

Faculty Alliance Minutes  
March 20, 2026  
3:30-5:00 pm  
[Zoom Link](#)

Members

<p><u>UAS</u> Ali Ziegler, President UAS Faculty Senate David Cox, President-Elect UAS Faculty Senate Brian Blitz, Past-President UAS Faculty Senate</p> <p><u>UAF</u> Leah Berman, President UAF Faculty Senate Debu Misra, President-Elect UAF Faculty Senate Jennifer Carroll, Past-President UAF Faculty Senate</p>	<p><u>UAA</u> Matthew Cuellar, President UAA Faculty Senate Megan Ossiander Gobeille, President-Elect UAA Faculty Senate Jackie Cason, Chair, Faculty Alliance and Past-President UAA Faculty Senate</p> <p><u>Ex Officio:</u> Brian Smentkowski, VP and CAO</p> <p><u>Support:</u> Noel Romanovsky</p>
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1. Call to order –Ali Ziegler
2. Approval of Agenda  
Approval of February Minutes  
  
March Summary

**Faculty Alliance Chair Election Results**

The Faculty Alliance voted to approve Andrea Dewees as the Alliance Chair for the upcoming year, with a majority of members present. They confirmed that the next regular meeting would be in August with the possibility of an emergency meeting if needed.

3. Guests: [Introductions as needed]
  - a.
4. New Business & Updates
  - a. Check in
  - b. Alliance Chair Rotation
  - c. Juneau trip debrief
  - d. UAA draft resolution regarding NTT language. [NTT Faculty Senate Resolution](#)

- e. Need for better AI coordination. Status across each university?  
PDF UA Mail - CAS, CTC, and Library roles on UAA AI Task Force.pdf ;  
<https://your-digital-life.org/> (digital energy calculator)
- f. Need for consistent information and messaging on ICE enforcement on college campuses. At issue is the concept of “expectation of privacy” as interpreted in FERPA and 4th amendment and what constitutes a public or private space. Begs the question, “are classrooms public spaces?” See reply from General Counsel Mowry and info sheets provided by ACLU. PDF UA Mail - Seeking further guidance on ICE enforcement.pdf ;  
PDF FAQ Immigration Enforcement on Campuses (October 2025).pdf ;  
PDF 2025-Subpoenas-Warrants\_.pdf
- g. President Search Updates will continue to originate from this site.  
<https://www.alaska.edu/pres/pres-search/>.
  - i. CHRO Conley reached out to Senate Presidents for names of three faculty, one with a research focus. Jackie reached back out to her to see if we would still be allowed the 8th person as previously discussed.
    1. UAA: Matt Cuellar; Megan Ossiander-Gobeille; April Alvarez (UAA Staff Council President); Jared Stapor (UAA Staff Council Vice President); *Arel Gutierrez (USUAA President)*; *Emily Hufford (USUAA Vice President)*; Skye Nevada (Board President, UAA Alumni Association); Maria Williams (Chair, Alaska Native Studies). [students have not yet confirmed willingness to participate and sign NDA]
    2. UAF: Leah Berman (FS president), Debu Misra (FS president elect), Uma Bhatt (Faculty, Geophysical Institute); I don’t know about staff or students
    3. UAS: Brian Blitz and David Cox (faculty); Austin Cranford and Michelle Nakamura (staff)

## 5. Information/Discussion

- a. PDF T2 Committees.pdf Have any faculty come forward to join?
- b. *Measuring Learning vs Success* PDF UA Proposed RRG Metrics report Oct 2025.pdf . How do these metrics apply if we focus on “learning” specifically rather than “success”?
- c. *Paid Consultants*. Consider a resolution or motion requesting that administration consult with Faculty Senates before hiring outside programs/consultants (e.g. Gardner Institute) to conduct analysis. Context: UA has been spending a lot of money hiring outside consultants for various academic and fiscal analysis, even though there is a great deal of internal expertise that could be tapped. We might further resolve that administration.

## 6. Faculty Senate Reports and Updates

- a. UAA
- b. UAF
- c. UAS - NWCCU site visit next month

Day (Friday, 3:30 to 5 pm unless otherwise noted)	Tentative Agenda Items
August 22, 2025	IT Security: Jeannette Okinczyc, Ben Shier
September 12, 2025	Student Regent, Fernando Escobar Megan Buzby, Common Calendar Committee Identify FIF Reviewers Discussion Items
<p>Saturday, October 25, 2025 - FTF Strategic planning</p> <p>AI Resources scattered (just a few examples):  <a href="#">Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) at UA University GenAI Policies and Guidelines</a>    <a href="#">Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) at UA The State of AI at UAF: Fall 2025 Guides: Academic Integrity &amp; AI: Artificial Intelligence (AI)</a>  <a href="#">Generative AI Security Standard   Office of Information Technology</a>  <a href="#">AI Resources   Information Technology Services   University of Alaska Anchorage</a>  <a href="#">Generative AI Guidance</a> (UAS)</p>	<p>Introductions. Brunch with Regents</p> <p>Legislative priorities and plan to schedule meetings. [identify committees, legislation, and legislators we might want to prioritize. Ex. HB9, 10/SB118 (regent), 12, 23, 28, 29, 30, 34, 57, 69, 76, 88, 98, 165, 176, HJR24....Textbook Cost Transparency Act]</p> <p>Thought Leaders Forum or alternative for telling our stories in ways that reach a public audience</p> <p>Tie our stories to the attainment framework—what is the faculty role in enrollment, recruitment, retention, and graduation? Value propositions.</p> <p>Discuss definitions of shared governance and practices to foster effectual shared governance at the senate and alliance levels</p> <p>AI Steering Council</p>
November 14, 2025	<p>Determine Juneau F-T-F dates for February/March Begin planning process Notify Noel of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Full legal name.</li> <li>● Confirmation of dates</li> </ul>
December 12, 2025	
January 9, 2026	Guests: Luke Fulp, Nickole Conley
February 13, 2026	Guests: Ben Shier
March 20, 2026	Adjusted to be after spring break by one week
April 10, 2026	
May 8, 2026	

## Legislative Priorities

1. BOR budget—adequate funding, student success
2. Funding for scholarships—Fully fund APS
3. Capital funding—deferred maintenance.
4. UAA Annual funding “Fix and Repair” \$4-6m.

HB 10 ADD FACULTY MEMBER UNIV BOARD OF REGENT (Carrick)

HB 28 TEACHER/STATE EMPLOYEE STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM (Story)

*retention*

HB 29 SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE (Vance and Costello)

HB 34 ESTABLISH THE ALASKA INNOVATION COUNCIL (Holland)

**HB 78** DEFINED BENEFITS –TRANSMITTED TO SENATE FINANCE

HB 88 TUITION WAIVERS-(Eischeid)

HB 176 STUDENT FEES-(Carrick)

SB 5 SCHOOL/UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE. (Hughes)

**SB 28** RETIREMENT SYSTEMS; DEFINED BENEFIT OPTION (Giessel)-COMMITTEE

SB 118 FACULTY REGENT (Senate State Affairs)

SB 107 ALASKA SUNSET COMMISSION (Hughes, Kaufman)

SB 157 STUDENT FEES NOTICE (Gray-Jackson)

GO Bond for deferred maintenance?

Defined Benefits legislation

Supplemental budget

Hiring new UAA Chancellor- delayed

Governor Election -2026

