage School District superintendent, spoke in support of education; stated working with UA’s education departments is not easy; urged the board to coordinate the three programs and to create a single college of education; said competition between the three universities must not continue and encouraged the board to focus internally on its people and externally on its customers to provide valuable education programs in Alaska.

Chantal Walsh, UA Joint Engineering Advisory Council (JEAC) member, spoke in support of engineering; provided information on the coordinated efforts between UAA and UAF and the joint council; stated the need to synchronize courses and the course time blocks in order to facilitate true common courses and shared JEAC member Chris Darrah’s letter of support with the board.

Jenny Jenison, UAA College of Engineering Advisory board member, shared the collaborative work between the UAA and UAF colleges and work of the two deans; reviewed the goals of the departments and stated increased technology is needed to serve students at each location.

Virginia Groeschel, JEAC member and UAA engineering alumni, asked the board if there would be metrics and transparencies provided with the consolidation process; stated concern for meeting graduate students’ needs in the consolidated model and encouraged the board to keep students in mind when making decisions.
Lora Jorgensen, prior UAA student, staff, and faculty member, spoke in opposition to consolidation, noting doing so does not accurately reflect the needs of the local communities; said timing is critical, and making changes in 2-3 months seems reckless and encouraged the board to explore alternative models.

Ethan Berkowitz, Anchorage mayor, said the board needs to articulate a clear vision of UA to the communities it serves; reviewed the important areas in which UA serves its communities including economic development opportunities, workforce development and building unique relationships; encouraged the board to include local representatives in the decision-making process by providing transparency and allowing alternative perspectives; stated the stakes must be defined and provided accurately; noted the current budget situation is not permanent and said each community can assist the university with the budget issue.

Clint Sengmany, Union of Students at the University of Alaska Anchorage (USUAA) student government member, shared his student experience at UAA; stated the need and the support for open access; noted UAA has older students than UAF and UAS; mentioned the importance of student athletics and clubs; encouraged the board to slow down the consolidation process and to review and consider other options.

Tuan Graziano, USUAA member, acknowledged that many students wanted to attend this meeting to represent the student perspective; said the single accreditation model is rushed, and other options should be considered; encouraged the board to use a three-year glide path approach and asked the board to engage and listen to students at the onset of any decision-making process.

Kris Mann, UAA biological sciences professor emeritus, urged the board to vote against single accreditation; stated support for three separately accredited universities and the WAMMI program, and encouraged the board to engage the chancellors, faculty, staff, and students in the decision-making process.

Yazmeen Goo, UAA Seawolf basketball captain, shared her UAA student-athlete experience and her ability to inspire younger girls through athletics; noted the hard work and commitment necessary to be a student-athlete and communicated how being part of the team has contributed to her learning experience.

Ryan McCarthy, UAA Seawolf women's basketball coach, shared the team’s notable DII 154-15 record, noting it is the only team to win a DI tournament; stated disappointed with the lack of conversation surrounding athletics; said UA athletes have the highest GPAs, community service involvement and completion and graduation rates; advocated for both of UA’s athletic programs and stated athletics develops leaders through competitive excellence.

James Gill, UAA College of Engineering Advisory Board member, stated support for UAA’s engineering program, Alaska Native Science and Engineering program, and the hockey program.

Max Kullberg, WAMMI professor, said the presentation before the board that reduces teaching by $46.6M is alarming; stated because the loss of researchers and faculty will be greatly affected, there are doubts regarding the cost-saving measures; noted students have not been included in the consolidation process; said UAA students are nontraditional and do not like online classes; shared that 30 percent of students who take organic chemistry in person fail, compared to the 70 percent who fail when taking the class online and encouraged the board to slow down the consolidation process and engage students.

Alex Jorgenson, UAA Model United Nations of Alaska General Assembly president, stated students feel physically stressed and are scared regarding recent issues, which include the loss of accreditation at UAA’s School of Education, the university’s single accreditation model being shoved upon students, and the lack of student engagement in the consolidation process; said UAA has open access enrollment to serve its students needs; stated support for each university to handle its budget reductions; noted UAA has increased graduation rates by seven percent and this fall has the largest incoming freshman class and encouraged the board to slow down the consolidation process, to broadly share information, to engage students and to protect future generations that want access to education.

Georgia Burgess, UAA ski team member, reminded the board what athletics means to students and the community;
said student-athletes are extraordinary leaders, are compassionate and are volunteers in the Anchorage community and stated athletics brings people together, noting people in Calgary, Canada wear green and gold to support the UAA Seawolves.

Jessica Jacobsen, UAA Alumni Association board member, stated opposition to the consolidation process; said there is no evidence or research provided on the single accreditation and noted the rushed decision is without regard to the students or the student’s education.

Cora Lyon, UAA student, said she came to UAA from out of state because of the undergraduate research opportunities; shared her experience doing research at UAA and how she successfully earned her research grant and stated the consolidation process will hamper future research opportunities.

Matt Curley, UAA hockey head coach, stated support for athletics; said both UAA and UAF’s athletic programs are vitally important to students and mentioned the athletes are ambassadors for the university providing leadership and community service.

