

# UNIVERSITY *of* ALASKA

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## Coalition of Student Leaders

# Charter

An accord between the student leaders of the University of Alaska who participated in the 1993 Fall Student Leadership Conference at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, September 24-26, 1993...a vital step in, "Building the Net."

*As amended February 19, 1994; October 2, 1994; and April 5, 1996*

### **Preamble**

In order to promote communication between students on each campus of each university in Alaska; to improve the lives and leadership of the students of our universities; to provide for an effective and powerful student voice in matters effecting the University of Alaska; and to enable and develop the leadership for Alaska's future; we do hereby establish this charter of the Coalition of Student Leaders of the University of Alaska, this day, Sunday, September 26, 1993.

### **Article I. Name**

The Board of Regents hereby grants the authority for a mechanism for student system governance consisting of a network of Student Governments to be named the Coalition of Student Leaders, hereinafter "the Coalition."

## **Article II. Network Membership Constituencies**

### **A. Official Local Constituencies**

- Associated Students of the University of Alaska Fairbanks
- Kuskokwim Campus Student Government
- Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage
- Prince William Sound Community College Student Association
- Kachemak Bay Student Association
- Union of Students of Kenai Peninsula College
- Kodiak College Student Association
- Matanuska-Susitna Student Government
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Juneau
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Sitka
- United Students of the University of Alaska Southeast-Ketchikan

(2003-09-11)

### **B. Ex-Officio Local Constituencies**

The following are ex-officio local constituent groups:

- Alaska Pacific University Student Council
- Bristol Bay Campus
- Ilisagvik College Student Assembly
- Northwest Campus
- Sheldon Jackson College Student Government

(2003-09-11)

### **C. Other Constituencies**

Other ex-officio constituent groups include military extension students, campus extension, part-time, and correspondence students; as well as student clubs, residence life governments, and other student organizations.

### **D. Lapse of Membership**

Any local constituency that does not participate in meetings and activities of the Coalition for an entire year shall be removed from the list contained under Clause A and included in the list contained under Clause B, as an ex-officio member.

## **Article III. Purposes and Authority**

### **A. Authority**

The Coalition receives its authority by policy 03.01.01 and policy 09.01.01 of the University of Alaska Board of Regents, which derives its authority from the Constitution and statutes of the State of Alaska. The Coalition shall carry out its functions subject to the authority of the Board of Regents and the President of the University.

### **B. Purposes**

#### **1. Representation**

To provide official representation for the students of the University of Alaska in matters which affect the general welfare of the University and its educational purposes and effectiveness.

#### **2. Consultation**

To provide consultation to the President of the University and the Board of Regents on student affairs issues.

#### **3. Communication**

To serve as an instrument by which information which is of interest and concern to the university system students may be freely collected, disseminated, and discussed.

### **C. Responsibilities**

Coalition responsibilities include, but are not limited to student affairs issues such as tuition and student fees, financial aid and scholarships, residence life, minority and rural student services, club and social activities, student media and radio, student health, safety, student grievances, student tools and resources, and student employee relations.

## **Article IV. The Student Regent and the Speaker of the Coalition**

### **A. The Student Regent**

#### **1. Selection**

The Student Regent shall be selected in the manner prescribed by law, thus having the authority to be the primary spokesperson for the students of the University of Alaska. The Coalition may conduct an advisory vote among the qualified candidates and forward the results to the Governor of Alaska or their representative.

#### **2. Duties**

The Student Regent shall act as the primary spokesperson for the Coalition. The Student Regent shall serve as the primary contact for the Coalition to the President of the University of Alaska and the Board of Regents.

### **B. The Speaker of the Coalition**

#### **1. Selection**

The Speaker of the Coalition shall be selected from among the representatives of the local constituencies at the first General Meeting of the academic year. Their term shall be one academic year. A Pro-Tempore shall be selected in the same manner and shall serve as the Speaker in case of their absence.

#### **2. Duties**

The Speaker of the Coalition shall preside over all meetings of the Coalition. The Speaker has the authority to set the meeting time, place, and agenda.

## **Article V. Representation**

The Coalition of Student Leaders shall have four seats on the System Governance Council.

Two seats shall be filled by high density schools defined as those schools with an enrollment headcount of 5,000 or more students.

One seat shall be for medium density schools defined as those schools with an enrollment headcount of 1,000-4,999 students.

One seat shall be for small density schools defined as those schools with an enrollment headcount of under 1,000 students.

In selecting student representatives to the four seats on the System Governance Council, representatives shall be elected by the density schools that they represent. The high-density schools shall vote on their representatives, the medium density schools shall on their representative and the lower density schools shall vote on their representative. The Student Regent shall have the tie-breaking vote in case of a deadlock. Elections shall take place at the fall student leader conference.

Headcount shall be determined by the official enrollment statistics from the previous spring semester. Changes in a school's density shall be a standing agenda item for the fall student leader conference.

