

# UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

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## Faculty Alliance

Thursday, October 18, 2007, beginning at 6:30pm (moved to 7:50pm)  
Fairbanks site: Zach's Boardroom, Sophie Station Hotel and by audioconference

### Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:50pm in order to reach a quorum. *Note: Member Genie Babb, Chair, UAA Faculty Senate Graduate Affairs Board was on by audioconference near the original starting time but change in actual starting time precluded her from continuing. Anne Bridges, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate, was excused from the meeting.*

Present:

Bogdan Hoanca, President, UAA Faculty Senate  
Jon Genetti, President, UAF Faculty Senate  
Marsha Sousa, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate  
Shirish Patil, Past Alliance Chair and Past President, UAF Faculty Senate  
Cathy Connor, President, UAS Faculty Senate  
Jill Dumesnil, President-elect, UAS Faculty Senate  
Chuck Craig, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate  
Executive Officer: Pat Ivey

2. Adopt Agenda

MOTION: passed without objection

"The Faculty Alliance moves to adopt the agenda for the October 18, 2007 meeting. This action is effective October 18, 2007."

3. Approve August 25, 2007 and September 21, 2007 minutes

August 24, 2007

<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/minutes/2007/08-24.pdf>

September 21, 2007

<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/minutes/2007/09-21.pdf>

MOTION: passed without objection

"The Faculty Alliance moves to approve the minutes for the August 25, 2007 and September 21, 2007 meetings. This action is effective October 18, 2007."

4. Report from the Chair

Bogdan Hoanca reported that SAC has met and discussed expanding the core of general education requirements systemwide. It appears that Dan Julius, the new vice president for academic affairs, will develop policy at the statewide level and not get in the way of the MAUs. Vice President Julius is trying to get a student success steering committee together that hopefully will meet in early November

5. Vice President for Academic Affairs

Vice President Julius was unable to attend so no report was given. Vice President Julius is afforded a standing agenda item on the Alliance agenda.

6. Old Business

6.1 Change in ORP calculations – feedback on consultations

Genetti Report on Thomas meeting

<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/2007-09-27.Genetti-reportback.pdf>

Alliance minutes, August and September 2007 – see Attachment 3 above for links

The Alliance will ask President Hamilton about the change in ORP1 calculations.

6.2. External Administrative Review Status

<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2007-10-0205.MacTaggart-Schedule.pdf>

The Alliance members of the review team are generally happy with what was discussed. The decision making needs to remain between the chancellors and the president and not at the vice presidential level. The main areas of concern appeared to be human resources and IT.

6.3 Alliance Constitution and Bylaws Review

Current:

<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/Constitution/constitution.pdf>

<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/Constitution/bylaws.pdf>

Proposed Revisions

<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/Constitution/2007-10-18.cons-bylaws-amendments.pdf>

Provision for proxies should be included in the documents and the word “vax” should be stricken or exchanged. This discussion was considered the first reading of the changes. Next meeting will be the second reading.

6.4 Student Success Definition and Metric Discussion

Future Performance Measures

<http://www.alaska.edu/swbudget/pm/futurepm/details.xml>

Board of Regents Strategic Plan

<http://www.alaska.edu/bor/2009Plan/2009Plan.xml>

Student Success – Draft Vision

<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/StudentSuccess/2007-04-19-draftvision.pdf>

Student Success web (containing progress to date)

The Alliance and university need to continue the discussion over the next year and begin to identify areas we want to measure. Meanwhile the Alliance wants to get the data from the mandatory student survey. A lot of data collection will be required in the first couple years. Campuses and departments should develop lists of metrics. They should be compiled and let campuses and departments pick a set to gather data and be measured. These may change from year to year. What percentage of our students work on campus or off campus and how are they doing? Kuh said student success is higher among students who work on campus.

6.5 Other Old Business

There was no other old business.

7. New Business

7.1 Date and location of Systemwide Student Success Conference

It is hoped that the conference will occur in early November.

