

# UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

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## System Governance Council

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

Monday, September 22, 2008  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm, by audio conference

## Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order, Roll Call and Introductions  
<http://sygov.swadm.alaska.edu/Home/who/council/>

### *Present:*

Todd Marshall-Closson, Chair, System Governance Council, Chair,  
Coalition of Student Leaders, and Vice President, Kenai River Campus  
Student Union  
Heather Swanson, Pro-Tem, System Governance Council; Chair, Staff Alliance;  
President, UAS Staff Council  
Jason Davis, Member, Staff Alliance; President, Statewide Administration  
Assembly  
Juella Sparks, Vice Chair, Staff Alliance; President, UAF Staff Council  
Jill Dumesnil, Chair, Faculty Alliance; President, UAS Faculty Senate  
Marsha Sousa, Member, Faculty Alliance; President, UAF Faculty Senate  
Anne Bridges, Member, Faculty Alliance; President, UAA 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:* Joe Hayes, Executive Director, UAF Alumni Association

Pat Ivey, Executive Officer, System Governance

### *Guests:*

Bogdan Hoanca, Past Chair, Faculty Alliance and Past President,  
UAA Faculty Senate  
Megan Carlson, Past Chair, Staff Alliance, Past Member of the System  
Governance Council and current President UAA Classified Council  
Dan Julius, Vice President for Academic Affairs

2. Adopt Agenda

**MOTION:** passed without objection

“The System Governance Council moves to adopt the agenda for the September 22, 2008 meeting. This action is effective September 22, 2008.”

3. Orientation

<http://sygov.swadm.alaska.edu/council/handbook/default.html>

Pat Ivey gave a brief history of the Council.

4. President Hamilton –State of the University

President Hamilton’s plane was late so he was unable to attend the meeting.

5. Initiatives Around the System

5.1 Advocacy

*Budget Outlook and New Planning Process*

<http://www.alaska.edu/swbudget/budget-planning/>

*Budget Planning Group Leads*

<http://www.alaska.edu/swbudget/budget-planning/fy10-statewide-planning-g/PlanningGroupLeadsAndFacilitatorRevised.pdf>

*Alaska State Legislature*

<http://w3.legis.state.ak.us/>

*Alaska State Chamber of Commerce*

<http://www.alaskachamber.com>

Pat Ivey described advocacy efforts of the various governance groups and where to find information. The Coalition of Student Leaders has a student legislative conference in Juneau February 21-24 during which student leaders visit legislators. The Staff Alliance members have a spring retreat February 25 and 26 in Juneau and also visit legislators. Alumni associations partner with students for legislative visits and conduct an ice cream social in the House Speakers Chambers during the student legislative conference. The Staff Alliance also initiated an advocacy group which has been expanded to the other groups. The advocacy committee works with the UAA Faculty and Staff Association to conduct a postcard campaign to the governor in support of the UA budget. Students and alumni play a key role in their communities, at their chambers of commerce and other spheres of influence and possible support. Most legislators are either alumni, have taken classes, or members of their family have taken classes at the university. Several student leaders and student regents are working or have worked in the legislator and even been or are legislators themselves.

Vice President Julius described the new budget planning process designed to begin to involve academic program key individuals across the system in specific key areas such as health, engineering and energy to name a few.

5.2 Sustainability



<http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/sustainability/>  
<http://www.alaska.edu/ipy/events/uasspring.xml>  
<http://www.uaf.edu/ces/SARE/>

Campus sustainability efforts were highlighted. A formal sustainability office has been established at UAA and they are looking for a director. Lots of discussion has occurred in the past few days about energy sustainability and the fuel oil crises in the rural areas.

5.3 Community Service and Awareness  
<http://www.servicenation.org>

Community service and awareness has become a national issue led by an advocacy group called Service Nation, and has been taken up by UA student leaders across Alaska. The national community service awareness day is September 24. Service Nation also held a presidential candidate forum on service.

5.4 Need Based Financial Aid  
<http://www.alaska.edu/foundation/scholarships/>  
*Loans* <http://alaskadvantage.state.ak.us/page/234>  
*Grants* <http://alaskadvantage.state.ak.us/page/233>  
*Current Need Based Financial Aid* <http://alaskadvantage.state.ak.us/page/276>  
*Proposed Need Based Financial Aid*  
[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_bill.asp?session=25&bill=SB302](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_bill.asp?session=25&bill=SB302)  
[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_bill.asp?session=25&bill=HB397](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_bill.asp?session=25&bill=HB397)  
[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_bill.asp?session=25&bill=HB403](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_bill.asp?session=25&bill=HB403)

The lack of need based financial aid for Alaska has been a Coalition of Student Leaders concern for several years. Last year, the Coalition drafted legislation which was introduced late last session and received a couple of committee hearings before the end of the session, and leveraged a \$2.5 million increment in the ACPE budget for need based financial aid. Legislators stand ready to pre-file the legislation this session.

The Staff Alliance and the Faculty Alliance have both voiced their support for the Coalition's efforts.

