

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

System Governance Council

<http://www.alaska.edu/governance/sgc/>

Tuesday, October 21, 2008

3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, by audio conference

Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Present:

Juella Sparks, Chair, System Governance Council and President, UAF Staff Council
Heather Swanson, Pro-Tem, System Governance Council; Chair, Staff Alliance;
President, UAS Staff Council
Megan Carlson for Kimberly Stanford, Past Member, Staff Alliance; President, UAA Assembly
Jason Davis, Member, Staff Alliance; President, Statewide Administration Assembly
Jill Dumesnil, Chair, Faculty Alliance; President, UAS Faculty Senate
Marsha Sousa, Member, Faculty Alliance; President, UAF Faculty Senate
Brandon Meston, President, Associated Students of UAF
Ruth Griess, President, Kenai River Campus Student Union
Stephanie Ashley, President, United Students of UAS, Juneau
Lucas Wilcox, President, Kachemak Bay Branch Student Association

Ex-officio Members

Joe Hayes, Executive Director, UAF Alumni Association
Keni Campbell for Lynne Johnson, Executive Director, Development, UAS Alumni Association

Guests:

Mark R. Hamilton, President, University of Alaska
Dan Julius, Vice President for Academic Affairs
Michelle Rizk, Associate Vice President, Budget
Saichi Oba, Assistant Vice President, Student and Enrollment Management.

2. Adopt Agenda

MOTION: passed

"The System Governance Council moves to adopt the agenda for the October 21, 2008 meeting as amended. This action is effective October 21, 2008."

3. Approve September 22, 2008 minutes

MOTION: passed

"The System Governance Council moves to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2008 meeting. This action is effective October 21, 2008."

3. President Hamilton

President Hamilton talked about the budget deficit brought about because of loss of interest income;

4. Report from the Chair - Juella Sparks

Sparks reported on her joint governance leader orientation with Heather Swanson. As part of the orientation, they met with members of the president's cabinet. Meetings were very productive.

5. University Budget Outlook

Michelle Rizk advised that the Board of Regents capital budget request includes, in order, renewal and renovation, the UAF life sciences building, the UAS Auke Lake road, then the UAA sports arena, then the research vessel. K-12 outreach leads the increment priorities in the operating budget under student success initiatives. She met with the Governor's Office of Management and Budget September 25. The university budget was very well received.

6. Constitutional Change to Seat Alumni as Voting Members

MOTION: PASSED with one abstention

"The System Governance Council moves to approve the changes to the Council constitution to seat alumni representatives as voting members. This action is effective October 21, 2008."

7. Initiatives Around the System

7.1 Advocacy

Attachment 7.1

7.1.2. Governor Postcard Campaign – Status – Megan Carlson for Steve Rollins, UAA Faculty and Staff Association, and Paloma Harbour, Statewide Administration Assembly, ASUAF GRD Michael Schulte., Stephanie Ashley, United Students of UAS, Karl Wing, President,

Headed up by the UAA Faculty and Staff Association which supplies stamped postcards ansjr1@uaa.alaska.edu. He does try to track postcards so if you are doing something on your postcards and 400 have gone out this year and this includes what SAA is doing as well. Joe thought that in an election year he didn't see what impact this would have. This is not enough but not the only advocacy pieces we will be doing. Not a lot of people will actively seek out their legislators. The students at UAA have hosted a candidate fair, and the UAF student government has hosted one forum and is about to host another.

7.1.3 Juneau Advocacy Activities: Staff Alliance and Coalition of Student Leaders Heather and Brandon, Stephanie Ashley, United Students of UAS in Juneau

Student legislative conference sponsored by the United Students of UAS is scheduled to be held in Juneau February 21-24 and the Staff Alliance retreat is February 25 and 26 also in Juneau.

7.2 Sustainability Attachment 7.2

UAA is hiring a sustainability director. The Coalition has this as one of its initiatives. The Kachemak Bay Branch Student Association in Homer introduced a bike program to reduce the carbon footprint.

7.3 Community Service and Awareness

UAS has a day of caring led by the student alumni association. UAA Classified Council has one of its goals more service. UAS has a partnership with Big Brothers, Big Sisters to do mentoring in schools. Jonathan Anderson is lead for the Faculty Alliance and will lead the discussions at the Alliance retreat next week. UAF Faculty Senate is heading up a similar effort at UAF. ASUAF has a campaign to increase opportunities for volunteerism and service. Lucas Wilcox, at Homer is doing group community service by going to the museum and cleaning up trails

7.4 Need Based Financial Aid Attachment 7.4

Saichi Oba is the point for need based financial aid.

Saichi Oba said he was here to listen to members. Need based aid is about \$800,000 among three MAUs. Haven't been able to disburse all of it. Largest need based is ACPE, about \$500,000 to students. WE look to increasing to the Smart Grants et al, designed for freshmen and sophomores. Can increase the state program substantially; the governor put about \$3 million into ACPE at the last minute but ACPE has not been able to distribute this because it came after the awards cut off date. This year ACPE will try to distribute more and has requested more from the state. Hamilton believes this is a state responsible. Joe Hayes was at a loss to understand why we need based financial aid because we already have the PFD. Back in the 80s, we had loan forgiveness. Juella saved her daughter's pfd's and they only last one year. (FIND THE DATA AND SEND IT TO JOE). In the rest of the US, funding is mostly grants augmented by loans. In Alaska, it is mostly loans augmented by grants. UA is still priced mid range in the west in terms of affordability. This is an investment in a young person's life. It is clear that you can't go to school by bootstrapping it. Students wind up not being able to put together a loan package because it's too complicated. They reduce their credits per semester or drop out. Traditional students not non trads that make the conscious decision to stretch it out ten years. If the legislature at least funds the Alaska Advantage grant.

Dan Julius, Jill Dumesnil and Megan Carlson

Megan Carlson and Jill Dumesnil are on the Student Success Steering Committee and Dan Julius leads it. This is a systemwide committee to identify budget priorities and determine what the MAUs and the system determined are priorities. The budget has now been put together. The group will meet in 2009 but have to wait until the budget comes out. Practical aspect is that it touches everyone in the institution. No students are on the committee at present. Getting student input has been problematic. Students were encouraged to seek out their MAU task forces..

The meeting was adjourned at 5:08pm. All other agenda items will be considered at the next meeting.