

Board of Regents
Meeting of the Full Board
August 31, 2023
Juneau, Alaska

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Full Board Actions

1. Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center Philanthropy Campaign Plan

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center Philanthropy Campaign Plan as presented. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

2. Approval of Academic Degree Recipients

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the list of degree recipients for the summer and fall of 2022 and the spring of 2023. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

3. Approval of a Revision to Regents' Policy 10.02.04 - Academic Unit Establishment, Major Revision, and Elimination

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the revisions to Regents' Policy 10.02.040 - Academic Unit Establishment, Major Revision, and Elimination to add the School of Justice and Human Services and the School of Preventative and Therapeutic Sciences to the University of Alaska Anchorage College of Health. The motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

4. Approval of an Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology at the University of Alaska Anchorage

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves an Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology at the University of Alaska Anchorage. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

5. Approval to Authorize the Purchase and Ownership of Equity Interests in Entities Pursuant to the University's Implementation of the State Small Business Credit Initiative

PASSED

“The Board of Regents authorizes the purchase and ownership of equity interests in entities pursuant to the university's implementation of the State Small Business Credit Initiative. The chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage, through their designees, is authorized to take all appropriate and necessary actions to purchase and manage such interests pursuant to the terms of the various State Small Business Credit Initiative program documents and agreements. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

6. UAF 2023 Campus Master Plan for UAF College of Rural and Community Development and Community and Technical College

PASSED

“The Board of Regents adopts the University of Alaska Fairbanks Campus Master Plan for the UAF College of Rural and Community Development and Community and Technical College, as presented. This Campus Master Plan will supersede any previous Campus Master Plans for the two colleges. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

7. Approval to Revise the Board of Regents' May 2024 Meeting Dates

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves revising its May 2024 meeting dates from May 23-24, 2024 to May 22-23, 2024. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

8. Approval of Revisions to the Industrial Security Resolution

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the Industrial Security Resolution as revised, to reflect the changes to members of the board and the University of Alaska Southeast chancellor and authorizes the chair and secretary of the board to sign the resolution. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

9. Approval of Naming a Facility at the University of Alaska Southeast

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves naming the Auke Bay Integrated Science Building at the University of Alaska Southeast as the Aak'w Ta Hit. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

10. Approval of a Resolution of Appreciation for Michael Ciri

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the resolution of appreciation for Michael Ciri. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

WHEREAS, after nearly 40 years of dedicated service to the University of Alaska Southeast, Michael Ciri, Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services and Director of IT Services, announced plans to retire after the 2023 fall semester; and

WHEREAS, over time Michael Ciri advanced from a student employee to a senior administrator, including working as a student employee, adjunct faculty member, campus mascot, technical specialist, department head, and vice chancellor, always maintaining a cheerful humor and passion for the mission of the university; and

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WHEREAS, Michael Ciri oversaw significant projects on the Juneau campus and was critical in administering the financing and construction of the John R. Pugh Freshman Residence Hall and the new Integrated Sciences Building; and

WHEREAS, during Michael Ciri's tenure, the University of Alaska System faced some daunting challenges, but his leadership was instrumental in helping staff and faculty to understand the budget challenges facing the university and finding solutions to remain stable and responsive to the needs of Southeast Alaska students, communities, industries, and partners; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ciri coordinated the pandemic response for the University of Alaska Southeast, championed vaccinations and safety measures, counseled university leadership on mitigation strategies, and regularly communicated with the University of Alaska Southeast community throughout the pandemic, earning him the nickname "Captain Covid" and his commitment to campus safety and listening to the concerns of faculty, staff, and students earned a commendation from the University of Alaska Southeast Faculty Senate for including faculty voices in the medically informed, collaborative, and community-driven response to the unprecedented challenges of COVID-19; and

WHEREAS, as an early adopter of modern data networks, Michael Ciri designed and installed the first University of Alaska campus-wide fiber optic data network in 1991, connected the first University of Alaska extended campuses to the Internet in 1993, and established Alaska's first campus-wide WIFI networks in 1999; and