5.5 Student Success  
<http://gov.alaska.edu/council/2008-04-10.studentsuccessreport.pdf>

The student success initiative was originated two years ago by the chair of the Staff Alliance, and quickly joined by the Faculty Alliance, the provosts, the president and the Board of Regents. It continues through a task force guided by the Vice President for Academic Affairs. The focus on the need to address key areas of concern such as access, learning communities advising and K-12 outreach have resulted in detailed budget increments for these areas in the FY10 budget.

5.6 Academic Master Plan  
<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-08-19AMP.pdf>

The external review report evinced some interest in establishing a systemwide master academic plan. An outline of what the process for developing a master plan might look like has been drafted for review by wide review prior to implementation.

5.7 Other Initiatives

No other initiatives were discussed.

6. Election of Officers  
<http://gov.alaska.edu/council/constitution/>

**MOTION:** Passed by acclamation

“The System Governance Council moves to elect Juella Sparks as Chair of the System Governance Council for 2008-2009. This action is effective September 28, 2008.”

**MOTION:** Passed by acclamation

“The System Governance Council moves to re-elect Heather Swanson as Pro-Tem of the System Governance Council for 2008-2009. This action is effective September 22, 2008.”

7. Constitutional Amendment to Seat Alumni  
as Voting Members 2<sup>nd</sup> reading

**MOTION:** passed without objection

“The System Governance Council moves the proposal to move alumni seats from ex-officio to voting seats to 3<sup>rd</sup> reading and action at the next System Governance Council meeting. This action is effective September 22, 2008

8. Clarification of the Definition of Governance  
*03.01.01, Faculty, Staff and Student Governance*  
<http://www.alaska.edu/bor/policy-regulations/>  
*MacTaggart Report – references to governance*  
<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-02-12.mactaggart-study-final.pdf>

With the proliferation of administrative councils and committees and the tendency for these groups to identify themselves as governance bodies has led to a great deal of confusion; hence the move on the part of traditional governance as defined in Regents Policy and University Regulation 03.01.01 to call for

- \* clarification of the definition of governance within the UA system,
- \* clarification as to whether the administrative councils and committees are part of the UA governance structure and if so
  - Which administrative councils and committees are governance?
  - Who are the members of each of these groups?
  - What is the mission and role of these groups (decision making or advisory), and
  - Where is that information posted in accordance with the

## Alaska Open Meetings Law?

If the administrative councils and committees are identified as traditional governance groups, there is nothing wrong with that, but shouldn't there be a Regent's Policy and University Regulation that applies to administrative governance similar to Regent's Policy and University Regulation 03.01.01?

### 9. System Governance Reports

#### 9.1 Faculty Alliance

The Faculty Alliance met September 12 and discussed the draft master academic plan, the distance education legislative audit, sustainability, need-based financial aid (which the Alliance supports) and civic engagement

#### 9.2 Staff Alliance

The Staff Alliance meets on September 23. Agenda items include salary and compensation, educational leave and release time, tuition waiver regulation changes to include non-credit courses, supervisory training, and student success

#### 9.3 Coalition of Student Leaders

The Coalition of Student Leaders met in retreat with President Hamilton in Anchorage on October 20. Todd Marshall Closson was elected Coalition Speaker, the Coalition's equivalent of chair. Karl Wing of Anchorage was elected pro-tem. Need based financial aid, sustainability and community service top the list of Coalition issues this year.

#### 9.4 Alumni Associations

The UAF alumni association homecoming is September 25-28. The alumni luncheon is on September 23.

### 10. Local Governance Reports

#### 10.1 UAA

The members of the Union of Students of UAA are working on forums with legislative candidates, community outreach and volunteerism.

Kachemak Bay Branch Student Association is focusing on establishing a bicycle program

#### 10.2 UAF

Associated Students of UAF senate is working on the October student leadership conference and raising the student government fee to \$45.00.

The UAF Staff Council participated in the chancellor's convocation, non retention, compensation, the new tuition waiver for noncredit courses and the

lack of certified professional manager courses. The Staff Council also wants to start a political action committee.

The UAF Faculty Senate is reviewing the core curriculum; working with others on sustainability, child care, need based financial aid, student success and the reallocation of senate membership.

#### 10.3 UAS

The United Students of UAS-Juneau is working on recycling, student success and sustainability.

The UAS Staff Council is focusing on recycling and the lack of daycare in Juneau

The UAS Faculty senate meets month, participates in a sustainability committee with staff and student leaders and is particularly interested in faculty research given the recent academic reorganization to a teaching-led campus and the impact of that on UAS faculty ability to do research.

#### 10.4 Statewide

The Statewide Administration Assembly is working on Thanksgiving and Christmas potlucks, canned food drive and adopting a family through Love, Inc

#### 10. Approve Calendar of Meetings, 2008-2009

The Council determined that it would next meet on October 20 or 21 depending on members' availability, and that the calendar for the rest of the year would be determined at that time.

#### 11. Comments

There were no additional comments.

#### 12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:45pm.