Natasha Gamache, UAA student, stated concern and is angry that students are not being asked which university model the students prefer; said the university bureaucracy needs to prepare results and share with students; compared UA to Alaska Pacific University (APU) noting APU’s inclusivity and partnerships with Alaska Native corporations; is ashamed UA excludes indigenous people and is leaving UAA to attend APU.

Joel Potter, UAA professor, encouraged the board to pay close attention to the three-year glide path approach recommended by the arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences working group; is confident the budget reductions can be made at the local level working with the chancellors, faculty, and staff; said the funding issues can be addressed without a rapid restructuring change and stated support for the chancellors to direct the budget cuts at each of the universities.

Scott Downing, UAA Faculty Senate president, encouraged the board to slow down the consolidation process; stated concern for the expedited program review and the issues with accreditation; spoke in support of the chancellor’s consortium model; noted the signed compact agreement provides time to step back, slow down and gather more information and urged the board to look at the three-year glide path approach recommended by the arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences working group.

John Lutterman, UAA music professor, noted concern for the music department’s budget reductions; spoke in support of the chancellor’s consortium model; stated opposition to single accreditation and shared that music students are typically first-generation students needing additional developmental education and likely work 20-60 hours per week while attending school.

Tim Gravel, UAA Alumni Association board member and owner of Kaladi Brothers Coffee, cautioned the board about moving toward a consolidated one university; said business leaders engage with the local universities, and there would be a loss of pride within the communities if consolidation happens.

Sparky Anderson, UAA ski coach, stated members of the ski team are productive community volunteers and noted the importance athletics provides to students and the local community.

Jerry Dewhurst, athletic booster club member, stated support for both UAA and UAF athletics; said as a first-generation college student athletics is why he received a degree; mentioned athletics is important to the entire student body noting the importance of branding for both universities and the athletic teams and spoke in support of the chancellor’s consortium model.

Dominic Unterberger, UAA ski team member, shared his experience as a student-athlete at UAA; spoke in support of the chancellor’s consortium model, and thanked the board for its time.

Michael Quinonez, UAA alumni, shared his experience at UAA as an engineering student and a student-athlete; stated support for three separately accredited universities and noted the work performed by the professors in the civil engineering department is what keeps the program strong.

Paul Dunscomb, UAA history professor, stated UA’s mission and purpose should be the first and foremost issues when making structural changes; spoke in support of three separately accredited universities; noted the structure decision is a distraction from the actual budget cuts and stated the importance of UAF securing its accreditation.

4. Reports

A. Governance Reports
Maria Williams, Faculty Alliance chair, thanked the board and UA faculty for its work done over the summer; reviewed with the board the faculty survey results on restructuring; noted the outcomes of the survey are in favor of utilizing the three-year glide path approach recommended by the arts, humanities, and natural and social sciences working group; stated shared governance is not being utilized in the single accreditation model; asked the board to consider the chancellor’s consortium model that utilizes shared governance; stated risks of the consolidation are not being examined and that a cost-benefit analysis should be performed; said the expedited program reviews are moving too fast and need to be slowed down; stated there are lots of risks associated with moving too quickly and mistakes will be made; shared details regarding the connection between academic program review and its connection to curriculum and requested more information on the upcoming restructuring of administrative offices that include development, procurement and any others that may impact faculty.

Mathew Mund, Staff Alliance chair, stated UA is a critical asset to the state; said the UA Strong campaign messages are encouraging and should continue; shared UA staff are truly dedicated to UA’s mission noting it is crucial to ensure that staff, who are front-line functional area experts, be included in every level of the decision-making process; mentioned staff do not have an opinion on the new UA or the consortium model pending additional information; stated a common thread for all staff during this time of uncertainty has been a strong interest in advocating for its benefits; is grateful that the Board of Regents’ meetings will be recorded and posted online noting the recordings will provide transparency and inclusiveness; stated the alliance is glad to see that efforts continuing to move forward regarding the compensation adjustments; noted during the last five years workloads have increased while staff has decreased; said staff governance takes its role, as the main conduit for communication between staff and leadership, seriously and is looking forward to contributing and participating in the consolidation planning discussions.

Teresa Wrobel, Coalition of Student Leaders vice chair, stated students feel steamed rolled, are disappointed with the apparent lack of inclusivity and regard for student perspectives in the new UA development process; said overall students feel the restructuring issue is moving too fast, more student input is needed, and more than one student from each campus must be included on the program review committees; noted each campus has a distinct and diverse student body requiring different needs from the financial aid or student support offices; said students feel the quality of education will decrease with the consolidation process; stated preference for smaller classes and lower faculty-student ratios; mentioned students are concerned about the accreditation issue of one UA; stated students need access to education and an open-access university; said students are angry, fearful and need to be consulted, involved, and invested in the decision-making process.

B. Chancellors' Reports

Chancellor Sandeen stated UAA is starting the year in a steady-state noting $12.4M or 10 percent of the state appropriation cut has been managed and implemented; said thanks to local recruiting efforts, UAA welcomed its largest freshman class; shared information about Howl Days, the orientation program for new students; said the recruitments for interim positions was delayed due to the hiring freeze but are now moving forward; stated UAA has 2300 Alaska Native students enrolled noting improvements are being addressed for Alaska Native services; mentioned Willie Hensley will teach business classes as a distinguished visiting professor in the College of Business and Public Policy; said this summer a beacon-based system was installed across campus that would better assist the university’s blind and low-vision students; shared that a recreational Esports lounge has opened in the student union; mentioned a recently formed partnership between McKinley Capital and the College of Engineering to support procurement and any others that may impact faculty.

