

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

1. Individuals Present

Regents Present:

Ralph Seekins, Chair
Karen Perdue, Vice Chair
Dale Anderson, Secretary
Scott Jepsen, Treasurer
Seth Church
Joey Crum
Paula Harrison
Mary K. Hughes
Dennis L. Michel
Albiona Selimi

Pat Pitney, Chief Executive Officer and President, University of Alaska

Others Present:

Aparna Palmer, Chancellor, University of Alaska Southeast
Sean Parnell, Chancellor, University of Alaska Anchorage
Daniel M. White, Chancellor, University of Alaska Fairbanks
Matthew Cooper, General Counsel
Luke Fulp, Chief Finance Officer
Paul Layer, Vice President for Academics, Students and Research
Michelle Rizk, Vice President for University Relations and Chief Strategy, Planning and Budget Officer
Brandi Berg, Executive Officer, Board of Regents
Keni Campbell, Assistant, Board of Regents
Jennifer Ward, Faculty Alliance Chair
Ronnie Houchin, Staff Alliance Chair

2. Opening Items

A. Call to Order

Chair Seekins called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m. on Thursday, August 31, 2023.

B. Adoption of Agenda

PASSED

"The Board of Regents adopts the agenda as presented. This motion is effective August 31, 2023."

Motion by Karen Perdue, second by Joey Crum.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

3. Reports

A. Governance Reports

Jennifer Ward, Faculty Alliance Chair, welcomed new board members and Chancellor Palmer and reported on the following topics: faculty activities during the summer months, including attending collaborative enriching seminars, presenting at conferences, hosting community workshops, securing grants, partnering with high school teachers on dual enrollment curriculum and attending cultural events in rural Alaska and noted the faculty's work over the summer enriches student's classroom experiences. (video timestamp 05:43)

Ronnie Houchin, Staff Alliance Chair, introduced himself and shared his work at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, thanked his colleagues for supporting students and President Pitney and the board for rebounding things at UA, and

reported on the following topics: the FY25 budget, deferred maintenance, consideration to prioritize the UA workforce to retain qualified staff, continued investment in staff, the \$120K staff development fund, lifting the cap on the tuition waiver and congratulated the Staff Make Students Count winners. (video timestamp 12:53)

B. Chancellors' Reports

Chancellor Parnell thanked regents for visiting the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) and provided an update on the following topics: the history of UAA athletic teams, the start of the fall semester and busyness on campus, a community townhall event with freshman students, employee longevity awards, the retirement of Mat-Su College Director Dr. Talis Colberg, enrollment, a commitment to providing an affordable education at UAA by holding tuition steady, student residence halls are full to capacity, community engagement events and UAA alumni involvement in the state, the nation and beyond. (video timestamp 22:34)

Chancellor White stated appreciation for the relationships with his fellow chancellors and provided an update on the following topics: the importance of the board meetings and his leadership's attendance at these meetings, emerging leaders at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) and creating a depth of leadership, the start of the fall semester, student residence halls are full to capacity, students attending UAF from 65 different countries, reviewed the budget needs, revenues, return on investment, noting deferred maintenance is a key investment, compared UAF tuition to peer universities, and how R1 status could reduce reliance on state funding. (video timestamp 29:36)

Chancellor Palmer thanked board members for touring the campus and provided an update on the following topics: enrollment, an overview of the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) student body, reviewed programs that have increased enrollment, recent hiring of a new dean, her goals for UAS, which are being the leader in student access and completion, to strengthen and grow partnerships in Southeast and around Alaska, to expand the visibility of UAS, to grow leadership in key disciplines and excellence in undergraduate education and shared UAS professors' involvement with students at each of its campuses. (video timestamp 40:25)

C. President's Presentation and Report

President Pitney provided an update on the following topics: spring 2023 semester enrollment growth, stability, confidence, trust, and working together, leveraging existing resources across the system to bring programs that match workforce and state needs, budget highlights, compensation increases, empowering staff, deferred maintenance within the budget as an area of stabilization and presented the "Staff Make Students Count" awards to Katie Sill, University of Alaska Southeast, Robyn Callahan, University of Alaska Anchorage, Cody Rogers, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and Dustin Bawcom, University of Alaska System Office. (video timestamp 1:07:40)

4. Board Initiatives / Goals and Measures Discussion

A. Board Initiatives / Goals and Measures Discussion

Board members, President Pitney, and administrative staff discussed the board initiatives and goals and measures. (video timestamp 1:44:34)

B. Establishment of an Ad Hoc Committee on Board Initiatives

No action was taken; the board scheduled special full board meetings for September 21 and October 12, 2023 to discuss board initiatives.

