

# Governance Report

June 2016



Coalition of Student Leaders  
Mathew Carrick, Chair

At our last meeting of the academic year, the Coalition of Student Leaders passed two resolutions of note: one to support the inclusion of Alaska Native Studies courses in General Education Requirements (GER) and one to support mandatory classes on campus safety and sexual assault prevention. Both resolutions enjoyed the unanimous support of our attending members, and we

Faculty Alliance  
Dr. Cécile Lardon Chair

It has been an eventful year for everyone at the University of Alaska! For faculty, the most salient impacts of the budget crisis have been things like teaching bigger course sections with less support, teaching more courses while also needing to do more service-related tasks and/or needing to bring in more research grants, losing jobs (especially term-funded and adjunct faculty) or losing colleagues, even losing whole programs. Many, if not most, faculty have long been working quite a bit more than a 40-hour work week, often giving up evenings and weekends to make sure our students receive timely feedback or get the help they need to succeed, or to conduct the research we cannot get to during the week. Many faculty have also long worked summers off contract because they just could not get everything done during the contract period. We accept this, for the most part, as a condition of working in a full-time academic position. But the pressure has increased significantly, and I hear many more stories from colleagues about stress-related health conditions. Local physicians have confirmed this perception. We, and other university employees, are faced with contradictory demands, such as 'teach more and also bring in more research grants', 'increase online course offerings, but OIT will be cut significantly', and 'increase your class sizes and also individualize your teaching more'.



1. A recommendation that any salary increases for staff be at least partially comprised of a step increase, rather than purely across the board;
2. Feedback on proposed changes to regulations defining extended temporary employees.

Officer elections for the 2016-2017 year will occur at the Staff Alliance annual retreat in July.

Faye Grant came to Alaska in 2003 as an undergraduate at UAF, where she earned her BS in Geography (2006). She started her UAF career in 2009 and currently works for the Office of Management and Budget. She has a Master's of Public Administration from UAS (2013) and is an active member of UAF's Process Improvement team. When she's not working, Faye travels the world with her husband, gets walked by her dogs, or heads to the hills around Fairbanks to hike and camp.

Staff Alliance serves the classified and administrative, professional and technical staff throughout the University of Alaska system.

## System Governance Council

### Monique Musick Chair

The System Governance Council held its final meeting of the academic year on May 9 concluding a highly productive and informative year of collaboration and coordination among statewide governance leaders and alumni representatives.

The ability to provide public testimony from locations across the state as opposed to solely in person is supported by the entire council and the groups they represent. As technologies for remote testimony improve, and reduced funds for travel restrict that option, it makes sense to evaluate public testimony opportunities. Decisions to not hold meetings at community campuses due to budget restrictions further limits community access to the Board of Regents. The council strongly supports allowing video, audio and other means of access to provide constituents from throughout Alaska an opportunity to testify before the board.

The council also discussed the delay of proposed changes to university policy to bring UA into compliance with Federal guidelines currently being led by the Title IX working group. The decision to wait until September to allow time for full review and discussion was supported by the group.

Along with the rest of the University community system governance leaders are eager for more information on the next phase of Strategic Pathways, clarity on participation in the review process, and the release of information on the metrics and data that will guide restructuring. Although this was the last meeting of the year, governance leaders will stay in touch as needed to provide governance involvement moving forward. However since we are not active over the summer the System Governance council will not be collecting feedback directly.

It has been a privilege to work with the other governance leaders, university administration and regents during this term as chair. Thank you for supporting a vibrant governance presence at UA

Monique Musick was born and raised in Ester, Alaska. After attending ICS and later Lathrop High School, she received a bachelor's of art in journalism from UAF. She currently works for UA Public Affairs doing what she enjoys most: photography, communications and graphic design. She became involved with governance in 2009 shortly after coming to Alaska and has enjoyed being an active member of System Governance ever since. She values the opportunity afforded through shared governance to support workers, participate in policy review, advise on changes in the university and to advocate on behalf