



UNIVERSITY of ALASKA SOUTHEAST
Strategic Planning & Budget Committee
(SPBAC)

Meeting Notes/Summary of Discussion – July 17, 2019

Attendees: Michael Ciri, Richard Caulfield, Heather Batchelder, Trisha Lee, Nathan Leigh, Jon Lasinski, Sarah Belmont, Gail Cheney, Julie Vigil, Eric Scott, Kristen Handley, Robin Gilcrist, Kathy Boling, Jill Hanson, Leslie Gordon, Priscilla Schulte, Wendy Horn, Ronalda Cadiente-Brown, Steve Atwater, Elise Tomlinson, Maren Haavig, David Felts, Noelle Gangle, Rachel Jacobus (meeting notes)

Provost Carey flying back to Juneau at time of meeting, unavailable.

Meeting started at 3:30 pm

Michael announced that full UAS accreditation affirmation has been received. Three recommendations. Two pertain to metrics/data. Will have standing topic on SPBAC agendas for institutional effectiveness updates.

Rick relayed that he is thrilled to get letter of reaccreditation. Commission (NWCCU) is aware of budget issues. Letter came through with three recommendations and 5 commendations. He has been engaging with radio and newspaper to celebrate this milestone around the community. Note of appreciation for all the hard work.

Michael: current accreditation report is the best he has seen our institution get, exceptional, five commendations is remarkable. Get the word out about this to the community, as it will help with advocacy during this time while the legislature is still working on budget.

Institutional Effectiveness Update

- Kristen presented the new website she has created for Institutional Effectiveness and metrics. Working on getting data to show all the different student populations and will be working on two new dashboards and reports. Pilot dashboards are out on the website now. Explained the UAS Weekly Enrollment handout and website. Will work on a three year span. Searchable features on website, ability to filter by school and campus. Noted that font is small to easily print, but will work on getting the font bigger. Please email her with suggestions and questions.
- Handout: [http://www.uas.alaska.edu/admin/docs/spbac/2019-07-17/Fall Weekly Enrollment Funnel%20July%202015.pdf](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/admin/docs/spbac/2019-07-17/Fall_Weekly_Enrollment_Funnel%20July%202015.pdf)
- Website: <http://www.uas.alaska.edu/ie/index.html>

(People were happy to see the positive changes to the site, and applauded)



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Budget Update / Q&A

Handout: excerpts from BOR July 15 materials, OMB list of swept funds

[http://www.uas.alaska.edu/admin/docs/spbac/2019-07-17/OMB%20list%20of%20Funds Subject to Sweep 7-12-19.pdf](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/admin/docs/spbac/2019-07-17/OMB%20list%20of%20Funds%20Subject%20to%20Sweep%207-12-19.pdf)

Resource links:

- BOR

Materials: <http://go.boarddocs.com/ak/alaska/Board.nsf/goto?open&id=BDVUN57CBC49>

- Veto

Summary: <https://bloximages.newyork1.vip.townnews.com/newsminer.com/content/tncms/assets/v3/editorial/e/08/e089a89e-99e2-11e9-b423-43b547e4a42a/5d1677e051ccc.pdf.pdf>

- HB2001: http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Meeting/Detail/?Meeting=HFIN+2019-07-15+11%3A00%3A00&Bill=HB2001&fbclid=IwAR0yV3KdZYArA1rwyYNMLzm7KUTIskYJhhAhkt3dM7so6km9EBKv-MT2-6s#tab4_4

Michael: governor vetoed the budget. In addition to 135mil veto, 350,000 in debt relief vetoed as well. Brings amount of cut up to \$136million.

Vetoes passed.

House bill 2001 would restore all funding vetoed by gov. regarding operating budget. Legislature would use it as a starting place. Some arguing it is not legal, as special session not focusing on operating budget. Gov. has just called everyone back to Juneau and expanded call to capital budget. Bill will likely still be challenged, since it is not just capitol budget. Advocacy is important still. All legislators will be in one place, opportunity for compromise/deals is present now. Must be done by end of July or risk losing matching federal funds.

BOR met on Monday, did not vote on exigency. Called another meeting on 7/22/19 then 7/30. Expectation that decisions will be made at 7/30 meeting.

Main Cuts are part of appropriations to SW, UAF, and UAA, debt service veto affects UAA and UAS. Agencies can charge each other for services/costs, which may affect UAS in upwards of 1.7 million. Nothing has been decided though. High end cut, 10million, not sure of low end. We still don't know what the cut will be, or when we will know.

Meeting of BOR on 7/22 appears to be in order for them to wait to see what happens in the legislature in regards to the budget.

Emphasized importance of seeing ourselves as a system, and avoid division/attacks on other campuses/units. The size of the cut affects us all.

Moody's downgraded us three steps. Second only to Puerto Rico with lowest rating, two steps above junk bond status. This occurred partly because exigency was not declared. Now we will be unable to obtain debt funding, and have very poor credit rating. Financing will be more difficult.



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Declaration of exigency does not compel us to take action immediately, merely creates avenue for swift changes to be made as needed.

There is still hope that money will be put back into UAs budget. Don't know if dual appropriations will survive. Decision by legislature will be made in the next two weeks.

Fall semester going forward as usual. Tuition waiver amounts are going to be looked at/policy will be evaluated.

Criteria for Academic Program Review

Handout: Review criteria 1-page [http://www.uas.alaska.edu/admin/docs/spbac/2019-07-17/DRAFT for %20SPBAC Proposed Criteria.pdf](http://www.uas.alaska.edu/admin/docs/spbac/2019-07-17/DRAFT_for_%20SPBAC_Proposed_Criteria.pdf)

Rick: possible we may have to make quick decisions soon about budget reductions. Program review handout presents proposed criteria for these reviews/discussions. Reductions to date have mostly affected staff, and doesn't see more staff reductions very possible. This leads us to have to look more closely at academic programs for reductions. We will need to make decisions soon. We will stay committed to teach-out for students as required by the NWCCU, through which we are accredited.

Referred to draft handout: Went through bullet points. First three points data driven. Program leadership might include teacher education, marine biology etc. Executive cabinet requesting feedback on this draft handout. Consider the use of these criteria if/when (most likely when) reductions might need to be made. This is a starting point, opening opportunity to drill down into programs regarding degree concentrations etc.

Guidance for staff on how/what to communicate to students & the public

Michael has been approached by staff struggling on what to tell prospective students. Please talk to your colleagues, open this conversation. Fall classes going forward normally.

Robin suggestion to stay positive. Others suggest further advocacy.

Meeting ended at 5:03pm