5. University of Alaska Fairbanks Tier 1 Research Status Update

A. University of Alaska Fairbanks Tier 1 Research Status Update

Chancellor White provided an update on the University of Alaska Fairbanks Tier 1 Research status. (video timestamp 2:08:24)

6. Approval of the Troth Yeddha' Fundraising Campaign

Note for the record: Regent Michele asked whether regents with Alaska Native heritage would have a conflict in voting on the plan, and Chair Seekins indicated there would be no conflict on that basis. Regent Perdue reiterated a prior disclosure regarding the involvement of Bettisworth North, for which her husband continues working part-time, in the architectural and design components of the proposed Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center and felt she should not vote. Chair Seekins indicated while he did not see that this circumstance presented an actual conflict as to the philanthropic campaign, he would respect her decision to abstain.

A. 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."

Motion by Scott Jepsen, second by Dale G Anderson.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

Abstain: Karen Perdue

POLICY CITATION

According to the Regents' Policy R05.14.110, any major fundraising effort aiming to raise \$5 million or more must be approved by the President and forwarded to the Board of Regents for approval.

RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION

Vice Chancellor Charlene Stern and Executive Director Samara Taber presented the Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center Philanthropy Campaign Plan and discussed fundraising strategies. (video timestamp 02:24:07)

The Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center is the pathway forward to advance the many goals of the Alaska Native Success Initiative and UAF's 2023-2027 strategic plan. In order to meet current and projected needs, UAF launched the Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center Initiative. The primary purpose of this Philanthropy Campaign Plan is to serve as a shared vision and a road map to coordinate fundraising efforts for the Initiative through completion. The campaign goal is to raise \$53 million over a three-year period, beginning in September 2023 and ending on December 31, 2026. The objectives of this campaign are to:

- Address historical and contemporary educational inequities,
- Create spaces to elevate Indigenous knowledge systems in research and academics within UAF,
- Invest in Indigenous students' success and ability to excel in today's global economy, including STEM and other high-demand career fields,
- Create a living, lasting, and functional space for Alaska Native cultures and languages to thrive within UAF,
- Enhance the educational experience of all students with a focus on Alaska Native students at UAF and
- Improve recruitment, retention, and outcomes of Alaska Native and rural students by transforming the university to provide a more inclusive and culturally relevant experience.

7. Budget and Tuition Discussion and Initial Review of FY25 Operating and Capital Budget Requests

A. UA Budget and Tuition Discussion

Board members, President Pitney and administrative staff discussed the UA budget, including academic year 2025 tuition. (video timestamp 2:44:36)

B. Initial Review of FY25 Operating and Capital Budget Requests and the 6-Year Capital Improvement Plan

POLICY CITATION

Regents' Policy 05.01.01.A. – Budget Policy states, "The budget of the university represents an annual operating plan stated in fiscal terms. All budgetary requests shall be adopted by the board prior to submittal to the Office of the Governor or the legislature."

RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION

President Pitney and Vice President Rizk led a discussion on UA's FY25 Operating and Capital Budgets and the 6-year Capital Improvement Plan. The operating budget discussion provided the board with considerations for the FY25 operating budget. The capital budget presented the deferred maintenance strategy options and 6-year capital improvement plan priorities.

8. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

PASSED

"The Board of Regents goes into executive session to discuss matters the immediate knowledge of which would clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the university and that are required by law to be confidential, and to receive legal advice. This motion is effective August 31, 2023."

Motion by Seth Church, second by Joey Crum.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

The Board of Regents went into executive session at 12:51 p.m. and concluded an executive session at 1:50 p.m. Alaska Time in accordance with AS 44.62.310 to discuss matters that clearly have an adverse effect on the finances of the university and that are required by law to be confidential, and to receive legal advice. The session included members of the Board of Regents, President Pitney, General Counsel Cooper, and such other university staff members as the president designated and lasted 59 minutes.

