

**Official Minutes
Board of Regents
Meeting of the Full Board
September 9-10, 2021
Zoom Conference**

1. Individuals Present

Regents Present:

Sheri Buretta, Chair (attended September 9, 2021)

Karen Perdue, Vice Chair

Lisa Parker, Treasurer

John Bania

John Davies

Darroll R. Hargraves

Mary K. Hughes

J. Scott Jepsen

Ralph Seekins

Kali Spencer

Regent Absent:

Dale Anderson, Secretary

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

Others Present:

Karen Carey, Chancellor, University of Alaska Southeast

Sean Parnell, Chancellor, University of Alaska Anchorage

Daniel M. White, Chancellor, University of Alaska Fairbanks

Matthew Cooper, General Counsel

Myron Dosch, Chief Financial Officer

Paul Layer, Vice President for Academics, Students and Research

is effective September 9, 2021.”

Motion by Mary K Hughes, second by J Scott Jepsen.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: John Bania, Sheri Buretta, John Davies, Darroll R Hargraves, Mary K Hughes, J Scott Jepsen, Lisa M Parker, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Kali Spencer

D. Approval of Minutes - Special Meeting of June 22, 2021

PASSED

“The Board of Regents approves the minutes of its special meeting of June 22, 2021 as presented. This motion is effective September 9, 2021.”

Motion by Ralph Seekins, second by Lisa M Parker.

Final Resolution: Motion Carries

Voting in favor: John Bania, Sheri Buretta, John Davies, Darroll R Hargraves, Mary K Hughes, J Scott Jepsen, Lisa M Parker, Karen Perdue, Ralph Seekins, Kali Spencer

3. Reports

A. Governance Reports

Julie A.K. ‘Jak’ Maier, Faculty Alliance chair, reported on the following issues: the Faculty Initiative Fund, a resolution to mandate COVID vaccines at UA, the alliance’s involvement in the development of UA’s goals and measures; concerns about OIT’s loss of employees and the age of UA’s IT products, UA’s administrative review process and opposition to tuition and fee increases at UA. (video timestamp 07:35)

Juella Sparks, Staff Alliance chair, reported on the following issues: the importance of governance within UA, noting the value and necessity of faculty, students, and staff being vital to UA’s success, utilizing Regents’ Policy regarding shared governance, staff are struggling with increased workload and low morale, consideration for FY23 compensation increases and engaging with governance groups while developing UA’s goals and measures. (video timestamp 20:19)

Riley von Borstel, Coalition of Student Leaders Representative and Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (ASUAF) president, reported on the following issues: UAA’s student government doubled its membership, conducted legislative advocacy efforts for the Alaska Performance Scholarship, the Alaska Education Grant and the Alaska WWAMI program, and ASUAF’s selection of three senators and the establishment of a mental health fund for UAF’s students. (video timestamp 24:08)

B. Chancellors' Reports

Chancellor Carey provided an update on the following topics: partnerships with the Southeast communities regarding planning and executing measures during the pandemic, UAS reported no COVID-19 cases thus far, the success of new student orientation, the 6th Annual Authors' Celebration recognizing articles published by faculty during the 2020 calendar year, fall enrollment, planning for the Indigenous Peoples' Day celebration and recent hires, which include Arts and Sciences Dean Silkaitis, Director of Education Madden, and a new Title IX coordinator. (video timestamp 27:38)

Chancellor White provided an update on the following topics: strategic recommendations regarding COVID-19 protocol, fall enrollment, the Nanook Pledge, student orientation welcoming 500 first-year students, eCampus online programs, noting its 47 programs, 4000 students from 39 countries, the Alaska Advantage online program for high school students, the free edX online courses provided on a global platform, the North Star College and its partnership with the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District offering dual enrollment to high school students, the Geophysical Institute’s 75th-anniversary celebration, completion of UAF’s 2025 strategic plan, and Professor Matthew Wooller’s woolly mammoth research appeared in the August 2021 edition of the journal *Science*. (video timestamp 32:41)

Chancellor Parnell thanked his fellow chancellors for their collaboration with the onboarding process and provided an update on the following topics: student excitement about returning to in-person classes, student scholarship support, the hockey and gymnastics fundraising efforts, a review of last year’s philanthropic gifts, noting the largest living alumni donation of \$1M to establish the student investment fund in the College of Business and Public Policy, fall COVID-19 protocol, enrollment, the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation granting accreditation to the School of Education’s post-baccalaureate and graduate programs, the Seawolf Start scholarship and UAA’s upcoming events. (video timestamp 43:40)

C. President's Report

President Pitney introduced Pearl Brower, Alaska Native Success, Institutional Diversity, and Student Engagement senior advisor; noted appreciation to the chancellors for mentioning the various student financial aid and private scholarships

management, the status of UA properties currently for sale, capital project approvals – delegation of authority, UA facilities services scorecard - independent review by Sightlines/Gordian, received an update on the UAA health workforce expansion and diversity project, UAF Seward Marine Center research vessel operations infrastructure and heard construction in

Geophysical Institute

Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integration – Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (ACUASI-RDT & E)

Alaska Earthquake Information Center (AS 14.40.075)

Alaska Volcano Observatory (AS 14.40.075)

Poker Flat Research Range

Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Extension
Cooperative Extension Service (Federal mandate)