7.2 October 19 Retreat Discussion

The Alliance discussed topics to discuss at the October 19 retreat.

7.3 Other New Business

There was no other new business.

8. Reports - Administrative Councils

8.1 Systemwide Academic Council

Meeting Notes

<http://www.alaska.edu/swacad/files/SACmeetings/October9SACSummary.pdf>

SAC web page

<http://www.alaska.edu/swacad/sac.htm>

SAC is meeting next week in Juneau.

8.2 Human Resources Council

HR Council List

[http://www.alaska.edu/hr/forms/hr\\_council\\_list\\_2007.pdf](http://www.alaska.edu/hr/forms/hr_council_list_2007.pdf)

HR Council Projects

<http://www.alaska.edu/hr/hractivities/index.xml>

No verbal report was given.

8.3 Ed Tech Team – *Steve Hamilton*

<http://www.alaska.edu/ett/meetings.xml>

October 5, 2007 meeting – report

<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/2007-10-5-ETTreport.pdf>



A written report was received from Steve Hamilton.

- 8.4 Instructional Technology Council  
<http://www.alaska.edu/itc/meetings/>

ITC met on October 4 and is scheduled to meet next on November 1.

- 8.5 Research Advisory Council  
<http://www.alaska.edu/ett/meetings.xml>  
October 5, 2007 meeting – report  
<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/2007-10-5-ETTreport.pdf>

Doug Causey will redraft the memo and share it with the Alliance before sending it to the president. Federal initiative process is working pretty well according to Martha Stewart. Dan Julius wants to re-energize the statewide committee on research and trying to get Sean Parnell to chair it. Julius has \$275,000 to give out to the campuses. He wants transparency in the system and faculty fully engaged.

- 8.6 Business Council  
<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/2008-BusinessCouncilMeetingDates.pdf>

No report was given.

- 8.7 Student Services Council  
<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/2007-10-09.SSCAgenda.pdf>  
<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/2007-10-09.SSCproposed-poly-residency.pdf>

No report was given.

9. Senate Reports UAA UAF and UAS

UAF Faculty Senate hasn't met since September 21 and is next scheduled to meet on November 5. UAS Faculty Senate is just getting all of the course proposals and occupational endorsements completed. Lynn Shepherd revised the curriculum forms. The Faculty handbook needs revising. UAA Faculty Senate talked about the statewide review and the IDEA online student evaluation.

10. Agenda items for November 16, 2007 audio meeting 10:30am-noon

Send agenda items to Pat Ivey or Bogdan Hoanca ten days in advance of the meeting.

11. Other Items of Interest

There were no additional items of interest.

12. Comments - There were no additional comments.

13. Adjourn - The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:35pm.

**Subject:** Re: [Faculty]ORP motion  
**From:** Jon Genetti <ffjdg@uaf.edu>  
**Date:** Thu, 27 Sep 2007 11:06:50 -0800  
**To:** "Faculty" <ml-faculty@email.alaska.edu>

Update on ORP:

I met with Senator Thomas last Friday and I'll give my impressions:

The phrase "somewhat aware" probably applies. He said they (the senate members) knew of the cost savings, but were never told/didn't ask exactly how that would happen. His body language was that he was expecting this to happen.

As such, they didn't look into what the ORP/TRS documents said about it, but relied on UA's advice on how to structure to bill so UA could use the "participating employer rate" for the ORP.

He is not really sure on the best way to approach this and even made a comment that it would probably end up in court .

He did suggest that we expand on the motion (1-2 pages) with more specifics and really focus on the fairness issue and the promises made in the ORP. He also suggested that someone at UAA could talk with Senators Hollis French and Bill Wielechowski as well.

He did acknowledge the promise made by tying the ORP rate to the TRS rate.

I'm attaching minutes from the Feb 07 ARM (Alaska Retirement Mgmt Board) meeting where one member also pointed out the unfairness. Pat Pitney was representing UA at that meeting.

