

Minutes  
**Faculty Alliance**  
March 25, 2022  
3:30 - 5:30 pm

[Join Zoom Meeting](#)

ID: 87635095221

Passcode: N6UA95MW

Members:

**Julie A.K. Maier**, Past-President, UAF Faculty Senate; Chair, Faculty Alliance  
**Gökhan Karahan**, President, UAA Faculty Senate; Vice Chair, Faculty Alliance  
**Kelly Smith**, Past-President, UAA Faculty Senate  
**Ian Hartman**, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate  
**Sandra Wildfeuer**, President, UAF Faculty Senate  
**Ataur Chowdhury**, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate  
David Noon, Past-President, UAS Faculty Senate  
**Andrea Dewees**, President, UAS Faculty Senate  
**Jennifer Ward**, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate

Staff: Kelly James

Noel Romanovsky

Possible Guests: VP Paul Layer, Juella Sparks

- I. Call to Order - Jak Maier 3:30 - 3:40
  - A. Approve Agenda  
Ataur approves. Kelly seconds.
  - B. Approve Meeting Minutes  
None to approve
- II. New Business 3:40 - 5:00
  - A. Faculty Alliance Debrief - Working documents  
We want to improve the environment for Alaska natives at our Universities. The Faculty Retreat in Juneau was a success. It was beneficial to meet with the legislatures.
    - a. Resolution to operationalize ANSI
    - b. [Goals & Measures memo or resolution](#)
  - B. HB 21 update - meeting with Rep. Merrick

Representative Kelly Merrick is a lifelong Alaskan serving her second term in the Legislature representing Eagle River. She is co-chair of the House Finance Committee in charge of the capital budget and legislation. Her interests lie in natural resource development, public safety, fiscal responsibility, and government transparency.

HB 21 Bill: Currently, the University of Alaska (UA) Board of Regents is an 11-member board, appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Alaska Legislature. Members serve 8-year terms, with the exception of the student regent who serves a 2-year term.

This legislation expands the Board of Regents (BOR) to 12 members by adding one full-time faculty member. The Faculty Senate from each of UA's three accredited universities would elect two faculty members to forward to the Governor for consideration. The Governor would select one regent from the list of six names forwarded by the universities. The faculty regent must be confirmed by the legislature and would serve a two-year term. The legislation requires the faculty regent to be employed by, and have received tenure from one of the three universities within the UA System. Currently, regents are not university employees. This fiscal analysis assumes the faculty regent will serve voluntarily, and will be unpaid, as is the case with existing regents. UA estimates that adding a faculty member to the BOR will add an incremental travel cost of \$4,500 annually. In FY19, the current 11-member board incurred total travel related expenses of \$49,000 to participate in five in-person regular meetings and six special or emergency meetings. Adding an additional member would therefore be expected to increase annual travel costs by approximately \$4,500.

If the legislative intent is to hold the faculty regent harmless for work missed as a result of their BOR duties, UA may incur additional costs associated with paying other faculty to cover those teaching duties.

Faculty Alliance advocates for higher education and higher education funds to be protected in some way so that the students don't have an abrupt withdrawal of support as they did a few years ago. We discussed that HB 21 would help the Board to be better informed to make better decisions which would be positive for the university. There were many former University of Alaska student staffers in Juneau who received internships, which could be a potential audience in the future.

#### C. BOR Tuition ad hoc committee update

Across the system, 45% percent of students graduate. 55% of the students do not finish their degree and have existing student debt. They have the data on the total amount of student debt, which has decreased over time. UAA was successful in not having the non-resident surcharge for distance courses. Generally speaking, there is an 80% return to schools and colleges. Paul Layer encourages a look at the tuition policy 05.10. The committee will be looking at that policy to see if it needs to be updated or modified to better represent how universities operate, so there aren't unnecessary waivers. There will be an update to the Board of Regents of May.

D. [Admin to Faculty growth rates](#)

A potential meeting with Gwen for some clarification on the data. There is no dollar amount in any of these statistical analyses. Going over individual positions is not the most effective way to decide if that is a good allocation of our services.

E. [Emeritus status policy](#)

There are some cases where an employee has worked for 20 years at the university, they didn't retire, but started working for the state or another company. This wording would take away the word "retiree" and change to "employee". This gives loyal university employees an opportunity to still have emeritus status, regardless of their retirement situation. Faculty Alliance Members will take this information to their senates.

F. [IT Policy Review Project Charter](#)

A request for members to consider participating. A discussion of workloads and compensation of time to contribute to another committee.

G. [President Pitney message regarding union negotiations](#)

H. Proposal for FA to create an ad hoc committee to create a "Shared Governance award." Andrea

I. Has Alliance or Senate been made aware of any UA work/consultation on HB S32: 1 "An Act establishing the Alaska middle college program for public school students; relating to the powers of the University of Alaska; and providing for an effective date."?

III. Old Business

5:00-5:30

A. [General Counsel memo on shared governance](#)

- a. [AGB perspective on shared governance](#)
- b. [AAUP perspective on shared governance](#)
- c. [AFT perspective on shared governance](#)
- d. [AChowdhury - perspective](#) on role of unions in shared governance
- e. [Bucklewetal2012](#)
- f. [How unions strengthen governance](#)

Proposed Faculty Alliance response to GC memo in three parts.--Andrea

IV. Senate Reports

- A. UAA
- B. UAF
- C. UAS

V. Adjourn Jak motions to adjourn. Kelly seconds.