Chancellor White stated the university chancellors share in much more collaboration than in competition noting One Health as an example; said the One Health Initiative involves faculty, researchers and staff working collaboratively on proposals; said the National Institute of Health (NIH) recently provided a grant to UAF working with UAA to build capacity and increase diversity of students in biomedical research; stated the Alaska IDEa Network of Biomedical Research Excellence is a statewide collaborative network led by UAF partnering with UAA and UAS; mentioned NIH and other large granting agencies award to research universities because of the collaboration; said 14 directors from NIH recently visited UAF to learn more about the work of One Health; noted the steel bridge team comprised of UAA and UAF students has more wins than other research universities; stated enrollment is about level with last year noting 20 percent of students are military students and said thanks to the investment in student recruiting, most new students are from Washington, Oregon, and California.

Chancellor Caulfield shared information about UAS’ convocation and campus kickoff events noting students attending orientation were greeted by Aaak’w Kwáan elders and current students; mentioned to assist with retention and to engage students on campus and in the community, information regarding employment, student clubs and activities was available during orientation; said a recently held chancellor’s forum regarding the budget and UA restructuring was well attended by faculty and staff; shared the opening of the Egan Fall Lecture Series on September 6, 2019, included Dr. Carrie Diaz Eaton’s presentation Finding Community to Advance STEM Education; stated three UAS students received the U.S. Coast Guard College Student Pre-Commissioning Initiative award, which after graduation
offers a direct path to becoming a U.S. Coast Guard officer; shared information about collaborative work being done with UAA's College of Health; stated enrollment of education majors has increased 17 percent over last year and said research on migrating Pacific salmon continues at Auke Creek Weir.

5. Stakeholder Survey Results and Discussion

A. Stakeholder Survey Results and Discussion

Dr. Cutcher-Gershenfeld from Brandeis University will review and discuss the stakeholder survey results and answer questions from members of the board.

6. University Integration Discussion and Approval Item

A. University Integration Discussion

Regent Hughes reminded the board of its July 30, 2019 direction to the president, Chair Davies’ appointment of the Subcommittee on Restructuring UA and the subcommittee’s discussion regarding administrative consolidation, developing a strategic approach to academic integration and a plan for a transition to a single institutional accreditation, which occurred during its August 28, 2019 meeting.

President Johnsen said while meeting with student government leaders from UAA, UAF, and UAS on September 5, 2019, a student made a simple, obvious, yet powerful point— that the decisions UA makes have a lasting impact on its students and the state; reflected on that point and shared some important decisions made over the years that have had lasting impact:

- the Territorial Legislature’s decision in 1917 to create the Alaska Agricultural College and School of Mines and in 1935 to change the name to the University of Alaska
- the decision to hold the Alaska Constitutional Convention at the university in 1956 and to include specific reference to the university and the Board of Regents in our state’s founding document
- the decision by the Board of Regents in the mid-1970s to establish three separately accredited universities
- the decision by the board in the late 1980s to integrate the separately accredited community colleges into the university, merging their accreditations with the university’s
- the decision by university faculty at UAA, UAF, and UAS in to come together into one union
- decisions by elected leaders over the years to fund programs, facilities, centers, scholarships, and other initiatives across the state
- decisions by donors and grantors to invest support into UA’s mission
- decisions by talented faculty and staff to make careers at UA
- decisions by students to chart a future path through UA
- and despite all the great things UA does for the state:
  - decisions by elected leaders since 2014 to cut UA’s state funding. If current trends hold, by 2022, UA’s state funding will have been cut by $121 million, or 32 percent, since 2014.
  - decisions by Alaskans to leave the state (net population loss six years in a row) and by Alaskans who stay, not to go on to any form of higher education (enrollment decline since 2012, now Alaska has the lowest college-going rate in UA)
- and now, decisions about how UA thinks anew about its organizational structure, its goals, and how UA can better serve Alaska’s higher education needs in this new fiscal, technological, and demographic world.

He stated that the student’s point puts special emphasis on the decisions UA must make in the coming weeks, months, and years to ensure that UA steps up in its service to the state, so UA can achieve its goals for the state, all with less funding from the state noting the choices and decisions will be difficult; said UA will have challenges, opportunities, and dilemmas to hang on to what UA does well, to decide how to cut and to grow, to standardize or individualize, to consolidate or delegate; reviewed the 2016 guidance from the board that created the Strategic Pathways process noting many of the same criteria still apply to UA’s situation; stated declaring financial exigency (FE) was the right decision, thanked the board for the FE decision and for withdrawing the decision; acknowledged the reality that UA still needs to reduce costs in light of the budget cut and to do so strategically and shared that UA has key elements of a consortium model in place now, for example the shared services provided by statewide to the campuses, saving the system expensive duplication of functions, the UAA nursing program serving the entire state, and the generous way UAS and UAF stepped in with resources, faculty, and courses needed to make sure UA’s teacher education students had a certain path to licensure.