The student governments within each university shall make every effort to build regional networks and interact with each other on a regular basis to resolve regional student issues.

## **Article VI. Meetings**

### **A. General Meetings**

General Meetings shall take place whenever statewide student leadership conferences are held. All conference attendees may participate.

### **B. Open Meetings**

All meetings of the Coalition are open meetings in accordance with the Alaska Open Meetings Law. The Coalition of Student Leaders will hold their meetings at least one day prior to the University of Alaska Board of Regents meeting, six times a year.

### **C. Quorum**

A quorum for any meeting of the Coalition of Student Leaders shall be five of the local constituencies listed in Article II, Section A.

(1996-04-05)

## **Article VII. Roles**

### **A. Task Forces**

The Board of Regents, the President of the University or the Coalition may establish a Coalition task force to consider complex system issues relating exclusively to student affairs. These task forces shall, in all cases, include governance representatives appointed by the Coalition or Coalition Constituencies as appropriate. These task forces are a formal part of shared governance, and as such, are subject to the Alaska Open Meeting Law.

**B. Student Information Office**

The Coalition shall have a Student Information Office to organize and support its efforts. The office shall:

- create and maintain student leader directories
- distribute a statewide student newsletter
- research statewide student issues as directed
- insure that student publications are distributed widely
- provide staff for the Leadership Council, General Meetings and Task Forces
- publish and distribute single-issue summaries
- provide resources for grass-roots mobilization and coordination

**C. Grass Roots Organizing**

The Coalition may provide support, coordination, and resources for grass roots movements on any student issue and may also initiate such movements.

**Article VIII. Relief, Compensation, and Fear of Reprisals**

Students participating in student governance activities will be allowed excusals from class requirements if necessary and student employees will be allowed time off. Student governance officers not otherwise compensated shall be granted a three (3) credit tuition waiver upon each semester of successful service completed. Students in governance are empowered to carry out their governance responsibilities to the best of their abilities without interference or fear of reprisal.

**Article IX. Amendments**

**A. Ratification**

This Charter shall go into effect upon acceptance by a majority of the groups listed in Article II, Section A above and upon approval by the President of the University of Alaska and the Board of Regents.

**B. Amendments**

Amendments to this charter shall be adopted by a two-thirds vote of the groups listed in Article II, Section A.

## Original Signers

We, the undersigned participants of the 1993 Fall Student Leadership Conference, agree to the aforementioned Charter and with our signatures do hereby form the Coalition of Student Leaders.

Ron Hulse, USUAS-Ketchikan Student Rep.  
Mark Ewing, UAA, Mat-Su College President Student Government  
Karlin Itchoak, ASUAF President  
Kevin Gallagher, USUAA President  
Christopher A Delez, USUAS-Juneau Campus President  
Delbert Collett, PWSCCSA (Valdez) President  
Scott A. Otterbacher, UA Student Regent  
Jacalyn A. Scott, UAA Kodiak Student Rep.  
Renee K. Ploor, UAA Kodiak Student Rep.  
Meaalofa Tofaeono, UAA Kodiak Campus Treasurer  
Tracey Buie, UAF Northwest Campus Student Rep.  
Dario P. Notti, Kuskokwim Campus, Student Body President  
Carolyn Garcia, USUAS Juneau, Legislative Affairs Coordinator  
Nicholas L. Schoolcraft, USKPC Kenai Peninsula College, President  
David J. Jones, Senator, Mat-Su College  
Michele K. Henman, Kachemak Bay Branch Student Association President  
Mark L. Cravens, USUAA Senator  
Ted Lee, ASUAF Senator  
Amy Johnson, KPCKBB Treasurer  
Corrine Skogen, PWSCC Valdez Student  
David DeMain, PWSCC Valdez student  
Shaun Combs, ASUAF Ombudsperson  
Nick Abramczyk, ASUAF Legislative Affairs Director  
Rachael Bermudez, PWSCC Valdez Representative  
Mike Kizer, PWSCC (Valdez) Vice President  
Jack Alix, PWSCC (Valdez)  
Andrea Busven, USUAA Senator  
Michelle Albright, USUAA Election Chair  
Anna Miller, USUAA Senator  
Cris Turner, USUAS-Sitka Student Body President  
Andrea Adams, USUAS-Sitka, Student Body Rep.  
Jack Dalton, USUAA Club Council Rep.  
Nicholas Macyshen, UAF Student  
Roy Garcia, USUAA Senator  
Laura Burleson, UAF Senator  
Brian Brubaker, Conference Coordinator

## **Approval by the President of the University of Alaska**

Provisions of Article V. were approved and modified by University of Alaska President Jerome Komisar in an October 12, 1994, memorandum to the Student Regent, Scott Otterbacher. He wrote: "I am pleased to approve the Coalition's proposal to add a fourth student seat, for a rural student representative, to the System Governance Council, with the caveat that there be at least one student from each MAU (UAA, UAF, UAS)."