9. Committee Reports and New Business

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

In addition to the action items, the committee received an update on institutional and specialized program accreditation, academic program review, the modernization of the student information system, an overview of course transfers, an update on dual enrollment and heard enrollment reports. (video timestamp 04:14:24)

Note for the record: Committee agenda item 3.D. Authorization for the University of Alaska Southeast and Outer Coast College to Formulate an Agreement was moved to a discussion item; no action was taken.

B. Audit and Finance Committee

In addition to the action item, the committee heard comments from the external auditor, received the state small business credit initiative report, a financial report, the UA System Office of Audit and Compliance Services Fiscal Year 2023 Annual Report, the audit and compliance status report and an update on enterprise risk management.

C. Facilities and Land Management Committee

In addition to the action item, the committee received the fourth quarter land management status report and the land grant initiative report, reviewed the schedule of projects for potential board approval, heard an update on the UAA Alaska Leaders Archives/Consortium Library Renovation, discussed contract policy, held an executive session and discussed deferred maintenance.

10. Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Consent Agenda

PASSED AS AMENDED

"The Board of Regents approves the consent agenda items 10.B.1-3., 10.C.1., 10.D.1., and 10.E-H. as amended. This motion is effective August 31, 2023."

Motion by Joey Crum, second by Karen Perdue.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

B. Academic and Student Affairs Committee - Items from August 30, 2023

1. 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."

2. Approval of a Revision to Regents' Policy 10.02.040. - 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."

CURRENT LANGUAGE WITH TRACK CHANGES FOR PROPOSED REVISION

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA ANCHORAGE

College of Health
 School of Allied Health
 School of Justice and Human Services
 School of Nursing
 School of Preventative and Therapeutic Sciences
 Institute for Circumpolar Health Studies (AS 14.40.088)
 School of Social Work
 WWAMI School of Medical Education

3. 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."

~~4. Authorization for the University of Alaska Southeast and Outer Coast College to Formulate an Agreement This was moved to a discussion item within the committee agenda; no action was taken.~~

C. Audit and Finance Committee - Item from August 30, 2023

1. 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."

D. Facilities and Land Management Committee - Item from August 30, 2023

1. 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."

E. Approval of Minutes - Retreat of May 24, 2023

PASSED

"The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its retreat of May 24, 2023 as presented. This motion is effective August 31, 2023."

F. Approval of Minutes - Regular Meeting of May 26, 2023

PASSED

"The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its regular meeting of May 26, 2023 as presented. This motion is effective August 31, 2023."

G. 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."

During the Board of Regents' May 26, 2023 meeting, the board directed President Pitney to review and suggest revised dates for the board's May 2024 meeting. After discussion with Chair Seekins and input from board members, President Pitney suggested May 22-23, 2024.

H. 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."

RATIONALE/RECOMMENDATION

The president and selected members of the university administration are routinely designated by the Board of Regents to handle any duties and responsibilities relating to classified information in connection with contracts with the Department of Defense and other federal agencies. These individuals are given an extensive security screening and are the only members of the university administration to have access to classified information.

The university has received similar security clearances since the mid-1950s. Execution of the resolution means that regents and other members of the administration will not have access to the classified information and are not in a position to affect the handling of classified information, thus do not need to be processed through security clearance procedures. The resolution is identical to resolutions previously passed except for changes to members of the board and the University of Alaska Southeast chancellor.

11. Approval of Naming a Facility at the University of Alaska Southeast**A. 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."

Motion by Joey Crum, second by Karen Perdue.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

POLICY CITATION

In accordance with Regents' Policy 05.12.090, Naming of Campus Facilities: Formal Naming of Campus Facilities and Infrastructure, official naming of all "significant" buildings, building subcomponents such as wings, additions, auditoriums, and libraries, streets, parks, recreational areas, plazas and similar facilities or sites will be approved by the board.

RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION

Aak'w (Little Lake) is the most important name in and around the Juneau Campus, so it makes sense to tie the name of the building to that lake. Consideration was given to the specific location of the building and what features to highlight, -ta is the head of a bay, and is the name of that area. Lastly, hit means house, so these Lingt words together allow the new building to be the little lake house at the head of the bay. The Lingt people of Juneau are the Aak'w Kwaan, so this hit will truly be reflective of the people who have lived and worked in this area for tens of thousands of years.

