



Minutes  
**System Governance Council**

Tuesday, May 2, 2017

10:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

Video: [Google Hangout](#)

Audio: 1-855-280-1855

(Please mute unless speaking.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting came to order 10:20.

Voting Members:

Nate Bauer, Chair, Staff Alliance

Lisa Hoferkamp, Vice Chair, Faculty Alliance

Kolene James, Vice Chair, Staff Alliance

Rachel Morse, Assistant Vice Chancellor, UAA Alumni Relations

Jessy Post, Manager, UAS Alumni

Ex Officio Members:

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

James R. Johnsen, President, University of Alaska

Absent Members:

Kate Ripley, Director, UAF Alumni and Council Chair

Samantha Hoffman, Representative, Coalition of Student Leaders

Colby Freel, Chair, Coalition of Student Leaders

Tara Smith, Chair, Faculty Alliance

2. Adopt Agenda

Nate moved to approve both the agenda and the minutes, seconded by Jessy. Rachel noted that Robbie Graham's title is incorrect in the minutes (AVP not AVC). There were no objections to approving both.

3. Approve March 30 Minutes

See above.

[Reference 1](#)

4. Public and Guest Comments

Discussion with President Johnsen

Title IX: Reached a major milestone on May 1 with Title IX issues but still have to keep working all summer to reach other deadlines for the voluntary agreement.

Budget: The UA budget used to be at \$378 just a few years ago, so \$325 is still a pretty big cut from just a couple years ago. There was a lot of good testimony given in support of the University on Saturday. Is learning it isn't always the rational argument that gets heard—it is the volume of voices saying something that gets traction. UA is currently a big pawn in the political chess game being played in Juneau and it doesn't look like it will be resolved until the end of the process. Encourages us to continue to advocate for UA and keep pushing the positives. The president noted they have not yet named the members of the conference committee, which will be in charge of agreeing on the University's budget. Lisa asked if \$341 is still on the table. The president said not likely but that it would be nice if it could move back up, especially since \$341 is part of a 10-year glide path for the University to reduce its dependency on state funds. The president noted it is a fine line to tell the legislature they are hurting the university but to at the same time instill confidence in the public/community that UA is still strong and doing well enough for them to entrust their education in us.

Shared governance: This will continue at the June meeting. Will try to frame it at this meeting, including scheduling more time for interaction at the Board meetings, will also bring in consultants on state systems and they will make a presentation to the Board on different structures and the levels of shared governance. The president also noted there could be a change to the structure of the governance portion of the meeting so that it is more of a discussion (and part of the Aimes McGuinness discussion) and less of a report. Seemed to be support for a bifurcated process—report early and then time with McGuinness later as well. The president noted he did not expect any decisions on governance issues at this meeting. There was discussion about how to incorporate constituent feedback with short timelines. It may be that issues are addressed across multiple meetings so that there are opportunities for input and feedback from constituent groups. The president noted he feels the increased conversations with governance groups have been beneficial and noted he appreciates that groups feel they need to formalize their positions in legislation but feels there are other more productive ways to communicate and reach agreement. In terms of moving forward, he is thinking about how to include more governance leaders on administrative councils (Finance Council, HRC, IR, etc.) and even on the Summit Team (perhaps under a different name). By formalizing those councils and including governance reps, there will be less opportunity for surprise and more feelings of inclusion. Ultimately, bringing people in earlier in the process should help stem some of the surprises—even if the final result isn't what they want.

UAF Chancellor Search: Has interviewed all four candidates and they have all held community forums. Will meet with the search committee next week and will review the online feedback and other feedback messages, and will then make his decision after consulting with the Board. Expect to have the announcement made before the end of May. Hope the new chancellor will be able to start on July 1.

UAA Chancellor Vacancy: Noted he is holding until the current chancellor has had a good send off. Expect to start a national search in the fall, and Provost Gingerich will serve as interim until then.

5. Chair's Report  
None given.

6. Member Updates

6.1. Alumni

Rachel noted alumni have been spreading the word to their constituents for them to testify in support of the University's budget. They were able to fill the entire public testimony time and there weren't any breaks in the testimony—so there was vocal and continuous support for the University. Rachel encourages the rest of the Council to participate. She noted there may be another opportunity to testify but it would only have 24-hour notice. It might be worthwhile to notify your constituents ahead of time so they are prepared for the short timeline. Jessy noted the University is also supporting a postcard campaign. Also working on the scholarship committee to select new students. Also held a fundraising banquet recently and are planning a golf event for this summer.

6.2. Faculty

The Alliance passed resolutions in support of Indigenous Peoples' Day, faculty regent, and reductions to the Statewide office. They also sent a letter to the legislature to appeal for their support of the University. They are also reviewing Title IX policies, changes to the policy on students with disabilities, and provided feedback on the UA enrollment plan.

6.3. Staff

Kolene noted the Alliance recently passed three resolutions: a request to revise furlough policy and leave accrual, one in support of a faculty and staff regent, and one forming an ad hoc committee to create a process for naming staff emeritus. They will review a resolution in support of Indigenous Peoples' Day at their May 3 meeting.

6.4. Students

No students in attendance. Morgan noted they had passed a resolution in support of the APS/AHEF and in support of recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day across UA.

7. Ongoing Business

7.1. Questions on Shared Governance at UA

Reference 3

See above discussion with President Johnsen.

8. New Business

8.1. Adding Faculty and Staff Regents at UA

[Reference 4](#)

Morgan noted if the Council wanted to she could draft a resolution for them to review at their first meeting of next year. Brief discussion on how to create autonomy for staff member, similar to tenure for faculty. General agreement that process does not have to be included in the initial request for the new members.

8.2. Public Testimony at Board Meetings

Morgan noted the Council had passed a resolution last year in support of distance testimony and they had wanted to readdress the issue after there had been a few meetings to see if they wanted to recommend reinstating in-person testimony. Members indicated they like to wait to see if the Board was going to make any changes themselves (there

has been some indication they may revise the process again) and revisit the subject next fall.

9. Agenda Items for the Next Meeting

None given.

10. Information from Reports/Roundtable/Announcements

11. Adjourn

Nate moved to adjourn, seconded by Lisa. No objections. The meeting adjourned at 11:32 a.m.

DRAFT