

**President's Report  
Representative Assembly Meeting  
12 October 2019  
Anchorage, Alaska**

**1. Meet and Confer.**

Meet and confer meetings were conducted with Labor and Employee Engagement on 1 April 2019 (UAA School of Education, UAA College of Health, investigations, grievances), 9 April 2019 (UAA School of Education, grievances), 3 May 2019 (UAA School of Education, workloads, investigations, grievances), 16 May 2019 (membership lists, UAA School of Education), 12 July 2019 (UAA School of Education, investigations, grievances), 16 July 2019 (CBA & faculty review MOAs, rent invoice, investigations, grievances), 29 July 2019 (financial exigency), 5 August 2019 (CBA and faculty review MOAs, administrative and academic program reviews, investigations, grievances), and 20 August 2019 (CBA and faculty review MOAs, administrative and academic program reviews, investigations, grievances).

**2. Executive Board Meetings.**

Executive Board meetings were held on 19 March 2019, 22 July 2019 (in person), 30 July 2019, and 4 October 2019 (draft and approved minutes are attached). The Executive Board did not meet in August and September 2019 because special Representative Assembly meetings were held on 23 August and 13 September 2019. The Executive Board met with the membership by web stream on 31 July 2019, during which financial exigency and associated issues were discussed. By all accounts, this was a very successful membership meeting.

**3. Board of Regents Meetings.**

Attended the 8 April 2019 (web stream), 6 June 2019 (in person), 22 July 2019 (in person), 30 July 2019 (in person), 12 September 2019 (in person in the morning), and 7 October 2019 (web stream) Board of Regents meetings. The issues predominantly revolved around the University of Alaska operating budget, restructuring, program reviews, and generally a lot of chaos caused by the 40% state appropriation cut to the university by Governor Dunleavy, later transformed into a \$25 million cut in the current academic year, and \$25 million and \$20 million cuts in the following two years. Although most of the blame goes to the Governor, the UA Statewide administration and the Board of Regents certainly contributed to the chaos, panic, and resulting decline in morale across the university system.

Initiated, with the assistance of the Executive Board, several email communications to the Board of Regents regarding financial exigency, the CBA, program reviews, and shared governance. You have seen these communications.

**4. National Meetings Attended.**

Did not attend national meetings.

## **5. Other Meetings.**

### **a. Meeting with members.**

- i. Communicated and met with many members and elected officers in Juneau, Anchorage, Fairbanks, and extended sites during in-person meetings, by email, or by phone. The declaration of financial exigency as well as faculty review issues resulted in the expression of many concerns and questions. The UNAC CONNECTIONS newsletter was emailed to members on 9 August, 15 August, 28 August, 18 September, and 9 October 2019. Many other communications were emailed to the membership under different headings over the summer and into the fall 2019 semester.
- ii. Attended many membership meetings at the campus, school, and departmental levels. As there were so many, I am not listing them here individually.
- iii. Attended several grievance and investigative meetings with Cyndee West. It appears that the university has declare open season on faculty members and outrageous accusations and disciplinary actions are advanced against our members. We are fighting back hard with the assistance of our attorney Sarah Josephson.
- iv. Participated in the Fairbanks Labor Day Parade on 7 September 2019.

### **b. JHCC Meetings.**

Attended the 17 April 2019 (FY 19 third quarter utilization report, healthcare/vision and wellness RFP update, and open enrollment update), 15 May 2019 (wellness RFP update, essential pharmacy, cost savings measures requested by President Johnsen, and 2019 meeting schedule), 17 July 2019 (Premera bundled travel program with Virginia Mason, FY20 plan migration, HealthyRoads wrap-up, and Zomo Health introduction), and 21 August 2019 (FY19 utilization report, FY20 projection recast, Zomo wellness program manual, and FY20 meeting schedule) Joint Health Care Committee (JHCC) meetings as the chair of the JHCC.

JHCC materials can be found at: <http://www.alaska.edu/benefits/joint-health-care-committ/>.