WHEREAS, a computer programmer at heart, Michael Ciri often provided coding for special data projects, including the creation of the University of Alaska ELMO Self-Service portal, the employee COVID tracker and human resources queries, and the University of Alaska Southeast ePortfolio System and its Online Web Portal; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ciri is a lifetime member of the University of Alaska Southeast Alumni and Friends Association and a longtime donor to any cause the University of Alaska Southeast needed; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ciri personally understands the importance of a welcoming path to higher education for those with a General Education Diploma, and, along with his partner Jeri Cary, created a scholarship fund for General Education Diploma Achievers for University of Alaska Southeast students, which was fully endowed during Giving Day 2023 and is the University of Alaska System's first scholarship for General Education Diploma achievers; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ciri is active in University of Alaska Southeast activities, from parades to festivals, Halloween costume contests and ugly sweaters, Polar Plunge, Spring Fest dunk tank, and volunteering on the Day of Service, he brought passion and enthusiasm to all aspects of University of Alaska Southeast life; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ciri is highly regarded for his baking skills, and his homemade loaves of bread and desserts were sought-after items for alumni fundraisers, campus events, and celebrations; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ciri is a proud, three-time graduate of the University of Alaska System, receiving an associate degree in 1988, a Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts in 1994, and a Master of Public Administration from the University of Alaska Southeast in 2007; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ciri also holds the record for the most consecutive years living in student housing and is in the University of Alaska Southeast mascot hall of fame as the original "Spike" the whale; and

WHEREAS, Michael Ciri assures his colleagues his commitment to the University of Alaska Southeast is as strong as ever; Southeast Alaska is his home, and his house is only a 15-minute walk from the campus, and that he will find ways to continue to support the wonderful institution, and to provide baked goods; and

WHEREAS, whatever retirement travels, craft projects, hiking trips, and world exploring that Michael and Jeri have before them, one can expect continued greatness from such a talented, creative, and enthusiastic person.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska officially recognizes and thanks Michael Ciri for his service to the University of Alaska Southeast and its students and knows that he will be sincerely missed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be appropriately engrossed and conveyed to Michael Ciri with a copy incorporated into the official minutes of the August 31, 2023, meeting of the Board of Regents.

11. Approval of a Resolution of Appreciation for Michele Stalder

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the resolution of appreciation for Michele Stalder. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

WHEREAS, Michele Stalder has served the University of Alaska Fairbanks with passion, dedication, and distinction for more than 40 years, from 1981 to 2023; and

WHEREAS, Michele Stalder served in executive, administrative, and staff positions, continuously contributing to the development of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Community and Technical College and working to ensure college accessibility for all; and

WHEREAS, Michele Stalder was instrumental in the initial accreditation process for the Tanana Valley Community College and in merging it with the University of Alaska

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Fairbanks to ultimately become the University of Alaska Fairbanks Community and Technical College; and

WHEREAS, Michele Stalder became the dean at the University of Alaska Fairbanks Community and Technical College in 2010, where her commitment to the core mission of community-driven education has been unwavering; and

WHEREAS, Michele Stalder genuinely cared about each individual student and their success and constantly worked toward breaking down barriers to education for those in need; and

WHEREAS, Michele Stalder conceptualized Community and Technical College's one-stop service where students take academic placement tests, receive advising, register, apply for financial aid, and pay fees all in one location; and she pioneered dual enrollment and credit for high school students; and

WHEREAS, Michele Stalder's focus on building the university's workforce development capacity resulted in strong industry partnerships and support for students' educational goals and industry needs, and she worked diligently with local businesses and industry to create such partnerships; and

WHEREAS, having the vision for a program and getting the right people to develop was Michele's way of creating programs that provide direct job opportunities for students, and she has made a difference for many Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, to continue Michele's legacy of supporting students, the University of Alaska Fairbanks Community and Technical College faculty and staff established the Community and Technical College Dean Michele Stalder Endowed Scholarship, which will assist students in perpetuity, allowing them to pursue their academic goals; and

WHEREAS, one of Michele Stalder's favorite sayings is the University of Alaska Fairbanks Community and Technical College is the place to be, and she helped make it the place to be through her strong leadership and example; and

WHEREAS, Michele Stalder received the 2020 Bernice M. Joseph Education Advocate of the Year Award from the Greater Fairbanks Chamber of Commerce in recognition of her focus on building the university's workforce development capacity, strong industry partnerships as well as support for students; educational goals, and industry needs; and

WHEREAS, Chancellor White named Michele Stalder dean emeritus of the Community and Technical College in 2023 in recognition of her more than 40 years of exceptional service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska officially recognizes and thanks Michele Stalder for her service to the University

of Alaska Fairbanks, the community college mission, its students, and the State of Alaska, and knows that she will be sincerely missed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be appropriately engrossed and conveyed to Michele Stalder with a copy incorporated into the official minutes of the August 31, 2023, meeting of the Board of Regents.

12. Approval of Honorary Degrees and Meritorious Service Awards for Fall 2023 and Spring 2024

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the list of nominees for honorary doctoral degrees as proposed for commencement exercises in the fall 2023 and spring of 2024, and authorizes Chancellors Palmer, Parnell and White to invite the approved nominees and announce their acceptance. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the list of nominees for meritorious service awards as proposed. This motion is effective August 31, 2023.”