



LaNora Tolman <latolman@alaska.edu>

Open meetings law and student governments

Ardith Lynch <aalynch@alaska.edu> Fri, Sep 26, 2014 at 5:16 PM
To: Dianne Milke <dlmilke@alaska.edu>, President Gamble <pkgamble@alaska.edu>
Cc: "legal@alaska.edu" <ua-legal@alaska.edu>, Dana Thomas <dlthomas@alaska.edu>, LaNora Tolman <latolman@alaska.edu>, Morgan Dufseth <mdufseth@alaska.edu>, Barb Nilsen <banilsen@alaska.edu>, Mike Hostina <mphostina@alaska.edu>

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President Gamble,

Here's a draft response to the student:

Alaska's open meetings law, AS 44.62.310, applies to governmental bodies of public entities. The law defines a governmental body as an assembly, council, board, commission, committee or other similar body with the authority to establish policies or make decisions for the public entity, or with the authority to advise or make recommendations to the public entity.

The law specifically excludes staff meetings or other gatherings of the employees of a public entity, including meetings of an employee group established by policy of the Board of Regents or held while acting in an advisory capacity to the Board of Regents. Since staff and faculty governance groups are exempt from the open meetings law, by the same analysis student government groups may also be exempt. However, in light of some uncertainty in that regard, University General Counsel has recommended that reasonable public notice be given to comply with the spirit of the law.

Ardith

On 9/26/2014 8:53 AM, Dianne Milke wrote:

Good morning, Ardith--I haven't yet spoken to LaNora to learn whether she's aware of anything that may have prompted this student question posed to President Gamble, but since I'm out this afternoon at medical appointments and don't want this to sit long without a response, I

mentioned it to the president this morning. He'd appreciate if you could please draft a response back to the student for him to refine and send out. Thank you.

Dianne

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Dianne Milke** <dlmilke@alaska.edu>
Date: Thu, Sep 25, 2014 at 4:56 PM
Subject: Fwd: [ua.president] Greetings President Gamble
To: LaNora Tolman <latolman@alaska.edu>

Hi, LaNora. Can you call me in the morning on this? Thanks.

Dianne

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Stuart Lamirand** <lamirand.stuart@gmail.com>
Date: Thu, Sep 25, 2014 at 4:26 PM
Subject: [ua.president] Greetings President Gamble
To: "ua.president@alaska.edu" <ua.president@alaska.edu>

I have a question, does the "open meeting law" apply to all University of Alaska system student governments?

Thank you,
Stuart Lamirand, UAA Student

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Dianne Milke, CP
Executive Asst to the President, University of Alaska System
910 Yukon Drive, Butrovich Building Suite 202
PO Box 755000, Fairbanks, AK 99775-5000
ph [907 450-8009](tel:9074508009); fax [907 450-8012](tel:9074508012)

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Dianne Milke, CP
Executive Asst to the President, University of Alaska System
910 Yukon Drive, Butrovich Building Suite 202
PO Box 755000, Fairbanks, AK 99775-5000
ph [907 450-8009](tel:9074508009); fax [907 450-8012](tel:9074508012)

Ardith Lynch
Associate General Counsel
University of Alaska

Email: ardith.lynch@alaska.edu 203 Butrovich
Phone: (907) 450-8080 PO Box 755160
Fax: (907) 450-8081 Fairbanks, AK 99775-5160

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