

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE

April 1, 2022

9:04 a.m.

[9:04:08 AM](#)

CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chair Stedman called the Senate Finance Committee meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Senator Bert Stedman, Co-Chair  
Senator David Wilson  
Senator Bill Wielechowski [via teleconference]

MEMBERS ABSENT

Senator Click Bishop, Co-Chair  
Senator Lyman Hoffman  
Senator Donny Olson  
Senator Natasha von Imhof

ALSO PRESENT

Tim Grussendorf, Staff, Senator Lyman Hoffman.

SUMMARY

SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA BUDGET CLOSEOUT

Co-Chair Stedman explained that the committee would consider the University of Alaska (UA) budget closeout. Members each had a closeout narrative, a colored Budget Allocation (BA) sheet, and fund source totals and comparisons prepared by the Legislative Finance Division (copy on file).

^SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE - UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA BUDGET CLOSEOUT

[9:05:08 AM](#)

TIM GRUSSENDORF, STAFF, SENATOR LYMAN HOFFMAN, relayed that he would address the narrative report on Document 6 in the

packet. He mentioned the colored BA sheet for a source of more detail. He read from the narrative report:

The Senate Finance Budget Subcommittee for the University of Alaska submits the following FY 23 recommendations to the Senate Finance Committee:

Fund Group: (dollars are in thousands)	Senate Sub
Unrestricted General Funds (UGF)	\$290,969.4
Designated General Funds	\$310,372.1
Other Funds	\$75,116.1
Federal Funds	\$187,225.9
TOTAL FUNDS	\$863,683.5

Positions:

Permanent Full-time	3,759
Permanent Part Time	185
Temporary	0
TOTAL POSITIONS	3,944

BUDGET ACTIONS:

The Senate Finance Budget Subcommittee for University of Alaska reviewed the Governor's FY 23 budget request. The following are highlights of the Subcommittee's action.

Governor's Amended Budget Request:

The Senate Finance Subcommittee accepted all the governor's requested changes with the following exceptions:

- Denied the single appropriation

Subcommittee Additions, Reductions and Changes

- Added \$9.5 million for fixed and Operating cost increases (of which \$2.7 million is for the Community Campuses appropriation)
- Added \$2 million for Alternate Energy Research
- Added \$1 million to support Teacher Practicums/Student Teaching-Small pilot
- Added \$1 million to support Health Care Clinicals-small pilot
- Added \$635.9 to continue Alaska Library Network and Imagination Library
- Added \$881.8 to have the correct Alaska Technical and Vocational Educational Program funding available

Budget Structure Changes:

- Maintained the current two appropriation structure

[9:08:22 AM](#)

Mr. Grussendorf explained that the subcommittee had some recommendations based on conversation with Senators and staff. He expressed concerns that current contract negotiations between UA and staff were not included in the budget and cautioned that the outcome could have significant ramifications going forward. He thought the negotiations could conclude before the budget went to Conference Committee and would need to be accommodated. He noted that there were some economic recovery projects in the language section, which was outside the subcommittee's purview. He recommended reviewing the long-term fiscal implications and whether it was wise to add new programs as UA stabilized to its current budget levels post-Covid-19 and high inflation realities.

[9:09:42 AM](#)

Senator Wilson MOVED the FY 23 operating budget for the University of Alaska from subcommittee with the attached legislative finance reports: Agency Totals; Allocation Summary - All funds; Allocation Summary - UGF; Transaction Compare FY 23 Adjusted Base to Senate Subcommittee; Transaction Compare FY 23 Governor's Amended to Senate Subcommittee. The Legislative Finance Division was directed to make any appropriate or conforming technical changes.

There being NO OBJECTION, it was so ordered. The report will go on for consideration by the full Senate Finance Committee.

Co-Chair Stedman clarified that the subcommittee was comprised of the full Senate Finance Committee, which would be considering the budget report as a whole.

Co-Chair Stedman thanked the subcommittee, and thanked UA for helping the subcommittee to understand some of the financial issues it faced. He thanked UA for its forward-looking restructuring and avowed that the committee would help.

#  
ADJOURNMENT  
9:11:30 AM

The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 a.m.