



# Charter

*Approved by President Patrick Gamble on June 26, 2014*

An accord between the student leaders of the University of Alaska who participated in the 1993 Fall Student Leadership Conference at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, September 24-26, 1993...a vital step in, "Building the Net."

## **Preamble**

In order to promote communication between students on each campus of each university in Alaska; to improve the lives and leadership of the students of our universities; to provide for an effective and powerful student voice in matters effecting the University of Alaska; and to enable and develop the leadership for Alaska's future; we do hereby establish this charter of the Coalition of Student Leaders of the University of Alaska, this day, Sunday, September 26, 1993.

## **Article 1. Name**

The University of Alaska (UA) Board of Regents hereby grants the authority for a mechanism for student system governance consisting of a network of student governments to be named the Coalition of Student Leaders, hereinafter "Coalition."

## **Article 2. Network Membership Constituencies**

### **A. Membership Requirements**

Coalition membership requires maintaining a cumulative 2.5 GPA.

### **B. Official Members**

- Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks
- Kuskokwim Campus Student Government
- Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage
- Prince William Sound College Student Association
- Kachemak Bay Student Association
- Kenai River Campus Student Union
- Kodiak College Student Association
- Matanuska-Susitna Student Government

- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Juneau
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Sitka
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Ketchikan
- Bristol Bay Campus
- Ilisagvik College Student Assembly
- Northwest Campus

### **C. Ex-officio Members**

Ex-officio members include the student regent from the UA Board of Regents and the student commissioner who sits on the Commission on Postsecondary Education. They speak to the Coalition as advisory members without retaining the position as a voting member.

The following are ex-officio local constituent groups:

- Alaska Pacific University Student Council

### **D. Other Ex-officio Members**

Other ex-officio include military extension students, campus extension, part-time, and correspondence students; as well as student clubs, residence life governments, and other student organizations.

### **E. Lapse of Membership**

Any local constituency that does not participate in meetings and activities of the Coalition for an entire year shall be removed from the list contained under Clause A and included in the list contained under Clause B, as an ex-officio member.

## **Article 3. Purposes and Authority**

### **A. Authority**

The Coalition receives its authority by policy 03.01.01 and policy 09.01.01 of the UA Board of Regents, which derives its authority from the Constitution and Statutes of the State of Alaska. The Coalition shall carry out its functions subject to the authority of the UA Board of Regents and the president of the University of Alaska.

### **B. Purposes**

#### **1. Representation**

To provide official representation for the students of the University of Alaska in matters which affect the general welfare of the university and its educational purposes and effectiveness.

## **2. Consultation**

To provide consultation to the UA president and the board of regents on student affairs issues.

## **3. Communication**

To serve as an instrument by which information which is of interest and concern to the university system students may be freely collected, disseminated, and discussed.

## **C. Responsibilities**

Coalition responsibilities include, but are not limited to student affairs issues such as tuition and student fees, financial aid and scholarships, residence life, minority and rural student services, club and social activities, student media and radio, student health, safety, student grievances, student tools and resources, and student employee relations.

# **Article 4. The Student Regent and the Chair of the Coalition**

## **A. The Student Regent**

### **1. Selection**

The student regent shall be selected in the manner prescribed by law, thus having the authority to be the primary spokesperson for the students of the University of Alaska. The Coalition may conduct an advisory vote among the qualified candidates and forward the results to the governor of Alaska or their representative.

### **2. Duties**

The Student Regent is the primary contact for the Coalition on the UA Board of Regents and serves as an advisor to the Coalition.

## **B. The Chair of the Coalition**

### **1. Chair Selection**

The chair of the Coalition shall be selected by the Coalition from among the nominees submitted by Coalition members. The nominees shall be University of Alaska students in good academic standing at the first general meeting of the academic year. The chair's term shall be one academic year with elections taking place each fall. The chair will serve no more than two consecutive terms. A vice-chair shall be selected from among the voting Coalition members at the same time and shall serve as the chair in case of the chair's absence.

## **2. Duties**

The chair of the Coalition is the leader of the Coalition and presides over all meetings of the Coalition and represents the Coalition to the University of Alaska System, the UA Board of Regents, and to the public. The chair has the authority to set the meeting time, place, and agenda for all Coalition meetings.

