

United Academics AAUP-AFT Local 4996

Representative Assembly Meeting Minutes - approved

Date: Saturday, February 21, 2026 **Time:** 10:00am-2:00pm AKST

Location: [Join Zoom Meeting](#) **ID:** 89696255835 **Passcode:** 410734

Item	Facilitator
CALL TO ORDER 10:02 am	
Land Acknowledgement	10:02 a.m.
Statement on Racial Justice and Social Equity	10:02 a.m
<p>Roll Call: RA Membership List Present: Jill Dumesnil, Sharon Chamard, Richie Berndt, Leah Berman, Ambra McMillian, Cindy Trussell, Maria Williams, Pete Praetorious, Kaia Henrickson, Ryan Harrod, Jak Maier, Deb Mole, Andrews Dewees, Ingrid Johnson, Matthew Cuellar Staff: Kate Quick, Melanie Arthur Absent: Art Nash, Kimberly Pace, Taylor Rose, Tim Hinterberger, Haiwei Chen Guests: Terissia Bell</p>	
<p>Motion to Approve Agenda Leah - approved Motion to Approve October 18, 2025 Minutes Leah/Cindy</p>	
REPORTS	
<p>1. Officer Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. President b. Treasurer c. Secretary d. UAA Org Vice President e. UAF Org Vice President f. UAS Org Vice President g. Extended Sites Vice President <p>2. Staff Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Contract Manager b. Organizing Manager 	
<p>3. Standing Committees (committee roster)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Collective Bargaining Committee (Jak Maier) Jak submitted a verbal resignation from CBC committee. Discussion of a faculty sitting as E-board and Senate leadership 	

- b. [Legislative Relations](#) (Mary Wegner) - Fly-in rescheduled for March
 - c. Organizing, Membership, and Communications (Ryan Harrod)
 - d. Finance, Budget, and Audit (Gokhan Karahan)
 - e. [Elections](#) (Terissia Bell) Election Report
 - f. [Committee on Non Tenure Track Members](#) (Kimberly Pace)
4. **Ad Hoc Committees** - None active

SPECIAL ORDERS (priority motions - 2/3 vote to get here)

5.

BREAK

UNFINISHED BUSINESS AND GENERAL ORDERS (with motions)

- 6. Discussion of 9 month pay over 12 months - Please confirm survey was received There was a problem with the survey pool from the UAHR
- 7. [Motion to raise per diem](#) - FBA Committee Sharron/Leah Motion Passed
- 8. Policy on donations and contributions - FBA Committee Motion Sharron/2nd - motion fails-back to committee. Discussion of motion to start a strike fund at our April meeting
- 9. Discussion of in-person meeting for November 2026
- 10. Discussion of [Bylaws](#) change to NOT require in-person meetings or change it to once (Article IV, Section 2E) - Leah to chair committee
- 11. Buildings with faculty ([review this spreadsheet](#))
- 12. Purging DEI rhetoric from faculty evaluation guidelines at UAA - CAS
- 13. Affiliate biennial conventions
 - a. [AAUP Higher Ed Summit & Biennial](#) June 10-13 in Chicago - Deb Mole
 - b. [AFT Biennial](#) July 16-19 in D.C. -Ambra McMillian, Rlchie Berndt (maybe)

CLOSING ITEMS

Next meeting: April 18, 2026, 10 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. AKST

Good of the Order:
Motion to Adjourn: Deb/ Richie

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We live and work on the unceded territories of Alaska Native Peoples. We very much appreciate their past and ongoing stewardship of these lands.

STATEMENT ON RACIAL JUSTICE AND SOCIAL EQUITY

As part of our commitment to enkindle racial justice and social equity within the University of Alaska system, we will speak up when we experience examples of racism or injustice in our meetings and as we conduct our business. This means we can and will interrupt the meeting to draw the issue to one another’s attention.

We will do this kindly, with care, and in good faith. This statement is a reminder that we commit to doing this in the service of ending the system of racial oppression that is perpetuated through institutionalized policies and individual bias.

United Academics Executive Board		
PRESIDENT	Jill Dumesnil, PhD	2023-2026
TREASURER	Sharon Chamard PhD	2024-2026
SECRETARY	Richie Berndt, MSML	2025-2026
ORGANIZATIONAL VP - UAA	Ryan Harrod, PhD	2024-2027
ORGANIZATIONAL VP - UAF	Ingrid Johnson, PhD	2025-2027
ORGANIZATIONAL VP - UAS	Andrea Dewees, PhD	2024-2027
ORGANIZATIONAL VP - Extended Sites	Cindy Trussell, PhD	2024-2027
CONTRACT MANAGER Melanie Arthur, PhD		
ORGANIZING MANAGER Kate Quick, MFA		