



Regents met with Sitka Campus faculty, staff, and students and many members of the Sitka community during their board meeting in Sitka on April 14-15, 2004. The Board of Regents is committed to meeting on one of the University of Alaska community campus sites during its yearly cycle of meetings to meet with its constituents and the public.

The United Academics contract was accepted by the University of Alaska Board of Regents. United Academics members had ratified the contract earlier by an overwhelming majority. The contract will run from January 1, 2004 to December 31, 2006.

Seven new academic programs were approved by the board. UAA programs were the bachelor of science in geological science and bachelor of science in physical education; UAF programs were a certificate and an associate in applied science in Yup'ik Studies and a bachelor of arts in social studies; UAS programs were a certificate and an associate in applied science in fisheries technology. The new programs are for students who want to teach secondary education and who will fill jobs in the state of Alaska in the fishing industry, geological sciences, and in Alaska Native languages.

Regents also approved the reorganization of schools and colleges at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The new College of Engineering and Mining will combine the engineering and mineral engineering disciplines under one college. The change required the elimination of the College of Science, Engineering and Mathematics and the School of Mineral Engineering. A College of Mathematics and Science was also approved with this reorganization.

Dr. Craig Dorman, vice president for research, gave a presentation on the University of Alaska's involvement and commitment to research. Research currently comprises one quarter of the university's budget and is an important vehicle of economic development for the state of Alaska.

Facility approvals included the acquisition of a lab facility in Juneau and the right to lease properties at Merrill Field in Anchorage. The lab facility in Juneau will be used to expand the fisheries program at UAS and the Merrill Field property will expand the aviation program at UAA.

Guidelines for the capital budget plan for fiscal year 2006 through 2011 were reviewed and approved. Action on distribution of the operating and capital appropriations received from the Alaska Legislature will occur at the June 2004 meeting.

At the Finance and Audit Committee, the committee consented to the appointment of David Read as the University's Internal Audit Director. Mr. Read has worked for the University of Alaska in Internal Audit for the last seven years.

In other action, the regents approved the naming of the Margaret Wood Building at the Bristol Bay Campus in Dillingham. Peggy Wood retired last year as the director of that campus after many years of service.

Future Board Meetings

June 9-10, 2004
Anchorage

September 14-15, 2004
Fairbanks

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The University of Alaska Board of Regents is the governing body responsible for the university policy and management through the president. Regents are appointed by the governor for eight-year terms, subject to legislative confirmation. A student regent is appointed for two years from candidates nominated on each campus. (Regents' term of office shown in parentheses.)