### **c. AFL-CIO**

- i. Attended the AFL-CIO Western Regional Meeting in Los Angeles 26-27 March 2019. A lot of presentations were focused on member organizing.
- ii. Attended the 21 August 2019 Alaska AFL-CIO Vice President's meeting to discuss legislative issues (by phone).
- iii. Attended the 5 September 2019 Alaska AFL-CIO Vice President's meeting in Anchorage. Agenda items included legislative issues, the attack by Governor Dunleavy on public unions, and governance issues within the Alaska AFL-CIO.

**d. APEA/AFT Meetings.**

APEA/AFT Board of Directors meetings attended on 6 April 2019 and 4 June 2019. Mostly routine business was discussed.

**e. AAUP and AFT National Staff**

Many meetings in person, on the phone, and by Zoom with AAUP Pacific Northwest Lead Organizer Jim Bakken, AAUP Associate Secretary of the Department of Academic Freedom, Tenure, and Governance Joerg Tiede, and AFT National Representatives Jason Wedemyer and David Stylianou. They have helped us plan for the 4, 5, and 6 November 2019 shared governance workshops in Juneau, Anchorage, and Fairbanks, respectively. These workshops will also be web streamed. They also assisted us with responses to the Board of Regents, membership organizing, financial exigency, and the union dues directives by Governor Dunleavy that are trying to make public union membership unreasonable difficult.

**f. University of Alaska Statewide Administration**

Meetings with President Jim Johnsen on 10 July 2019, 29 July 2019, 5 August 2019, and 10 September 2019. On 5 August Vice President for Academics, Students, & Research Paul Layer was present as well. We speak frankly about the issues during these meetings, which of course have included financial exigency, program reviews, how faculty are treated by administration on the various campuses, etc.

My next meeting with President Johnsen will be tomorrow 10 October 2019.

Also met on 29 March 2019 with University of Alaska Vice President University Relations Michelle Rizk and Associate Vice President/Public Affairs Roberta Graham to discuss the UA Strong campaign.

Met with Vice President Layer on 6 May 2019 to discuss academic program reviews.

**g. Community Coalition in Fairbanks (Affiliated with Save Our State).**

Attended 12 April 2019 and 19 April 2019 Community Coalition meetings and engaged in email exchanges regularly.

Respectfully submitted,



Abel Bult-Ito  
President United Academics AAUP/AFT Local 4996  
9 October 2019

## Approved Minutes

### United Academics Executive Board Meeting – Phone Conference

19 March 2019, 10:03am-10:55am

- 10:03 am      Called to order
- 10:03 am      Roll call  
Officers present: Abel Bult-Ito, Richard McDonald, Sharon Chamard, Mara Bacsujlaky  
Officers absent: Soren Orley, Charla Brown  
Staff: Cyndee West  
Guests present: None
- 10:03am      Approval of Agenda. Approved as presented.
- 10:04am      Approval of minutes of 21 February 2019 Executive Board Meeting. Approved as presented.
- 10:05am      President's report – Abel – Lots of grievances and investigations.
- 10:08am      Treasurer's report: No report
- 10:09am      Organizational Vice Presidents reports  
Charla: No report.  
Sharon: Meeting of campus scheduled 27 February – 20-25 people present – Cyndee and Abel presented on workloads. A member received a notice of investigation and another member received a notice of termination.  
Rick: Member is leaving CTC at UAF. Talked with Pete Pretorius and John Radzilowski to reach out to and visit extended sites. Discussed approving travel for visits. Rick will put in budget for April visits and EBoard will approve by email.  
Mara: Meeting of campus scheduled for 26 February – small attendance, lower than in the past. It was an open forum. Next time will be focused on a specific topic. Discussions of workloads with members.
- All Organizational Vice Presidents will present a budget for the next fiscal year to cover anticipated travel, membership meeting costs, etc. by the end of this month.
- 10:30am      New business
- Membership training – Cyndee will have a draft training plan ready by the end of the month. Give training when members are on contract but not yet

teaching. Do one in August and one in January. Mara: rolls in shared governance related to faculty senates and the union.