More as things develop ...

jon.

On Sep 20, 2007, at 1:25 PM, Jon Genetti wrote:

Whereas the legislative solution (SB 125) to the TRS pension liability resulted in the "employer contribution rate" being split into an "employer contribution rate" and "state make-up rate",

Whereas several documents produced by the State of Alaska and the University indicate a major portion of this liability resulted from the employer contribution rate being set too low for over a decade,

Whereas TRS I and II employees are receiving significantly more pension funding than ORP I employees hired on the same date,

Therefore, the Faculty Alliance moves that the University and the State of Alaska take actions to provide fair and equitable contribution rates to TRS and ORP I participants.

There are really 2 issues:

Going forward, the 12.56% TRS contribution rate is too low (even if TRS was currently fully funded) to provide the benefits promised to ORP I. It seems this was set based on it being the long-term average employer contribution rate to TRS. Since this resulted in the massive liability we have today, it would be hard to argue that it it based on actuarial analysis.

Whether there needs to be continued "make-up" contributions for the under contributions for the last 10 years and how that would be calculated.

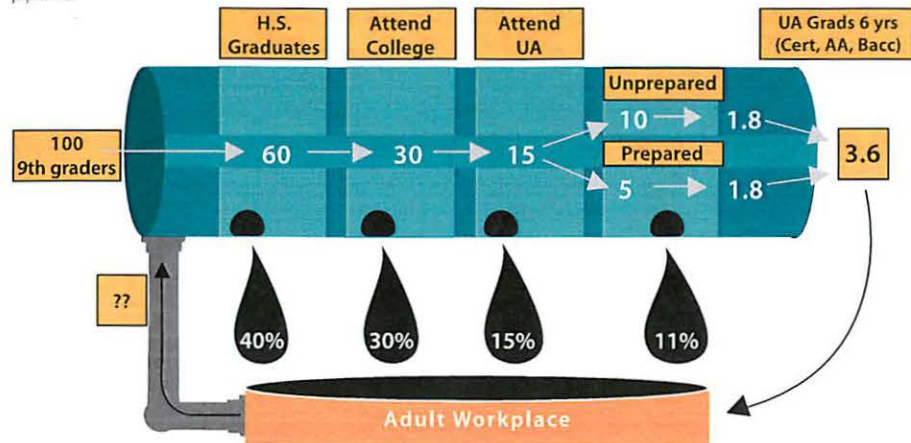
jon.

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## The Vision: A World-Class System of Education for Alaska's Future

To be successful in the on-going pursuit of the vision, Alaska must first look honestly and openly at the leaks in the education pipeline.



Alaska's future may be enhanced by a gas pipeline, but is dependent upon a quality education pipeline.

Currently only 3.6 students out of every 100 ninth graders in Alaska receive a post-secondary degree from UA within 6 years of their expected high school graduation date.

- 40% of 9<sup>th</sup> graders never graduate from high school.
- 30% never go on to post-secondary education – for most, this is the minimum requirement for economic advancement in today's society.
- 15% – half of those Alaskans going on to post-secondary education – attend out of state.
- 11% attend UA but do not graduate; two-thirds of entering students are not academically prepared for the rigors of college level work.
- As a result, only 3.6 students of the original 100 earn a degree from UA within the time it should take to graduate.

Exploring, understanding and responding to these leaks in the education pipeline are the first steps required to create the momentum for change - the momentum for investment and innovation that will lead to more opportunity for all Alaskans.

UA student success is one piece in a larger vision to create a world-class system of education for Alaska. Just as UA must make efforts to improve student success, K12 must graduate more students from high school and better prepare them for the rigors of college and work, parents and families must make a child's education a priority and the state must provide the resources and policy environment to enable continuous improvement. While rich in resources, Alaska's most important resource is the human capital that will define the future of our state. UA is committed to investing in all Alaskans, to allow them to reach their full potential.



