



Charter

Updated September 30, 2017

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

Preamble

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

Article 1. Name

The University of Alaska (UA) Board of Regents hereby grants the authority for a mechanism for student system governance consisting of a network of student governments to be named the Coalition of Student Leaders, hereinafter "Coalition."

Article 2. Network Membership Constituencies

A. Membership Requirements

Coalition membership requires maintaining a cumulative 2.5 GPA.

The ability to vote, nominate, or make motions is restricted to those students, who are officially recognized by their student government, or in the absence of a student government, are appointed by their local administration to represent a rural campus, and to be confirmed by the Coalition with two-thirds vote.

B. Voting Members

- Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks
- Bristol Bay Campus
- Chukchi Campus
- Kuskokwim Campus Student Government
- Kachemak Bay Student Association
- Kenai River Campus Student Union
- Kodiak College Student Association
- Interior Alaska Campus
- Matanuska-Susitna Student Government

- Northwest Campus
- Prince William Sound College Student Association
- Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Juneau
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Sitka
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Ketchikan

C. Ex-officio Members

Ex-officio members include the student regent from the UA Board of Regents and the student commissioner who sits on the Commission on Postsecondary Education. They speak to the Coalition as advisory members without retaining the position as a voting member.

1. The Student Regent

a. Selection

The student regent shall be selected in the manner prescribed by law, thus having the authority to be the primary spokesperson for the students of the University of Alaska.

b. Duties

The Student Regent is the primary contact for the Coalition on the UA Board of Regents and serves as an advisor on Board matters and issues affecting the University and the Alaska postsecondary education community.

2. The Student Commissioner

a. Selection

The student commissioner shall be selected in the manner prescribed by law and will serve as the Coalition's primary liaison to the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.

b. Duties

The student commissioner shall update the Coalition on issues affecting the Commission, the University, and the Alaska postsecondary education community.

D. Other Ex-officio Members

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

The following are ex-officio local constituent groups:

- Alaska Pacific University Student Council
- I̱isaġvik College Student Assembly

E. Lapse of Membership

Any local constituency that does not participate in meetings and activities of the Coalition for an entire semester shall be removed from the list contained under Clause B

and included in the list contained under Clause C as an ex-officio member for the remainder of the academic year.

F. Reinstatement of Membership

Members removed under Clause E may be reinstated as official members prior to the end of the academic year with a petition to and approval of a majority of Coalition members listed in Article 2, Section B during a regular meeting.

Article 3. Purposes and Authority

A. Authority

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

B. Purposes

1. Representation

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

2. Consultation

To provide consultation to the UA president and the board of regents on student affairs issues.

3. Communication

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

C. Responsibilities

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

Article 4. Officers

A. The Chair of the Coalition

1. Chair Selection

The Chair of the Coalition shall be selected by the Coalition from among the nominees submitted by Coalition members. The nominees shall be Coalition members in good academic standing at the first general meeting of the academic

year. The Chair's term shall be one academic year with elections taking place each fall. The Chair will serve no more than two consecutive terms.

2. Duties

The Chair of the Coalition serves as the executive authority of the Coalition; presides over all meetings of the Coalition; and represents or appoints a designee from the Coalition to the University of Alaska System, the UA Board of Regents, and to the public. The Chair shall serve as a representative on the System Governance Council. The Chair has full voting rights except in the instance they are an ex-officio member, whereby they will have the right to break a tie only. The Chair has the authority to set the meeting time, place, and agenda for all Coalition meetings.

B. The Vice Chair of the Coalition

1. Selection

A Vice Chair shall be selected from among the voting Coalition members. The nominees shall be Coalition members in good academic standing at the first general meeting of the academic year. The Vice Chair's term shall be one academic year with elections taking place each fall. The Vice Chair will serve no more than two consecutive terms.

2. Duties

The Vice Chair shall serve as the Chair in case of the Chair's absence and assume the role of the Chair if it is vacated during the academic year. The Vice Chair shall be responsible for updating the Coalition's Facebook page, Twitter account, or any other electronic media used for University systemwide communication. The Vice Chair shall also serve as a representative on the System Governance Council.

Article 5. Representation

The Coalition of Student Leaders shall have two seats on the System Governance Council: the chair and the vice chair of the Coalition.

The student governments within each university campus shall make every effort to build regional networks and interact with each other on a regular basis to resolve regional student issues and report to the Coalition at regular intervals to be determined by the Coalition.

Article 6. Meetings

A. In-person Meetings

The Coalition shall hold in-person meetings at least once a year. All meeting attendees may participate, but only members listed under Article 2, Section B may make motions or vote.

B. Regular Meetings

The Coalition shall meet at least once per month via audio or video during the fall and spring at a time and date set within the first month of each semester where a quorum of members is able to commit regular attendance. Notice of regular meetings, including the

date, time, teleconference line, and agenda/materials, shall be posted by the System Governance Office at least three business days in advance of the regular meeting.

C. Special Meetings

The Chair or four voting members, with at least 24-hours' notice to all Coalition members, may call special meetings if needed.

D. Open Meetings

All meetings of the Coalition are open meetings in accordance with the Alaska Open Meetings Law. All regular business meetings will be publicly noticed on the Alaska Online Public Notice website at least three days in advance of the meeting.

E. Quorum

A quorum for any meeting of the Coalition of Student Leaders shall be five of the voting members listed in Article 2, Section B.

F. Parliamentary Authority

The Coalition will follow the most recent version of Robert's Rules of Order.

Article 7. Roles

A. Ad Hoc Committees

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

B. Administrative Support

The Coalition shall receive administrative support from the System Governance Office. The office shall:

- create and maintain student leader directories;
- distribute any statewide governance report(s), and research statewide student issues as directed;
- ensure that student publications are distributed among all voting members;
- provide staff support for in-person and regular meetings of the Coalition and its committees;
- publish and distribute single-issue summaries as needed;

Article 8. Relief, Compensation, and Fear of Reprisals

Students participating in Coalition activities will remain in compliance with the policies in their university's catalog when addressing the issue of missed classes. Students and their instructors will make a good faith effort to make alternative arrangements to make up any missed classes or work. The System Governance Office will issue a letter at the beginning of the academic year for

Coalition members to distribute to instructors in advance notifying of any Coalition activities impacting class attendance.

Student governance officers not otherwise compensated shall be granted a three credit tuition waiver upon each semester of successful service completed if funds are available.

Students in governance are empowered to carry out their governance responsibilities to the best of their abilities without interference or fear of reprisal.

Article 9. Amendments

A. Ratification

This charter shall go into effect upon acceptance by a majority of the groups listed in Article 2, Section B, above and upon approval by the President of the University of Alaska.

B. Amendments

Amendments to this charter shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the Coalition.

Article 10. Handbook

The Coalition shall annually submit a directory of Coalition members, a description of the Coalition and how it works, and the annual Coalition calendar to the executive officer for inclusion in the governance handbook. This handbook shall be posted online and made publicly available.

Article 11. Reports

The Coalition shall prepare a report of activities. This report shall be submitted to the System Governance executive officer for compilation into a single report of governance activities for submission to the UA president and the UA Board of Regents as part of the agenda for regular UA Board of Regents' meetings. The System Governance executive officer shall maintain Coalition communications electronically.