- Other:
  - Committees are very active and good follow through from RA meeting. Abel will ask committee chairs to provide updates and then distribute to RA.
  - Sharon will look at using Zoom for union meetings, for EBoard, RA, and committee meetings. She will get a budget for this for the next fiscal year.

10:40 am Old business

- Upcoming Dates:
  - 30 March 2019: Provost Response Due to faculty members in P&T.
  - 5 April 2019: UNAC Must File Appeals if negative recommendation.
  - 1 May 2019: Chancellor's decision on P&T.How is the chancellor going to respond to events, such as low enrollment, loss of accreditations and so forth, regarding T&P?
- Other: None

10:45am Good of the order.

10:55am Adjourned.

## Draft Minutes

Executive Board Meeting  
United Academics AAUP-AFT Local 4996  
4 October 2019

Call-in number: [1-866-832-7806](tel:1-866-832-7806), Access code: 1207653.

12:03pm Meeting was called to order.

12:04pm Roll was called.

Present: Soren Orley, Charla Brown, Sharon Chamard, Mara Bacsujlaky, Abel Bult-Ito.

Excused: Rick McDonald.

Staff: Cyndee West.

12:08pm Agenda was approved as presented.

12:09pm 23 and 30 July 2019 Executive Board Meeting Minutes were approved as presented.

12:10pm Review of the RA draft agenda. Agenda looked fine and no changes were suggested.

12:20pm Discussion of RA meeting draft agenda items.

Major grievances were discussed.

Training requirements that are above and beyond university required training; appears to be a result of overzealous risk management.

UAA College of Health review of work environment. May not have given faculty enough opportunity to give feedback.

UAA Faculty Senate is considering a reaffirmation of the vote of no confidence in UA President Jim Johnsen.

Three question survey from UAA Faculty Senate went out to UAS faculty on Monday. UAS Faculty Senate will not use the data. UAS Faculty Senate will also consider UAA's resolution of no confidence.

We discussed the survey issues at UAF.

1:15pm Other business

Mara will help with the UNAC website.

How do Wintermester and Maymester at UAF work? How does this affect the common calendar?

1:20pm Adjourned

## Approved Minutes

United Academics Executive Board Meeting – In-person meeting

23 July 2019, 10am-4pm

Union Office 214 PSB, UAA Anchorage Campus

The call-in number is: [1-866-832-7806](tel:1-866-832-7806), Access code: 1207653

- 10:14 am Cal to order
- 10:15 am Roll call  
Officers Present: Abel Bult-Ito, Soren Orley, Charla Brown, Richard McDonald, Sharon Chamard  
Excused: Mara Bacsujlaky  
Staff : Cyndee West  
Guests present: Max Kullberg, Tony Rickard, Lisa Hofercamp
- 10:16am Approval of Agenda.
- 10:17am Approval of minutes of 19 March 2019 Executive Board Meeting
- 10:18am President's report  
Brief overview of issues related to financial exigency
- 10:19am Treasurer's report  
None
- 10:20am Organizational Vice Presidents reports  
Each OrgVP discussed their efforts to address concerns members have had with financial exigency at the university.
- 10:30am New business  
The Executive Board briefly discussed the governor's vetoes, UA budget crisis and financial exigency, advocacy, unity, the AAUP Financial Analysis of the University of Alaska, and invited guest comments.
- 10:45am Executive Session to develop a United Academics strategy plan to address the UA financial exigency.
- 4:40 pm Motion to move out of executive session was approved.
- 4:41 pm Motion to extend the CBA by one year was approved unanimously.

4:50 pm Meeting adjourned  
Approved Minutes

United Academics Executive Board Meeting  
7-30-19.  
Anchorage

4:38pm Call to order

4:39pm Roll call

Soren Orley, Charla Brown, Rick McDonald, Sharon Chamard, Abel Bult-Ito

Excused: Mara Bacsujlacy

Staff: Cyndee West

Guest: Jason Wedemeyer, AFT National Representative

4:40pm Executive session to discuss BOR decision and union strategy plan. Motion to go into executive session approved.

5:09pm Motion to move out of executive session passed.

5:10p Motion to adjourn