President Johnsen, in response to the board’s July 30, 2019 direction, reviewed UA’s goals and objectives; provided an overview of UA’s strategic approach to improve educational access, student service and experience, to reduce costs, to improve outcomes and to eliminate structural and other barriers; reviewed the administration savings and integration plan, the academic strategy planning workshops and program review process, communications with the
Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, the student services guiding principles and options for university athletic programs.

The board discussed the student experience, accreditation, maximizing UA’s resources to achieve the necessary budget reductions, the timeline and a concern for the timeline regarding the expedited academic program review, administrative and academic reductions, concern for time to capture and analyze the data, the option for one UA or three separately accredited universities and passed the following amended motion.

B. Approval to Conduct Expedited Reviews of Units and Programs System-wide

PASSED AS AMENDED

"To reduce costs and increase the share of resources dedicated to academic programs and student services, the Board of Regents directs the president, working with the chancellors to form inter-university teams to conduct expedited program reviews of units and programs system-wide, including but not limited to the following, to determine how best to integrate, reduce or discontinue units and programs:

- Engineering
- Teacher Education
- Health
- Indigenous Studies
- Management
- Natural Science
- Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
- Career & Technical Education (CTE)
- eLearning
- Organized Research
- Public Service
- Libraries
- Athletics

The board further directs the president to work with academic review teams to prioritize and determine which areas may require additional time past the November 7-8, 2019 meeting and to provide those new target dates to the board in November along with recommended changes or findings, these reviews shall include typical information considered in routine program reviews to the extent available. This motion is effective September 12, 2019."

Motion by Sheri Buretta, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Sheri Buretta, John Davies, Darroll R Hargraves, Mary K Hughes, Gloria R O'Neill, Lisa M Parker, Karen Perdue, Andy Teuber
Voting in opposition: John Bania, Cachet Garrett

7. Governance Committee

A. Discussion Regarding Board Governance

Regents Hughes stated the Board of Regents’ self-assessment was complete, and it will be discussed in executive session during this meeting; said the Governance Committee assists with succession planning and noted Regent O’Neill will gather information and names for the November elections regarding board leadership and officer positions.

8. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

PASSED

"The Board of Regents goes into executive session to discuss matters which could affect the reputation or character of a person or persons related to board self-assessment, and to discuss personnel matters that are confidential by law. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Lisa M Parker, second by Dale G Anderson.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in opposition: Darroll R Hargraves
The Board of Regents went into executive session at 8:15 a.m. and concluded an executive session at 9:35 a.m. Alaska Time in accordance with AS 44.62.310 to discuss matters which could affect the reputation or character of a person or persons related to board self-assessment, and to discuss personnel matters that are confidential by law. The session included members of the Board of Regents and General Counsel Hostina and lasted 1 hour and 20 minutes.

9. Committee Reports and New Business

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

In addition to the action items, the committee received a report on program review and accreditation, discussed UA structure and one accreditation with the president and senior vice president from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities, and received an update on the Alaska College of Education.

*Note for the record: the College of Health update was postponed to the November 2019 committee agenda.*

B. Audit Committee

The committee heard comments from the external auditor, received a financial briefing, and heard the UA Statewide Audit and Consulting Services FY19 annual report.

C. Facilities and Land Management Committee

In addition to the action items, the committee heard reports on the 2019 competitive land sale, FY20 land disposals, monetization of UA property and the status of land management and received an update on UA’s timber management, facilities maintenance, UAA’s Anchorage and community campus master planning, UAF combined heat and power plant, UAF high-frequency auroral research project and construction in progress.

Mark Kondrak, chief information technology officer, provided an update on IT integration.

D. Subcommittee on Restructuring the University of Alaska

The subcommittee met on August 28, 2019, discussed administrative consolidation, developing a strategic approach to academic integration, and a plan for a transition to a single institutional accreditation.

**9.D.1. Approval to Revise Item Three of the July 30, 2019 Direction to President Johnsen Regarding Revised Organizational Structure for the University of Alaska (added)**

**PASSED**

“The Board of Regents approves revising item three of the July 30, 2019 direction to President Johnsen from preparing a plan for Board approval to transition to a single institutional accreditation over the 2019-2020 academic year to preparing options regarding university structure for board consideration that includes single and multiple accreditation. This motion is effective September 13, 2019.”

Motion by Sheri Buretta, second by Andy Teuber.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries


E. Task Force on University Structure

The committee held its first meeting on July 12, 2019, explored options for the UA system’s future structure; considered the four structural options, which included status quo, lead campus, one university, and three independent universities and provided a summary report that captured the reasoned discussion during the meeting.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Consent Agenda
PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves the consent agenda items 9.B.1-5. and 9.C.1-5. as presented. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

B. Academic and Student Affairs Committee - Items from September 5, 2019

1. Approval of the Discontinuation of the Computer and Networking Technology Undergraduate Certificate at the University of Alaska Anchorage

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves the discontinuation of the Computer and Networking Technology Undergraduate Certificate at the University of Alaska Anchorage. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

2. Approval of an Undergraduate Certificate in Medical Scribe Specialist at the University of Alaska Fairbanks

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves an Undergraduate Certificate in Medical Scribe Specialist at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

3. Approval of a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Accounting at the University of Alaska Fairbanks

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves a Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Accounting at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

4. Approval of a Master's Degree in One Health at the University of Alaska Fairbanks

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves a Master's Degree in One Health at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