12. Approval of Resolutions of Appreciation**A. 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."

Motion by Joey Crum, second by Karen Perdue.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

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

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. (video timestamp 04:18:08)

B. 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."

Motion by Seth Church, second by Karen Perdue.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

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 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. (video timestamp 04:33:57)

13. Did You Know Presentation

A. Did You Know Presentation

The University of Alaska System (UA) is a major contributor to Alaska's rapidly expanding [Blue Economy](#). The presentation featured an overview of Alaska's Blue Economy, and how UA - particularly the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) - is empowering Alaska through strong community partnerships and unique class offerings in mariculture and aquaculture. Not only are mariculture and aquaculture key parts of Southeast Alaska's workforce and economic development, but the programs offered at UAS and systemwide firmly link to the board's adopted goals and

measures. (video timestamp 04:40:32)

All "Did You Know" success stories can be found at <https://www.alaska.edu/news/did-you-know/>

14. Land Grant Initiative Update

A. Land Grant Initiative Update

Land Management Director Stolpe provided the update during the Facilities and Land Management Committee's August 30, 2023 meeting.

15. Federal Relations Report

A. Federal Relations Report

Federal Relations Director Latini and Assistant Director Benson provided an update on federal issues affecting the University of Alaska. (video timestamp 04:57:50)

16. Board Governance

A. Discussion Regarding Board Governance

Regents Hughes stated the board's assessment would be available in September, due in October, and discussed during the November 10, 2023 board meeting. (video timestamp 05:08:53)

17. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

PASSED

"The Board of Regents goes into executive session to discuss matters which could affect the reputation or character of a person or persons related to the presidential assessment, honorary degrees, and meritorious service awards; to discuss matters required by law to be confidential related to personnel, labor matters, and current litigation; and to receive legal advice. This motion is effective August 31, 2023."

Motion by Dennis L Michel, second by Karen Perdue.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

The Board of Regents went into executive session at 2:50 p.m. and concluded an executive session at 3:44 p.m. Alaska Time in accordance with AS 44.62.310 to discuss matters that could affect the reputation or character of a person or persons related to the presidential assessment, honorary degrees, and meritorious service awards; to discuss matters required by law to be confidential related to personnel, labor matters, and current litigation; and to receive legal advice. The session included members of the Board of Regents, President Pitney, General Counsel Cooper, and such other university staff members as the president designated and lasted 54 minutes.

18. Presidential Assessment Discussion

A. Presidential Assessment Discussion

Chair Seekins led the presidential assessment discussion. (video timestamp 05:16:26)

19. Approval of Honorary Degrees and Meritorious Service Awards

A. 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."

Motion by Karen Perdue, second by Joey Crum.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

PASSED

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

Motion by Karen Perdue, second by Joey Crum.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: Dale G Anderson, Seth Church, Joey Crum, Paula Harrison, Mary K Hughes, Scott Jepsen, Dennis L Michel, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Albiona Selimi

POLICY CITATION

Regents' Policy 10.03.020.A.

Honorary degrees may be conferred upon approval of the Board of Regents.

A. Criteria

The criterion for individuals to receive an honorary degree from the University of Alaska is evidence of a significant and lasting contribution to the university, to the State of Alaska, or to the individual's discipline or profession.

Regents' Policy 10.03.030.A.

Meritorious service awards may be conferred upon approval of the Board of Regents.

A. Criteria

The criterion for individuals to receive a meritorious service award from an MAU is evidence of significant public, academic, volunteer or philanthropic service to the MAU or one of its community campuses, or to an Alaska community.

RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION

Recommendations submitted by the universities for recipients of honorary degrees and meritorious service awards were sent under separate cover for Board of Regents' review prior to the August 31, 2023 board meeting.

20. Regents' Closing Comments

A. Regents' Closing Comments

Due to time restraints, closing comments were not provided; however, Regent Anderson remembered Regent Don Abel and asked for a moment of silence. (video timestamp 05:13:12)

21. Adjourn

A. Adjourn

Chair Seekins adjourned the meeting at 3:54 p.m. on Thursday, August 31, 2023.

22. Public Testimony, From August 28, 2023

Brooklyn Kopsack, University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) gymnastic team member, spoke in support of not increasing UAA's tuition and keeping college affordable for students.