Institute of Arctic Biology

International Arctic Research Center

Rasmuson Library

School of Education

~~School of Management~~

3. Direction to the University President to Propose Revisions to Regents' Policy 10.02.070 - Accreditation

and are used in everyday items like computer hard drives, TV screens, and smartphones and in green technologies such as wind turbines. Critical minerals are just as crucial for military applications, including lasers, radar, missile guidance systems, satellites, and aircraft electronics. Currently, the world's supply of these elements comes from only a few countries. There is currently no domestic production. The public impact of University of Alaska research specific to these minerals is significant. This presentation outlined the research underway and the workforce training programs contributing to the development of a critical minerals industry in Alaska. (video timestamp 4:31:45)

Mining Workforce Report: Across the three universities, 44 instructional programs have been identified whose graduates play a key role in the state's mining, extraction, and mineral processing workforce. Over the past ten years, more than 2,300 people have graduated from UA programs important to the mining industry, and these graduates earn an average wage over \$104,000 within five years.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z1q1HWW4vN4>

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

12. UA Foundation Report

A. UA Foundation Report

UA Foundation President Burnett provided an update on university system development efforts and University of Alaska Foundation activities. (video timestamp 5:15:24)

13. Governance Committee

A. Discussion Regarding Board Governance

Regent Hughes stated the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB) board meetings continue to be held virtually; noted AGB's National Conference on Trusteeship in April 2022 will also be held virtually and reminded the board that its Governance Committee would submit a slate of officers for consideration during the board's November 11-12, 2021 meeting. (video timestamp 5:36:07)

POLICY CITATION

Regents' Policy 05.01.040 – Acceptance of State Appropriations states, "The board must accept state appropriations to the university before any expenditure may be made against the appropriation."

RATIONALE AND RECOMMENDATION

Kendra Daniels, Anchorage resident and UAA gymnastic coach, thanked President Pitney and Chancellor Parnell for supporting UAA athletics; noted the athletic teams are once again on campus and are out in full force; provided an update on the gymnastic fundraising events and expressed support for UAA hockey.

Maire-Sophie Boggasch, UAA gymnastics head coach, said UAA athletes are back in the Alaska Airlines Center; invited the board to attend sporting events; said the teams have been resilient in its effort to support UAA athletics; reviewed the gymnastics team dynamics and its excellent GPAs and stated support for UAA hockey.

Corinne James, Juneau resident, shared her experience as a dual enrollment student utilizing programs at UAF and is thankful for the opportunity to earn college credit while attending high school.

Marcela Bonifasi, UAA gymnastics team member, said the UAA community is centered around student success; shared the team's community service events and volunteer efforts and stated support for UAA hockey.

Jennifer Delamere, Fairbanks resident and UAF Geographic Information Network of Alaska (GINA) director, shared the exciting research and data collections taking place at GINA and the opportunities at GINA to study Alaska's Arctic environment.

Tamija Woods, Anchorage resident, shared the importance of UA's One Health program and her experience and involvement with the program.

Carin Silkaitis, Juneau resident and UAS Arts and Sciences dean, said she is moved by the faculty and staff at UAS, noting excitement for the campus engagement among students, faculty, and staff; said the number of grants obtained by the faculty is impressive; is thrilled to be working at UAS and thanked the board for its support of UAS.

Laurie Meythaler-Mullins, Fairbanks resident and 2021 One Health master's program graduate, shared her experience with the program and the opportunities the program provides to the community and the state.

Ginny Shank, Kodiak resident and Kodiak College Advisory Council member, spoke in support of reinstating UAA's early childhood development program and the program's importance.

Skaydu Jules, UAS student, stated why she chose UAS, noting its strong Tlingit ties and shared her experience with the campus and its cultural programs.

Brianna Pauling, Fairbanks resident and UAF Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI) program manager, shared information about the RAHI program; provided an update on the 2021 summer program and thanked the board for supporting the program.

Jennifer Tilbury, Fairbanks resident and UAF Community and Technical College faculty member, shared information regarding the North Star Middle College and its partnership between UAF and the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District and stated the impact the middle college has on high school students.

Thomas Farrugia, Anchorage resident and UAF Alumni Association treasurer, shared the association's recent events and student support opportunities and said the association hosted an event for parents during UAF's new student orientation.

Abbe Hensley, Anchorage resident, spoke about mobilizing people and resources for children's educational success and stated support for UAA's BA in early childhood development.

Cristina Bieber, Kodiak resident, said there is a shortage of early childhood educators in Alaska and stated support for UAA's BA in early childhood development.

Don Gray, Fairbanks resident, is an advocate for funding UA, said it is vital that the Legislature fund UA and encouraged the board to work together with the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development.

Kim Saunders, Kodiak resident, spoke in support of UAA's BA in early childhood development.

Stefanie Berglund, Anchorage resident and Thread Alaska CEO, shared information regarding Thread's work within Alaska and spoke in support of UAA's BA in early childhood development.

Dawn Humenik, UAA Staff Council co-president, said staff are excited for the academic year to begin; mentioned faculty and staff are back on campus in a mixed capacity; stated support for telework opportunities during the pandemic; noted staff is tired, facing burnout and have low morale; said there is excitement on campus regarding the hiring of a new chancellor and stated staff is looking forward to a positive work year.