5. Approval of the Name Change to the Bachelor of Science in Physical Education at the University of Alaska Anchorage

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves the name change to the Bachelor of Science in Physical Education to the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology at the University of Alaska Anchorage. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Medical Scribe Specialist Certificate - UAF 7.8.19.pdf (726 KB)

C. Facilities and Land Management Committee - Items from September 5, 2019

1. Approval of the Thunderbird Terrace Parcel Disposal Plan

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves the Thunderbird Terrace Parcel Disposal Plan as presented, and following conclusion of the public comment period, authorizes the university administration to proceed with the sale. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

2. Approval of the Valdez Cabin Site Parcel Disposal Plan

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves the Valdez Cabin Site Parcel Disposal Plan as presented, and following conclusion of the public comment period, authorizes the university administration to proceed with the sale. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

3. Approval of the Etolin View Subdivision Disposal Plan

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the Etolin View Subdivision Disposal Plan as presented, and following conclusion of the public comment period, authorizes the university administration to proceed with the sale. This motion is effective September 13, 2019.”

4. Approval of the Administrative Services Building Parcel Disposal Plan

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the University of Alaska Fairbanks Administrative Services Building Parcel Disposal Plan as presented, and following conclusion of the public comment period, authorizes the university administration to proceed with the sale. The net proceeds shall be deposited with the University of Alaska Fairbanks to offset costs associated with ongoing budget reduction actions. This motion is effective September 13, 2019.”

5. Approval of the University Center Disposal Plan

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the disposal plan and authorizes the chief strategy, planning and budget officer or the chief finance officer or designee to lease any and all space at University Center at fair market value. This authority is in effect until revoked by the board. This motion is effective September 13, 2019.”

11. Title IX Compliance Update and Review of Title IX Scorecards and Metrics

A. Title IX Compliance Update and Review of Title IX Scorecards and Metrics

Chief Title IX Officer Gower provided an update on Title IX training noting the newly developed online training was a collaborative effort with UAA eLearning and is the same content as the in-person training; shared thus far, 20 percent of students and 54 percent of employees have completed this year’s training with deadlines occurring in October; stated a 40 percent uptick in reporting which is less than the 80 percent uptick during this time last year; said UA completed two significant deadlines since June 2019 and is currently preparing for the last deadline, December 31, 2019, to close out the Office of Civil Rights Voluntary Resolution Agreement.

Chancellors Caulfield, Sandeen, and White reviewed the Title IX Compliance Scorecards and Metrics.

12. Budget and Tuition Discussion and Approval Items

A. UA Budget Discussion

Vice President Rizk reviewed UA objectives; provided an overview of the FY20 operating and capital budgets and distribution plans and reviewed statewide’s budget.

Chancellors Caulfield, Sandeen, and White reviewed the university’s FY20 operating budgets.

B. Acceptance of the FY20 Operating Budget Appropriation and Approval of the Distribution Plan

PASSED
“The Board of Regents accepts the FY20 Operating Budget Appropriation as presented. This motion is effective September 13, 2019.”

Motion by Gloria R O'Neill, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in opposition: Darroll R Hargraves

PASSED
“The Board of Regents approves the FY20 Operating Budget Distribution Plan as presented. This motion is effective September 13, 2019.”

Motion by Gloria R O'Neill, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in opposition: Darroll R Hargraves
POLICY CITATION
Regents’ Policy 05.01.040 – Acceptance of State Appropriations states, "The board must accept state appropriations to the university before any expenditure may be made against the appropriation."

RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION
The Board of Regents requested a $917.9 million ($358.5 million in state and $559.4 million in non-state funding) operating budget for the University of Alaska in FY2020. The operating bills (HB39, HB40, and HB2001) decreased UA’s overall operating budget state appropriation by $25.0 million (7.6%) from $327.0 million to $302.0 million. This reduction is year one of a three-year agreement (“compact”) between the governor and the Board of Regents.

President Johnsen and Vice President Rizk presented a summary of the FY20 operating budget appropriation and discussed operating funding distribution implications.

C. Acceptance of the FY20 Capital Budget Appropriation and Approval of the Distribution Plan

PASSED
"The Board of Regents accepts the FY20 Capital Budget Appropriation as presented. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Gloria R O'Neill, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in opposition: Darroll R Hargraves

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves the FY20 Capital Budget Distribution Plan as presented. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Gloria R O'Neill, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in opposition: Darroll R Hargraves

POLICY CITATION
Regents’ Policy 05.01.040 – Acceptance of State Appropriations states, "The board must accept state appropriations to the university before any expenditure may be made against the appropriation."

RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION
The capital bill (SB19) was signed by the governor on July 11, 2019, but the funding source associated with the appropriation was swept into the Constitutional Budget Reserve fund (CBR). A second capital bill (SB2002) was signed by the governor on August 9, 2019, which included a reverse-sweep of the funds from the CBR, making funding available for the appropriation made in SB19.

The Board of Regents’ capital budget request totaled $50.0 million in state funding for facilities deferred maintenance (DM) / renewal & repurposing (R&R). The capital budget passed by the Legislature includes $5 million in DM/RR funding for the University of Alaska. In addition, the Office of the Governor has been charged with distributing $31.7 million for high priority deferred maintenance projects statewide. UA will be submitting the highest priority deferred maintenance projects from across the system to the State of Alaska Office of Management and Budget for consideration. If UA receives funding, the board will be asked to approve the distribution at its November 7-8, 2019 meeting.

