

Board of Regents

4. **Approval of a Resolution of Celebration for the 25th Anniversary of the University of Alaska Scholars Award Program**

PASSED

The Board of Regents approves the resolution of celebration for the 25th Anniversary of the University of Alaska Scholars Award Program. This motion is effective September 6, 2024.

WHEREAS, the University of Alaska Scholars Award Program was established in 1999 to encourage Alaska's best high school students to attend and graduate from college in their home state; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Award is a merit scholarship awarded to the top ten percent of each high school graduating class for attendance at the UA system; and,

WHEREAS, before the UA Scholars Program was established, many top students left Alaska to attend college outside; and,

WHEREAS, the program's founding was a turning point for the UA, consistently attracting an average of forty percent of eligible high school graduates to attend UA and stay in Alaska compared to ten percent before the program started; and,

WHEREAS, nearly 80 percent of UA Scholars across the UA System return after their first year; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Program changed the face of post-secondary education in Alaska, and has become one of the most successful financial aid programs in Alaska history; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Program is funded by revenue from property sales and development on university lands; and

WHEREAS, over \$76 million in scholarship awards have been made through the UA Scholars Program since its inception; and,

WHEREAS, an estimated 4,000 UA BT/F2 12 Tf1 0 0 1 296.59 411.55 Tm0 g0 GfheJTJET@0.00000912 0

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Program helps address the educational attainment gap, which is essential to secure economic prosperity, and ensure Alaskans are ready for today's fast-paced, highly competitive job marketplace; and,

WHEREAS, UA Scholars represent all corners of Alaska, serving as ambassadors between their community and the university; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Board of Regents seeks to support the enrollment objectives of the universities; and,

WHEREAS, the UA Board of Regents recently increased the UA Scholars Award to \$15,000;

WHEREAS, the UA Scholars Program is welcoming its 25th cohort this Fall Semester; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska officially recognizes and celebrates the 25th Anniversary of the UA Scholars Award Program, and its impact on our students and the state of Alaska; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Regents welcomes the 25th Class of UA Scholars and congratulates them on their enrollment in the UA System; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution be appropriately engrossed and conveyed with a copy incorporated into the official minutes of the September 2024 meeting of the Board of Regents.

5. **Approval of a Resolution of Appreciation for Matthew Cooper**

PASSED

The Board of Regents approves the resolution of appreciation for Matthew Cooper. This motion is effective September 6, 2024.

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper, General Counsel for the University of Alaska, has served with unwavering dedication and distinction since joining the Office of the General Counsel in December 2011, and subsequently becoming General Counsel in 2020; and,

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Matthew Cooper has been a trusted legal advisor to the Board of Regents, system administration, and the broader university system, providing invaluable counsel and leadership across a diverse range of complex legal matters, including contracts, facilities management, university athletics, and governance; and,

WHEREAS,
navigating the university through some of its most challenging legal and operational issues, ensuring sound decision-making and securing the institution's mission and long-term success; and,

WHEREAS,
a respected member of the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly, where he previously served as presiding officer; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper has further established his commitment to the Fairbanks community through his several volunteer roles with the Midnight Sun Council, Boy Scouts of America; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper, in his role as General Counsel, has been recognized by the Office of the Secretary of Defense as a Patriotic Employer for his support of the Guard and Reserve; and,

WHEREAS, these roles demonstrate a deep commitment to the well-being of the broader Alaskan community; and,

WHEREAS, Matthew Cooper believes strongly in solving conflict through consensus and collaboration rather than edict; and,

WHEREAS,
the respect and admiration of his colleagues, who have greatly valued his thoughtful legal analysis and ability to provide clear direction, especially during times of significant change and challenge.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Regents of the University of Alaska formally recognizes and expresses its deep appreciation to Matthew Cooper for his outstanding service, leadership, and contributions as General Counsel; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this resolution be engrossed and presented to Matthew Cooper with heartfelt gratitude, with a copy incorporated into the official minutes of the
-6, 2024 meeting.

6. Approval of Academic Degree Recipients

PASSED

The Board of Regents approves the list of degree recipients for the summer and fall of 2023 and the spring of 2024. This motion is effective September 6, 2024.

11. Schematic Design Approval for the University of Alaska Anchorage Alaska Leaders Archives/Consortium Library Renovation - Phase 1

PASSED

The Board of Regents approves the schematic design approval request for the University of Alaska Anchorage Alaska Archives/Consortium Library Renovation