## **Article 5. Officers**

### **A. Secretary**

The secretary shall:

- take minutes at each Coalition meeting and submit the minutes to the System Governance Office no later than one week after a meeting is held
- work with the chair of the Coalition and the executive officer in the System Governance Office to set the agenda for the next meeting. The secretary shall submit the agenda to the executive officer for posting to the System Governance website at least one week prior to the meeting
- perform other duties as assigned

### **B. Treasurer**

The treasurer shall:

- work with the System Governance Office to budget the Coalition's spending
- report the current balance to the Coalition as needed for future planning
- perform other duties as assigned

### **C. Historian**

The historian shall:

- take and distribute photos from events and act as a collection point for photos from other campuses and students attending the event
- maintain a historical timeline of activities and items that the Coalition is working on for students. (time capsule in essence)
- these items will be placed on the Google drive for System Governance Office use and access
- report activities of importance to Coalition members at monthly meetings
- perform other duties as assigned

Each officer shall work together as a team with the chair and vice chair to update the Coalition's Facebook page, Twitter account, or any other electronic media used for university systemwide communication.

## **Article 6. Representation**

The Coalition of Student Leaders shall have two seats on the System Governance Council: the chair of the Coalition, and one representative elected by the Coalition. Elections take place at the fall retreat.

The student governments within each university campus shall make every effort to build regional networks and interact with each other on a regular basis to resolve regional student issues and report to the Coalition at regular intervals to be determined by the Coalition.

## **Article 7. Meetings**

### **A. General Meetings**

General meetings should take place whenever systemwide student leadership conferences are held. All conference attendees may participate.

### **B. Open Meetings**

All meetings of the Coalition are open meetings in accordance with the Alaska Open Meetings Law.

### **C. Quorum**

A quorum for any meeting of the Coalition of Student Leaders shall be five of the voting members listed in Article 2, Section B.

## **Article 8. Roles**

### **A. Ad Hoc Committees**

The UA Board of Regents, the UA president, or the Coalition may establish a Coalition task force to consider complex system issues relating exclusively to student affairs. These ad hoc committees shall, in all cases, include governance representatives appointed by the Coalition or Coalition constituencies as appropriate. These ad hoc committees are a formal part of shared governance, and as such, are subject to the Alaska Open Meeting Law.

### **B. Coalition Office**

The Coalition office resides in the System Governance Office to organize and support its efforts. The office shall:

- create and maintain student leader directories
- distribute a statewide governance report, research statewide student issues as directed
- insure that student publications are distributed among all voting members

- provide staff for the Leadership Council, general meetings and ad hoc committees
- publish and distribute single-issue summaries as needed
- provide resources for grassroots mobilization and coordination

### **C. Grass Roots Organizing**

The Coalition may provide support, coordination, and resources for grass roots movements on any student issue and may also initiate such movements.

## **Article 9. Relief, Compensation, and Fear of Reprisals**

Students participating in Coalition activities will remain in compliance with the policies in their university's catalog when addressing the issue of missed classes. Students and their instructors will make a good faith effort to make alternative arrangements to make up any missed classes or work. The System Governance Office will issue a letter at the beginning of the academic year for Coalition members to distribute to students' instructors in advance notifying of any Coalition activities impacting class attendance.

Student governance officers not otherwise compensated shall be granted a three (3) credit tuition waiver upon each semester of successful service completed if funds are available. Students in governance are empowered to carry out their governance responsibilities to the best of their abilities without interference or fear of reprisal.

## **Article 10. Amendments**

### **A. Ratification**

This charter shall go into effect upon acceptance by a majority of the groups listed in Article 2, Section B, above and upon approval by the president of the University of Alaska and the UA Board of Regents.

### **B. Amendments**

Amendments to this charter shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the groups listed in Article 2, Section B.

## **Article 11. Handbook**

The Coalition shall annually submit a directory of Coalition members, a description of the Coalition and how it works, and the annual Coalition calendar to the executive officer for inclusion in the governance handbook. This handbook shall be posted online and publically available.

## **Article 12. Reports**

The Coalition shall prepare a report of activities. This report shall be submitted to the System Governance executive officer for compilation into a single annual report of governance activities for submission to the UA president and the UA Board of Regents as part of the agenda for regular UA Board of Regents' meetings as activities occur. The System Governance executive officer shall maintain Coalition communications electronically.



## Standing Rules

*Revised March 7, 2014*

- Rule 1.** All meetings of the Coalition will be audio conferenced or by online communication and distance technology.
- Rule 2.** The Coalition will follow Robert's Rules of Order.
- Rule 3.** The ability to vote, nominate, or make motions is restricted to those students, who are officially recognized by their student government, or in the absence of a student government, are appointed by their local administration to represent a rural campus, and to be confirmed by the Coalition with two-thirds vote.
- Rule 4:** Funded attendance for in-person meetings are restricted to campuses that have attended 75% of all meetings. This mandate restarts July 1.
- Rule 5.** The number of action items is limited to five per meeting and the number of information items to ten per meeting, except during the fall or spring conferences.
- Rule 6.** There shall be the following categories for awards and recognitions from the Coalition:
- Most Active Student Government
  - Volunteer Service to Alaska Students
  - Attendance Awards
  - Positive Attitude Award
  - Most Valuable Staff Member