The board was asked to accept the capital appropriation and approve the distribution as presented. The project budgets are estimated and project descriptions can be found in the reference document. As the exact project scope and costs are known, project approval will be obtained from the appropriate authority in accordance with Regents’ Policy. If a subsequent transfer of funding between projects or to a new project is requested, the chief strategy, planning and budget officer shall determine the level of approval required, based on the size and nature of the transfer.

Vice President Rizk presented a summary of the FY20 capital budget appropriation and discussed capital funding distribution implications.
D. Proposed Tuition Rates Discussion for Academic Years 2021 and 2022

President Johnsen led a discussion on the proposed tuition rate increases for AY2021 and AY2022.

POLICY CITATION

Regents’ Policy 05.10.010 states, "Recognizing that state general fund support is not sufficient to pay the full cost of education and that students have a responsibility to contribute to the cost of their higher education, tuition and student fees will be established to the extent practicable in accordance with the following objectives: (1) to provide for essential support to the university’s instructional programs; (2) to make higher education accessible to Alaskans who have the interest, dedication, and ability to learn; and (3) to maintain tuition and student fees at levels which are competitive with similarly situated programs of other western states. Tuition revenues will be used primarily to maintain and expand the educational opportunities provided to students, to preserve and improve the quality of existing programs and support services, to respond to enrollment trends, and to implement new programs."

DISCUSSION

Starting with the fall 2020 (AY2021) term, the president proposed a 5 percent increase to the upper and lower division rates of tuition for AY2021 and AY2022. This will enable the university to become more market competitive in relation to the WICHE average for 4-year public universities, a standard the university has used for many years.

The president proposed no increases to graduate tuition and the nonresident surcharge. Graduate tuition and nonresident surcharges are both above the WICHE averages. By delaying any further increases, these rates will moderate and come into line with the WICHE averages.

The table below shows the already approved and the proposed rates. Note that starting in AY20, tuition at all community campuses will be at the same lower division rate, the result of previous board direction.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AY2020 (Fall 2019 and Spring 2020)</th>
<th>AY2021 (Fall 2020 and Spring 2021)</th>
<th>AY2022 (Fall 2021 and Spring 2022)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lower Division</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Division</td>
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<td>Graduate</td>
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<td>513</td>
<td>513</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nonresident</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>566</td>
<td>566</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Information

CTE (Career and Technical Education) Tuition reduction:
A set of courses associated with CTE Education programs, identified by each university, will have tuition reduced by 25 percent. The list of eligible courses and programs is posted on the UA website and updated annually. https://www.alaska.edu/alaska/cte.php

Tuition Surcharges and Fees based on tuition:
University Regulation R05.10.040.B. provides that the president may establish special tuition or tuition surcharges in lieu of, or in addition to, regular tuition in order to provide special for-credit courses and programs or to meet special needs.

Students enrolled in engineering courses at UAA and UAF will continue to have a 20 percent surcharge applied to the base tuition for lower division courses, upper division courses, and graduate courses. (This surcharge also applies to computer engineering courses at UAA only.) This surcharge is in addition to the base rate of tuition. Surcharges are applied on a per credit hour basis (rounded to the nearest dollar).

Students enrolled in management courses at UAA and UAF will continue to have a 20 percent surcharge applied to the base tuition for upper division courses and graduate courses. This surcharge is in addition to the base rate of tuition. Surcharges are applied on a per credit hour basis (rounded to the nearest dollar).

Fees:
In addition to campus or program specific fees, all UA students are assessed the following UA fees:
  Technology fee: $5 per credit to a maximum of $60
Facilities fee: $6 per credit
Network fee: (4 percent applied on a course-by-course basis to tuition)

E. First Review of FY21 Operating and Capital Budget Requests and the 10-Year Capital Improvement 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 Johnsen and Vice President Rizk led a discussion on UA’s proposed FY21 Operating and Capital Budgets and the 10-year Capital Improvement Plan. The operating budget discussion provided the board with the status of UA’s current operating budget and considerations for the proposed FY21 operating budget. The capital budget presents the top priority projects for FY21 and an objective look at the short-, mid-, and long-term capital investment goals of the university.


A. Government Relations Report

Associate Vice President Baker shared the university was well discussed in Juneau during the legislative session; stated legislators continue to have tremendous interest in the actions of the board since the conclusion of the legislative session and the signing of the compact agreement and provided an update on state and federal government relations issues affecting the University of Alaska.

14. Approval of Academic Degree Recipients

A. Approval of Academic Degree Recipients

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves the list of degree recipients for the summer and fall of 2018 and the spring of 2019. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Gloria R O'Neill, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries

POLICY CITATION
Regents’ Policy 10.03.010.B. states: "The official lists of degree and certificate recipients will be established by the chancellors immediately after the official closing date of each term. The combined lists for the spring and preceding fall and summer terms will be transmitted by the president to the board after the spring session. This official list of degree and certificate recipients will be presented to the board for their approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting."

