

Minutes  
**Faculty Alliance**  
April 22, 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, Sean Topkok, X'unei Twitchell, Maria Williams, Heather Batchelder, Juella Sparks

- I. Call to Order - Jak Maier 3:30 - 3:40
  - A. Approve Agenda  
Amended Agenda Approved.
  - B. Approve Meeting Minutes: [19-21 March](#)  
Andrea motions to approve. Jennifer seconds.  
[8 April](#)  
Andrea motions to approve. Jennifer seconds.
- II. New Business 3:40 - 5:00
  - A. [System Mission statement](#)  
Reviewed. Each Alliance member voted on the particular mission statement that they believed best captures the role of the Statewide Office.

- B. New business item: NWCCU mid-cycle visits–no consultation with elected faculty (chairs) or faculty governance. The faculty they meet with during mid-cycle are selected by admin. No budget information requested by NWCCU Proposal: invite/email our NWCCU liaison specific questions. After meeting with NWCCU consider contacting AAUP.

**Mac Powell, Senior Vice President for the Commision:** Institutions are required to submit their audited financials every year as part of their annual report. Part of the Annual Report is to look at enrollment trends spending which is done internally with staff. An Ad Hoc report or financial resources review report happens if there are concerns with the annual review. There is research on predictors of institutional health and success, which has a lot to do with enrollments, state appropriation, research, and expenditure by students. Every institution in Alaska serves a different population with budgets in decline. A few years ago, Alaska’s governor wanted to defund the University system to a great extent. NWCCU leadership issued very strongly worded letters, outlining the possible repercussions of such a severe budget cut. If there aren’t sufficient funds, it endangers accreditation. During the Year Seven, the NWCCU visits Universities and meets with faculty leadership and also separately meets with all faculty. There is a national trend to encourage high school students to have dual enrollment, which there is hope will solve the problem with declining enrollment. The dual enrollment strategy is for faculty to approve high school teachers as adjuncts, who may not need a masters degree but have equivalent experience to be qualified instructors. Faculty needs to meet the minimum qualifications, if not they need to have someone from faculty in the classroom supervising the instruction in such a way to confidently offer credit to courses which are comparable and where the outcomes are comfortable. The profitable courses at most universities are the lower level highly enrolled courses. There will be a new cycle of revisions starting in 2024. The standards are revised every eight years. The NWCCU doesn't require administrators to respond to faculty requests. Although, if someone believes there is a systemic challenge to the institution and the institution is violating an eligibility requirement or standard, it is possible to file a complaint with the NWCC and provide evidence which would be processed. The NWCCU tries to help institutions run smoothly. The State of Alaska has engaged in a lot of moments which have put the entire system of education in Alaska at risk.

- C. [Request for budget plan](#) to prioritize the mission of the universities

- D. [Resolution to operationalize ANSI](#)

Postponed to be amended with the correct values and will be voted via-email.

- a. Dr. Brower gave an update on ANSI to UAS and said that the System Office (Statewide re-brand?) is going to have an ANSI committee too. Not

totally sure why they need one since the System Office doesn't teach or do research? Can Alliance ask for clarification about this as well as an update on ANSI's budget at System Office?

E. HB 21 update - Jak

The Chair of Faculty Alliance was invited to testify and testified at the House Finance committee about HP21. The testimony centered around the importance of having a Faculty Regent on the Board of Regents to result in better informed decisions being made by the Board. This is important for students, the university, and the state. One representative asked if three out of the six proposed nominees for Faculty Regent could be selected by each of the Chancellors. The Chair responded that it was very important that the Faculty Regent be independent of the administration and be a true representative for academics for the sake of students, the university, and the state. Hence, it is crucial that the nominees for Faculty regent be selected by the Faculty Senates, who represent all faculty across the entire system. If the amendment to allow the Chancellors to select half of the nominees for Faculty Regent is passed, the mission of Faculty Alliance and the Senates would be to convince each Chancellor to have the Faculty choose who they would like to represent them.

F. BOR Tuition ad hoc committee update

G. New business item: question about executive administration costs reported to the legislature in 2020. Total costs for chancellors, president, and the 2 VPs was in excess of \$2 million, about a half million dollars more than 2021 or 2019. According to the footnote in the report this was due to the amount paid departing system president Johnsen. Is it correct to say that the BOR approved both Johnsen's contract with the severance clause, as well as the severance eventually issued? Where is this recorded?

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

I. [Emeritus status policy](#)

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

a. Jen reported back on the UAS faculty member expressing interest in serving on this committee, they say:

"I have been waiting to talk with [my Director] about it. He was going to contact the project leader and ask a few questions about the tasks and scheduling of the tasks. If a majority of the tasks are scheduled to be completed over the summer and I'm expected to work without pay during that time, I'm not interested. If some of the tasks are scheduled over the summer and the rest during the regular academic year, I'm still interested."

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

UNAC response

III. Old Business

5:00-5:30

- A. [Goals & Measures memo or resolution](#)
- B. Proposal for FA to create an ad hoc committee to create a “Shared Governance award.” Andrea
- C. 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."?

IV. Senate Reports

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

V. Adjourn

Gokhan motions to adjourn. Kelly seconds.