

Minutes  
**Faculty Alliance**  
May 13, 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

Gokhan amended Agenda, Jennifer approved. Ataur seconds.

B. Approve Meeting Minutes: [22 April 2022](#)

Ian moves to approve. Jennifer seconds.

II. New Business

3:40 - 4:40

Welcome new members: **LuAnn Piccard**, Chair of the Project Management Dept. in the College of Engineering at UAA. She served as the second Vice President of the Faculty Alliance. Prior to UA she was an executive with Hewlett Packard. She is also on the project management institute global board of directors.

**Glenn Wright** teaches political science at UAS and runs the University's Legislative internship program in the capital.

A. Resolution to honor Jak Maier for her service [RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION FOR JAK](#)

Jak has served the Faculty Alliance with honor, resilience, and dedication.

B. [Resolution](#)

A resolution to recognize the service of Juella Sparks, who served the University with dedication, passion and determination in the face of budget cuts and financial instability.

a. [Coalition of Student Leaders](#) memo

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

This needs to be presented and discussed with the board as soon as possible and included in the June Board of Regents meeting. Now is the time to discuss budgets. A first reading of the budget starts at the September meeting. The board approves the budget which will be submitted to the governor at the November meeting. Gokhan moves to table this until the May 27 meeting. Ataur seconds.

Chair Buretta has tasked President Pitney with finding a common ground on shared governance. President Pitney expressed that shared governance should take place at a local council level than the Staff Alliance level. President Pitney did not express if she had similar ideas about Faculty Alliance or Faculty Senate.

D. BOR Tuition ad hoc committee update

There was a draft policy change which will be refined and sent to the Board of Regents. The Board would not vote on a change of policy anytime before November to provide an adequate time for feedback from governance after summer once the contracts for Faculty start again. The idea is to simplify and clarify the responsibility of the Board of Regents and the President, to have a set of guiding principles on how tuition is set and to have the Board look at the impact the changes in tuition has on students. Input from governance will be sought on how we make this policy work.

E. UA HR Customer Service Experience

Michelle Pope sent a request to all governance leaders asking for volunteers to form a committee. She has accepted 3 or 4 names from Staff Councils. Atuar will give this information to the UAF Senate. It is up to each of the Faculty Senates to request a volunteer.

F. 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?

It is in the legislative filing that was done for 2020.

- G. [Admin to Faculty and Admin to Staff growth rates](#); [Faculty Alliance Chair report-June 22](#)

Thank you to Gwen for providing the data.

- H. Changing the FA Bylaws to allow Past Chair to serve as an ex officio member of the FA. Having the past chair serve as an ex officio member of the Faculty Alliance would allow a degree of continuity. It would need to be approved by the local Faculty Senates in the fall to be added into the constitution, then go to the President for review. It was agreed that there is much to be gained from having the Past Chair to serve as an ex officio member.

Tabled until the fall.

III. Old Business 4:40-5:00

- A. [Goals & Measures memo or resolution](#)

It would be useful to have another meeting with David Bishko.

- 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 5:00-5:10

- A. UAA

There was a well written Academic Freedom Resolution written by Ray Ball, reaffirming administration to support academic freedom and to make sure that the University Faculty are protected. It speaks to the moment how deeply politicized Higher Education and K-12 has become. There was another Resolution written from UAA which called for a plan of action for administrative leadership to restore confidence of faculty. It calls for the creation of a task force that would look into issues of bullying and harassment and ensure that Faculty voices are strongly represented particularly after the loss of confidence at the institution. Sean Parnell would like to meet with the authors of this resolution. New Faculty Senators were inaugurated. Ian Hartman will be the incoming Faculty Senate President. Gokhan Karahan did an outstanding job as Faculty Senate President and will add his experience and expertise as ex officio member of Faculty Senate.

[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eEQ-l6y\\_yxV6lXh9A4j4Rgr7NV6C8c88/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1eEQ-l6y_yxV6lXh9A4j4Rgr7NV6C8c88/view)  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yxt8WahXYdTIsCCWYbTuENrWfnGJBV1iga3dU-5iAkM/edit>

B. UAF

A huge thank you to Sanda Wildfeuer for her service as Faculty Senate President. Ataur will be the next Faculty Senate President. We recommend a tenured faculty have preference to become the department chair. A big program change was the Earth Science System. Departments are putting it together as an interdisciplinary degree. A detailed discussion ensued without being resolved. A majority of the Faculty Senators were not satisfied with the outcome which will be revisited in the fall. The ANSI resolution was passed unanimously.

C. UAS

I gave my last Faculty Senate report and noted areas where Faculty Senate or faculty had raised concerns about governance, namely: 1) direct appointments of executive administrators, 2) Provost and Chancellor appointing faculty to committees that did not follow UAS bylaws (briefly, for areas of faculty purview there should be a faculty representative who is chosen by and reports to Senate). Adjustments were made when this was pointed out (usually an additional Faculty governance representation was added), 3) Provost selected a few faculty program coordinators for meeting with NWCCU instead of including all faculty program coordinators, 4) budget questions (budget is faculty purview but budget is not being discussed at meetings where faculty governance is present), 5) the appointment of an administrator to faculty rank without discussion with the faculty (as outlined in UAS Faculty Senate bylaws), once this was pointed out a subsequent appointment was considered by faculty, 6) general autocratic tone and scapegoating of faculty by administration, and 7) increased level of concern about ANSI given Dr. Brower's departure. Two points were raised: a) there is no timeline for rehiring this crucial position and b) the assignment of ANSI to the brand new CHRO seems to be a set up for failure for both endeavors given that HR needs a lot of attention, and ANSI is its own priority. In addition, piling a bunch of work on the new person is not usually a way to guarantee success or improve morale and retention.

One high note for shared governance was UAS' award to the Chancellor and VC for leadership during the Covid-19 pandemic.