15. Corporate Resolution

A. Approval of Revisions to the Industrial Security Resolution

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves the Industrial Security Resolution as revised, to reflect a change to the managerial group and authorizes the chair and the secretary of the board to sign the resolution. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Gloria R O'Neill, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Not Present at Vote: John Bania
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 a change to the managerial group.

16. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

PASSED
"The Board of Regents goes into executive session to discuss matters which could affect the reputation or character of a person or persons related to honorary degrees and meritorious service awards. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Gloria R O'Neill, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in opposition: Darroll R Hargraves

The Board of Regents went into executive session at 3:00 p.m. and concluded an executive session at 3:40 p.m. Alaska Time in accordance with AS 44.62.310 to discuss matters which could affect the reputation or character of a person or persons related to honorary degrees and meritorious service awards. The session included members of the Board of Regents, President Johnsen, General Counsel Hostina, and such other university staff members as the president designated and lasted 40 minutes.

17. Approval of Honorary Degrees and Meritorious Service Awards

A. Approval of Honorary Degrees and Meritorious Service Awards for Fall 2019 and Spring 2020

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves group two of the modified list of nominees for honorary doctoral degrees and meritorious service awards as proposed for commencement exercises in the fall 2019 and spring of 2020, and authorizes Chancellors Caulfield, Sandeen and White to invite the approved nominees and announce their acceptance. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Lisa M Parker, second by Cachet Garrett.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in opposition: Andy Teuber
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta

PASSED
"The Board of Regents approves group one of the list of nominees for meritorious service awards as proposed. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by Cachet Garrett, second by Darroll R Hargraves.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Voting in favor: John Davies, Cachet Garrett, Darroll R Hargraves, Gloria R O'Neill, Lisa M Parker, Karen Perdue, Andy Teuber
Voting in opposition: Dale G Anderson, John Bania, Mary K Hughes
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta

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 University of Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and University of Alaska Southeast for recipients of honorary degrees and meritorious service awards were sent under separate cover for Board of Regents’ review prior to the September 12-13, 2019 board meeting.

18. Future Agenda Items

A. Future Agenda Items

No future agenda items were brought forward.

*18.1 Executive Session (added)

PASSED
"The Board of Regents goes into executive session to discuss personnel matters that are confidential by law. This motion is effective September 13, 2019."

Motion by John Bania, second by Karen Perdue.
Final Resolution: Motion Carries
Not Present at Vote: Sheri Buretta

The Board of Regents went into executive session at 3:50 p.m. and concluded an executive session at 4:25 p.m. Alaska Time in accordance with AS 44.62.310 to discuss personnel matters that are confidential by law. The session included members of the Board of Regents, President Johnsen, and General Counsel Hostina and lasted 35 minutes.

19. Adjourn

A. Adjourn

Chair Davies adjourned the meeting at 4:25 p.m. on Friday, September 13, 2019.

20. Public Testimony from September 9, 2019

Joseph Zimmerman, Anchorage resident, UAA alumni, and a UAA College of Business and Public Policy advisory council member, spoke in support of UAA, its engineering program, and for the chancellor’s consortium model.

Marian Elliott, Wasilla resident and retired teacher, spoke in support of UAA and maintaining three separately accredited universities.

Paul Dunscomb, Anchorage resident, stated there is not a broad institutional buy-in for single accreditation; noted all faculty across the system oppose the merger; requested the chancellors be involved in the planning process; said President Johnsen’s plan is a top-down forced plan and stated UAF’s accreditation is at stake.

Sander Schijvenes, Juneau resident and UAS Advisory Council member, spoke in support of three separately accredited universities and stated opposition for one accreditation.
Jennifer Tilbury, UAF faculty member, stated concern for the community campus mission in the restructuring effort; noted support for UAF’s Community and Technical College (CTC) and said if one UA community college model is created, it should be modeled after UAF CTC.

Jomo Stewart, Fairbanks resident, stated the Fairbanks Economic Development Corporation supports UAF; said UAF has been in Fairbanks for 100 years; noted the Fairbanks community highly supports UAF and appreciates the regents’ effort to keep UA strong.

Richard Carr, Fairbanks resident and UAF English department chair, stated support for three separately accredited universities; said a gradual movement toward any change is necessary and noted changing too quickly will hinder confidence in the university.

Andrew Mahoney, Fairbanks resident and UAF Geophysical Institute professor, stated support for the direct service UA research has on Alaska and the world; concerned that the connection between academics and research may be lost in the single accreditation model and noted the importance of having graduate students involved in research grants.

Jackie Debevec, Fairbanks resident and UAF CTC academic advisor, stated support for the UAF community college mission and said the community colleges should be separated from the three universities which would allow CTC students to receive resources from the Federal TRIO program.

Kathie Bethard, Anchorage resident, stated support for the chancellor’s consortium model; noted opposition to the single accreditation and one university plan; said UA has three strong separately accredited universities and stated support for maintaining athletics at each university.

Kevin Krein, Juneau resident and UAS professor, said there are risks associated with the restructuring; encouraged the board to move slowly forward with the structural change and stated most professors prefer the consensus three-year glide path recommended by the arts, humanities and natural and social sciences working group.

Cecile Lardon, Fairbanks resident, stated the board should focus on efficiency, structure, and accreditation; noted concern for the decision-making process and supports data-driven decision-making.

