



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA

Many Traditions One Alaska

Regents' Recap

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE UA BOARD OF REGENTS' MEETING April 2006

Regents Gather at Chukchi, NW Campuses

The University of Alaska Board of Regents wrapped up a three-day meeting in rural Alaska last week, where they heard from numerous students stressing the importance of distance education.

In addition to a relatively routine agenda focused primarily on housekeeping matters, the meeting included tours and receptions in the communities of Kotzebue and Nome, at the Chukchi and Northwest campuses.

communities and their surrounding regions," Hughes said. "We heard from so many students who stressed, in particular, the importance of distance education and strengthening the community campus mission."

A student in Kotzebue was a prime example. She is a mother of five, expecting another child, and regularly takes classes right in her hometown. She shared with the



Nome campus - From left to right are Steve Jones, Bernice Joseph, Cynthia Henry, Mary K Hughes, Jacob Gondek, Mike Snowden, Brian Rogers, Carl Marrs, Nome Campus Director Lee Haugen and President Hamilton. The regents & others are sporting fleece-lined jackets presented to them by the Northwest campus. **Photo by Kate Ripley** © 2006 University of Alaska.

Regents also heard from rural campus directors and staff.

The board meets at rural and extended campuses from time to time to keep connected with the full depth of the UA system. Board Chair Mary K. Hughes said meeting at campuses off the road system is equally important to meeting in the state's main population centers.

"Our community campuses provide such an important service for students in these

board that she couldn't imagine living and raising her children in urban Alaska, yet values the access to higher education.

Lincoln Saito, director of the Chukchi Campus in Kotzebue, said the issue goes beyond each student's personal story. "The quality of our villages is really dependent on the education that we can deliver," Saito said.

In official business, regents approved a master's of science in applied environmental science and technology degree program

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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.)

at UAA, an extension of an existing and successful program; and deleted a certificate in phlebotomy at UAF, which will be replaced with a new occupational endorsement program track to better meet the needs of students. They also approved a streamlined structure for the review and approval process for establishing new academic sub-units of the university system, such as research centers and institutes. The streamlining will give chancellors and the university president flexibility in responding to local needs, yet still give the board oversight for sub-units that have a statewide mission.

The board also approved the appointment of David Scholl as co-chair to the prestigious Sydney Chapman Chair in natural sciences at UAF. Scholl, who is currently consulting professor for the Department of Geophysics at Stanford University and senior research geologist emeritus for the U.S. Geological Survey, shares the position with Eddie Carmack, who was appointed in September 2005.

The board also agreed to hire consultants to review executive compensation and Board of Regents' policies. Members also authorized Hughes to work with Vice President for Administration Jim Johnsen to review the university's procurement and contracting processes, and to retain external consultants if needed.

Future Board Meetings

June 7-8, 2006
Kodiak

September 21-22, 2006
Fairbanks

Chukchi Tour



*Chukchi Director Lincoln Saito gives a tour of the Kotzebue campus, including the computer lab.
Photo by Kate Ripley© 2006 University of Alaska.*

Playing Tourist



*Barb Nilsen and Jeannie Phillips enjoy the sights of Nome following the board meeting.
Photo by Jacob Gondek 2006 University of Alaska.*