

DATE: March 29, 2017  
TO: UAA Faculty Senate, UAF Faculty Senate, UAS Faculty Senate  
FROM: Tara Smith, Chair, Faculty Alliance  
RE: February Report of Activities

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The [Faculty Alliance](#) consists of the president-elect (First Vice President at UAA), president, and past president of each Faculty Senate in the University of Alaska System. The chair of this body rotates amongst the past presidents of each university. AY17 is UAA's year to chair, and this is why I am writing to you on behalf of the Faculty Alliance members.

The Faculty Alliance exists primarily to promote communication amongst the Faculty Senates and to/from Statewide leadership. We are an advisory body to the President and we have members serving on the Statewide Academic Council ([SAC](#)) and the chair is an ex-officio member of the Board of Regents Academic & Student Affairs (ASA) committee. We meet via Google Hangouts and anyone is welcome to attend our [meetings](#). President Johnsen is scheduled to attend the last 45 minutes of the rest of our meetings for the year. Both the ASA and BOR meetings are [livestreamed](#) if you are interested in watching.

Following this overview are documents related to the work of Faculty Alliance from March. This month, we held two regular meetings and three members participated in a discussion of shared governance with the regents, President Johnsen, General Counsel Mike Hostina, the chair of Staff Alliance Nate Bauer, and the president of the Coalition of Students, Colby Freel. The discussion began with a short [presentation](#) by President Johnsen and General Counsel Mike Hostina.

During the discussion, we asked for official communications to be improved between governance groups and administration, and we emphasized wanting to have full governance groups consulted even when a member or two might have served on a team. We discussed the benefits of creative conflict (from [Doing Democracy](#), page 13) and need for collaboration in order for our institutions to thrive. When the need for change to "business as usual" came up, we pointed out that faculty work (teaching, research, and service) is inherently about change—we are not impediments to change but essential partners in such endeavors. Further, in discussions of how long shared governance takes, it was a pleasure to point out that Faculty Alliance had been asked for feedback on the Strategic Pathways Phase 2 options on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and had delivered a summary inclusive of all three senates on February 28<sup>th</sup>. President Johnsen held up our report and said it was exactly the input he had wanted. The regents seemed engaged and appreciative of the discussion from all participants.

Out of that conversation, Chair O'Neil asked all three governance groups to gather responses to the questions on page 9 of President Johnsen's presentation. Faculty Alliance will be gathering input on these through the Faculty Senates for a report to the BOR for their June meeting.





UNIVERSITY  
of ALASKA

## Faculty Alliance

Resolution 2017-07

Regarding the Statewide System Offices  
of the University of Alaska

Whereas the Board of Regents and President Johnson have publicly authorized the need for



*Whereas*, a significant potential for savings lies within an examination of administrative services

chart

*Whereas*, additional savings could be realized through more economical approaches to

ships from the Oregon

*Whereas*, President Johnsen has already indicated that he opposes leav

t Johnsen has distributed a white paper at the March Board of Regents

*Whereas*, Presiden

cial data that does not accurately reflect the actual cost of Statewide to the

meeting with finan

Alliance urges the UA Board of Regents to take the

***Therefore Be It Resolved***, that the Faculty following actions:

actions to the Statewide System Offices and the

- Publicly endorse significant red

major team report, produce options for the remaining functions to be  
ed or distributed to the universities, using shared services where they are

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Tom Smith