Drew Cason, Anchorage resident and UAA Alumni Association board member, stated opposition to the consolidation; noted support for three separately accredited universities and said the centralization model top-heavy.

Diane Hirshberg, Anchorage resident and UAA professor, stated support for the chancellor’s consortium model and three separately accredited universities; noted the universities already engage in collaboration and encouraged the board to consider the three-year glide path recommended by the arts, humanities and natural and social sciences working group.

Clint Sengnany, UAA student, stated opposition for one UA and noted support for three separately accredited universities and the chancellor’s consortium model.

Lea Bouton, Anchorage resident and UAA Alumni Association president, encouraged the board to slow down the consolidation process; noted the importance of data-based decision-making; said support for one UA is only evident at the university’s statewide office and stated support for three separately accredited universities.

Joe Dewhurst, Big Lake resident, stated support for UAA noting strong support the chancellor’s consortium model; mentioned each university should make its cost-saving changes or reductions and said to keep athletics at UAF and UAA.

Bernard Aoto, Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks president, encouraged the board to take time to consider the impact of its decisions and to keep students at the center of the decisions; said the consolidation committees lack student representation; noted students are concerned with what programs are being offered not the one or three university issue and asked that the board take time to talk with UA’s governance organizations.

Alayna Johannsen, UAA student, noted concerns regarding one accreditation, how classes would be delivered and be available to students, and the location of the accreditation.

Nathan Robertson, Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage senator, asked the board to slow down the consolidation process.

Polly Koutehak, Burbank, California resident, stated UA is in a position to support climate change research and recommended UA do so.
Stacey Lucason, Anchorage resident and UAA Alumni Association board member, stated disappointment in how the consolidation process is unfolding; said Strategic Pathways (SP) has not been implemented; encouraged the board to slow down the process and review SP; said budget cuts is not a new issue for UA and urged the board to look at strengthening UA.

Shiloh Brady, Anchorage resident and UAA alumni, stated support for three separately accredited universities; said the university locations should remain in place and encouraged the board to consider the students’ concerns.

Chuck Homan, Wasilla resident, mentioned he has supported UA since 1978; stated support for keeping the universities as is; noted support for the chancellor’s consortium model and said athletics is necessary.

Ann Millard, Fairbanks resident, urged the board to keep UA as is and stated support for KUAC.

Terry Homan, Meadow Lakes resident, stated support for the chancellor’s consortium model; said the statewide office does not understand the needs of each community and it would be inefficient at handling the work done at the universities; mentioned the consolidated model would lose athletic fan support and said donors would not support one UA.

Roxanne Dayton, Big Lake resident, stated support for athletics noting eliminating such would affect students’ well-being and mental health and mentioned strong support for student-athletes and the UAF swim team.

Jackie Cason, Anchorage resident and UAA professor, underscored and emphasized faculty collaboration across the system; stated support for the individual universities and the relationships with the local communities; encouraged evidence-based decision-making; requested the board slow down the consolidation process and consider the three-year glide path recommended by the arts, humanities and natural and social sciences working group.

Margaret Miller, Anchorage resident, shared that the UA Scholars program kept her in Alaska; noted strong support for athletics; stated opposition to one university that would disallow athletics and asked the board to slow down the consolidation process.

Patty Meritt, Fairbanks resident, encouraged the board to slow down the consolidation process and spoke in support of the community campus mission.

Steven Johnson, UAA Seawolf Debate Team member, encouraged the board to proceed with extreme caution and to slow down the consolidation process; asked the board to use data-based decision-making and stated support for the chancellor’s consortium model.

Don Gray, Fairbanks resident, advocated for the three separately accredited university model; noted the individual community’s needs and the fulfillment of separate missions; stated support for arts and asked the board to slow down the consolidation process.

Kat Milligan-Myhre, Anchorage resident, stated appreciation for the thoughtful communication opportunity; said the board needs to reconsider one accreditation and the consolidation process; shared the need for duplicative program offerings; mentioned the student bodies are different at the three universities; said local control must be retained and noted support for research to continue at all three universities.

Elizabeth Roderick, Anchorage resident, stated the need to slow down the consolidation process and encouraged the board to listen to all community members to assure buy-in, to keep the research options open and to do an economic analysis.

Lesa Hollen, Anchorage resident, encouraged the board to be offensive rather than defensive; stated support for the UA’s supercomputer; shared information about the importance of space exploration and the space resource program at the Colorado School of Mines.

David Grossman, Anchorage resident, stated support for the chancellor’s consortium model and the importance of local community support.

Lisa Terwilliger, Anchorage resident, implored the board to realize it is the boss of the president; asked the board to allow the chancellors to present their ideas and stated support for the chancellor’s consortium model.

Sam Cason, Anchorage resident, thanked the board for its volunteer efforts; said the board’s role is to supervise the president and encouraged the board to gather the relevant information to make a decision in the best interest of the university by using evidence-based decision-making and driven results.
Hollis Hall, Fairbanks resident, thanked the board for the opportunity to provide input; said it is important to include all stakeholders within Alaska on the consolidation process; stated recognition of UA’s image problem and asked the board to thoroughly review the community campus missions.

Nalinaksha Bhattacharyya, Anchorage resident and UAA professor, stated online education does not work; said students are distracted when taking an online class; stated support for brick and mortar universities and the three separately accredited universities.