

9/23/2021

To: University of Alaska management negotiation team
From: UNAC negotiation team
Re: UA management team request for info from UNAC on 9/3/2021

The United Academics AAUP/AFT Local 4996 (UNAC) negotiation team has reviewed the request for information from the University of Alaska management negotiation team. Our response is two parts: (1) Items 1-4 on the UA management team request, and (2) item 5.

Response to Items 1-4

The information sought in paragraphs 1-4 of the University of Alaska management team information request (dated 9/3/2021), has no apparent relevance or necessity to the Fall 2021 collective bargaining negotiations between the University of Alaska management team and UNAC. The parties' Negotiations Ground Rules Fall 2021 addresses information requests (paragraph 6), but is limited in scope to "[r]equests for information and materials relevant for collective bargaining." Accordingly, UNAC requests that the University of Alaska management team provide clarification as to the alleged relevance and necessity of the information sought in paragraphs 1-4 in regard to the parties' collective bargaining negotiations.

Item 5

The University of Alaska management team is seeking clarification about several items in the UNAC opening statement/presentation for UA/UNAC negotiations on 8/30/2021.

First, all three statements clearly refer to the faculty who are members of the UNAC bargaining unit, not "UNAC itself." It is members of the UNAC bargaining unit who are University of Alaska faculty and teach courses, conduct research, engage in performance/creative work, service, etc., and, of course, "UNAC itself" is not part of the UA Operating Budget.

Second, all of the data used in the the three items for which the UA management team seeks clarification utilize data either provided directly to UNAC by the UA management team in response to our request for information or from public sources where the data was provided by UA (e.g., the 2021 American Association of University Professors Survey on the Economic Status of the Profession). In other words, all of the data used in the calculations of the three items are data provided by UA. The UNAC negotiation team welcomes any additional analysis by the UA management team that helps both parties better understand the value of UNAC members to the University of Alaska system.

Here is how UNAC calculated the metrics shared in our opening statement/presentation:

5a. The UA Operating Budget for FY21 (approved by the Board of Regents as per public documents on the UA statewide website) was about \$831.7 million; the total amount of salaries for full-time faculty in the UA system (from data provided by UA to AAUP) was \$86.77 million; the benefits rate used by UA for UNAC faculty (according to the UA website) is about 57.2%, or \$49.6 million (i.e., 57.2% of \$86.77M). This means that UNAC members have an estimated

total cost of salaries + benefits of $\$86.77\text{M} + \$49.6\text{M} = \$136.4\text{M}$, which is 16.4% of the $\$831.7\text{M}$ UA FY21 operating budget.

5b. According to data provided by the UA management team (in response to the request for information from the UNAC team) UA external grants/contracts, where a UNAC member is a principal investigator or co-principal investigator, have averaged \$101 million for the past five years (i.e., FY17-FY21); indirect cost recovery has averaged about \$36 million over the past five years (FY17-FY21), with UNAC members generating “a substantial portion” of that (which we assume to be about 75% of total ICR), or about \$26 million; total tuition/fees for the UA system, according to the UA FY21 operating budget were \$131.5 million and according to the UA data provided in the RFI, UNAC members generate 68% of the FTE student credit hours (UA appears to convert the number of credit hours into “full time equivalent” student credit hours to allow for direct comparisons between UAA, UAF, and UAS which have large differences in enrollments; 1 FTE is equal to 30 undergrad credit hours or 24 grad credit hours, according to UA), and 68% of \$131.5M is about \$89.42M. Adding all of these together to determine the total revenue generated by UNAC members from external grants/contracts + ICR + tuition/fees is $\$101\text{M} + \$26\text{M} + \$89.42\text{M} = \216.4M which is about 26% of the $\$831.7\text{M}$ UA FY21 Operating Budget.

5c. The data provided to the UNAC negotiation team by the UA management team in our RFI showed that in FY21, UNAC members taught 8,641.6 FTE student credit hours out of a total number of 12,723.3 FTE student credit hours for the entire UA system, which means that UNAC members were responsible for about 68% of the FTE student credit hours.

We hope that the above clarifications for items 5a, 5b, and 5c help the UA management team to understand the tremendous value of our UNAC membership to the UA system and we look forward to your response regarding your items 1-4.