Breeann Spain, UAA gymnastic team member, shared the team's student successes, contributions to the UAA community, academic progress, retention rates and invited the board to the November 18, 2023 intra-squad competition.

Emily Walker, UAA gymnastic team member, mentioned the team's diversity, noting six new members, including athletes from Canada and Mexico, and invited the board to the November 18, 2023 intra-squad competition.

Claudia Lessig, UAA gymnastic team member, mentioned the team has already completed 40 volunteer hours and said the team positively impacts the community and its members are ambassadors for UAA.

Tazia Wagner, Metlakatla, Alaska, shared her experience with the indigenous knowledge systems, research, grants, privatization of fisheries, and its effects on the indigenous communities and said there are inequities within the fisheries industry.

Alexandra Meyer, Kodiak, Alaska, spoke in support of UA's Sea Grant program, its relationship to mariculture success,

her experience with the program, and her success with kelp farming in Kodiak.

Rachel Heimke, Fairbanks, Alaska, shared her experience with the University of Alaska Fairbanks College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences (UAF CFOS), noting the student-to-faculty ratio promotes a positive learning environment.

Lia Domke, Juneau, Alaska, shared her experience with the UAF CFOS program, its partnership with the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) and her experience with the faculty at both UAF and UAS campuses.

Carter Johnson, Juneau, Alaska, shared his experience and research efforts with the UAF CFOS program and noted the CFOS opportunities in Juneau.

Seneca Roach, Fairbanks, Alaska, shared his experience with the UAF Honor's College Climate Scholars Intensives program and its learning opportunity along the Yukon River.

Mary Ann Hollock, Anchorage, shared her veterinary experience within the Anchorage area; stated support for the UAA veterinary technology program and the need for the program throughout Alaska.

Muriel Dittrich, Juneau, Alaska, shared her experience with the CFOS program, the faculty, and the maricultural opportunities and stated support for the Alaska Sea Grant program.

Adam Low, UAF Upward Bound director, shared his work with the program and its students; stated his appreciation for the UAF Alaska Blue Economy Center, Alaska Center for Energy and Power, and the Earthquake Center partnering and providing curriculum for high school students and thanked the board for its support of Upward Bound.

Tom Brice, UAF Alumni Association board president, shared the association's recent reunion event, the upcoming fall events in Anchorage, D.C., Arizona, and other locations across the nation, noting this year celebrates 100 years of student governance with the Associated Students of UAF and shared the impact the association brings to Juneau during the Alaska legislative session.

Joevahnta Usugan-Weddington, Fairbanks, Alaska, spoke in support of the UAF Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Center; shared her experience with UAF's Rural Student Services and stated the need for Indigenous students to have a space for belonging.

Christian Correa, New Jersey, spoke in support of the Outer Coast College partnering with UAS.

Jeff Cook, Fairbanks, Alaska, complimented UA on its research and teaching programs and said the community, university, and medical partnerships in nursing, radiology, and biomedical research present practical benefits for the state.

Justin Sternberg, UAF Alaska Blue Economy Center director, reviewed the mission, programs, and economic benefits offered by the center.

Jill Dumesnil, Juneau math professor and the United Academics Union president, shared faculty responsibilities for the fall semester and said in addition to faculty being in the classroom teaching, they also provide office hours, research, problem-solving, writing, publishing, and service to university departments and their communities.

Mathew Spellberg, Sitka, Alaska, spoke in support of the Outer Coast College partnering with UAS.

Kaia Victorino, UAF student, shared her experience with the UAF Honor's College Climate Scholars Intensives program and its learning opportunity along the Yukon River.

Pips Veazey, Coos Bay, Oregon, spoke in favor of a research collaboration between the University of Maine and the University of Alaska, noting the similarities of the two universities being relevant research teams, mariculture, climate change, and natural resource management.

Jason Gootee, Lake Oswego, Oregon, spoke in support of the Troth Yeddha' fundraising plan.

Brad Moran, UAF CFOS dean, provided a summary of the programs in marine biology, fisheries, mariculture and stated the R/V Sikuliaq is in the Bering Sea conducting research.

Ana Aguilar-Islas, CFOS faculty member, shared her excitement about the college's academic program growth and said 100 students are enrolled in the graduate program.