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Many Traditions One Alaska

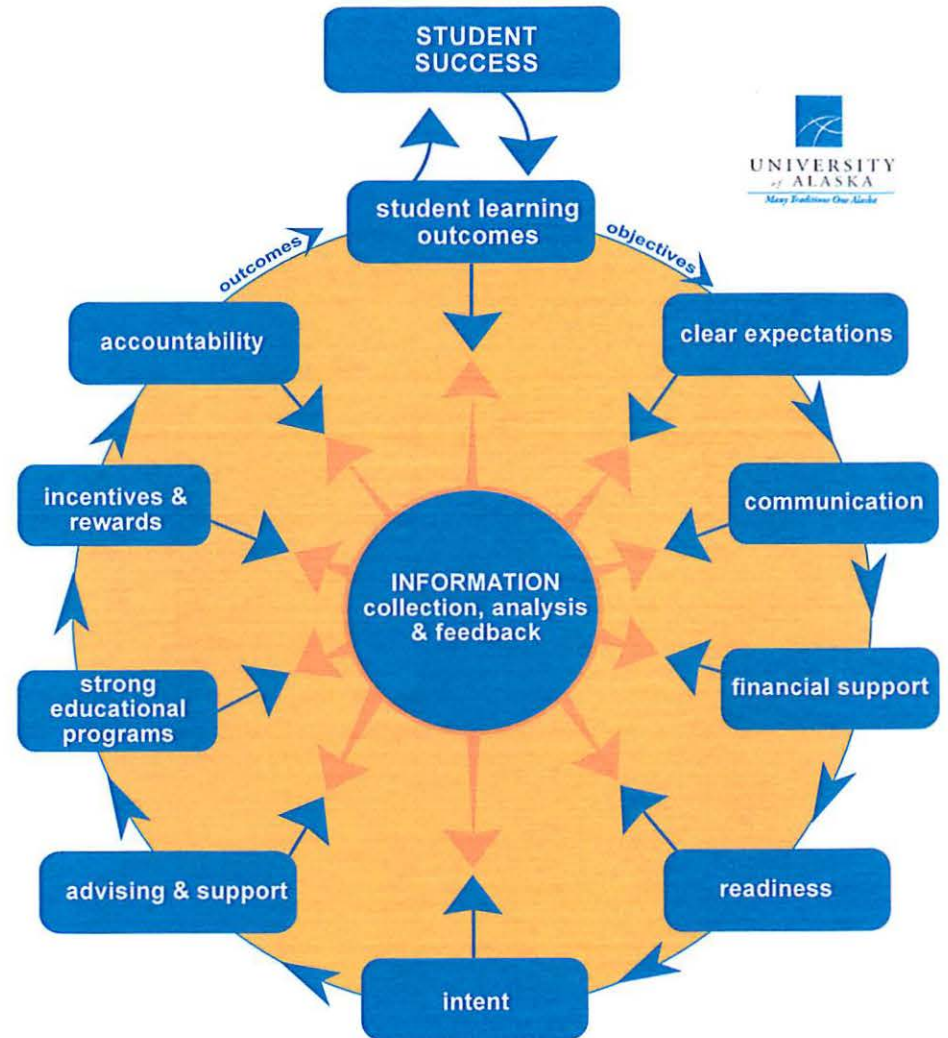
University of  
Alaska  
Student Success

Shirish Patil – UAF Associate Professor, 2007 Faculty Alliance Chair

Bogdan Hoanca – UAA Assistant Professor, UAA Faculty Alliance member

Chuck Craig – UAS Associate Professor, UAS Faculty Alliance member

Dave Veazey – Assistant Vice President, Statewide Academic Affairs, Director, K12 Outreach, UA President's Office



“Student success does not arise by chance.  
We must be intentional, proactive and intrusive.”

–Vince Tinto  
Syracuse University, Distinguished University Professor  
Chair, Higher Education Program



# Student Success

