



# ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

## Executive Committee Meeting

May 26, 2021

Meeting Information			
<b>Project Objective</b>		Annual review of ACPE's strategic plan	
<b>Participants</b>		<p><b>Commissioners:</b> Joshua Bicchinella, Lisa Parker, Pearl Brower, and Keith Hamilton</p> <p><b>ACPE Staff:</b> Sana Efird, Executive Director; Julie Pierce, Chief Finance Officer; Kerry Thomas, Director of Program Operations; Jamie Oliphant, Director of Information Support Services; Kate Hillenbrand, Director of Communications and Outreach; Joseph Felkl, Executive Secretary</p>	
<b>Meeting</b>		<p>Wednesday, 05/26/21; 2:30 – 3:30</p> <p>Conference Call Access: 1 (800) 315-6338, Access code: 67401 #</p>	
<b>Purpose</b>		Strategic Planning Meeting	
Agenda			Facilitator
1.	2:30	<b>Convene/Roll Call</b>	Josh Bicchinella
*2.		<b>Adoption of Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Suggested Motion:</b> <i>move to adopt the agenda of the May 26, 2021, Executive Committee meeting.</i></li> </ul>	Josh Bicchinella
3.		<b>Clarity Map Updates</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changes reviewed by the committee</li> <li>Changes under review by staff</li> </ul>	Sana Efird
4.		<b>Steps Taken</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stakeholder survey</li> <li>Internal senior managers meetings</li> <li>Work session with Demi Michelau</li> <li>Check-in meetings w/ Demi Michelau</li> <li>Internal senior managers face-to-face session</li> <li>Two focus groups scheduled in June</li> </ul>	Sana Efird
5.		<b>Where We Are In The Process</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What have we learned?</li> </ul>	Sana Efird
6.		<b>Strategic Planning Going Forward</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recommendation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Overarching priorities</li> <li>Operating Work Plan next year and a half – present at July work session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projects/initiatives</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>Full Strategic Plan after outsourcing</li> </ul>	Sana Efird

**\*Action Required – motion, second, and roll call vote**



**ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
**May 26, 2021**

Agenda			Facilitator
*7.	3:30	<b>Adjournment</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Suggested Motion:</b> <i>move the Executive Committee adjourn the May 26, 2021, meeting.</i></li></ul>	Josh Bicchinella

**\*Action Required – motion, second, and roll call vote**

**CHANGES REVIEWED BY THE COMMITTEE****Mission Statement**

<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education promotes access to and success in education and career training beyond high school.	The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education provides student financial aid and promotes access to and supports success in education and career training beyond high school.

**Core Services**

<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Education planning tools and resources</li><li>2. Advocacy and support for postsecondary participation in Alaska</li><li>3. Financial aid for college and career training</li><li>4. Education consumer protection through institutional authorization and complaint investigation</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Low-cost education loans</li><li>2. State grant and scholarship programs</li><li>3. Consumer protection for Alaska postsecondary students</li><li>4. College and career planning services</li></ol>

### Vision Statement

Current	Proposed
The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) delivers programs and services that inspire and enable every Alaskan to dream, plan for and achieve career training and/or college credentials. Collectively Alaskan's individual success make their communities and economies strong and vibrant. ACPE is an exemplar of government efficiency and effectiveness by providing value-added products and services at the lowest possible cost to students and to the state. We are the state's higher education access and success resource and are relied upon and highly respected by Alaskans statewide.	The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) enables individuals to achieve career training and/or college credentials to reach their aspirations and benefit Alaska's economy.

### Impact Statement

Current	Proposed
Positively Impacting Alaska's Higher Education Culture	Positively Impacting Higher Education Attainment for Alaskans

**CHANGES UNDER REVIEW****Goals**

<b>Current</b>	<b>Revisions Ongoing</b>
<p>The ACPE's primary goal is to <u>Positively Impact Alaska's College and Career Training Access and Outcomes</u>, by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Providing low-cost, value-added loan products and services for all Alaskans</li><li>2. Providing efficient, impactful scholarships and grants to Alaskans</li><li>3. Improving Alaska's return on investment through better higher education outcomes</li><li>4. Providing consumer protection for Alaska's higher education students</li></ol>	<p>The ACPE's primary goal is to <u>Positively Impact Higher Education Attainment for Alaskans</u>, by:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li><li>4.</li></ol>

**Values**

<b>Current</b>	<b>Revisions Ongoing</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Service</li><li>2. Innovation</li><li>3. Empowerment</li><li>4. Quality</li><li>5. Accountability</li></ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1.</li><li>2.</li><li>3.</li><li>4.</li><li>5.</li></ol>

**Methods**

Current	Revisions Ongoing
1. Maintain an efficient and financially sustainable organization	1.
2. Make data-driven decisions	2.
3. Promote strong statewide partnerships	3.
4. Creating value for the State of Alaska and our individual customers	4.
5. Engaging our staff in an entrepreneurial agency culture	5.

## **Topics for Stakeholder Focus Group**

### **FINANCIAL AID**

**Respondents primarily indicated they were “somewhat” familiar with ACPE’s financial aid programs (loans/scholarships/grants), but over 36% indicated the most important improvement ACPE can make to support PSE is to advocate for increased funding to programs like the Alaska Performance Scholarship and the Alaska Education Grant. With an 14.55% indicating the importance of increasing access to loan programs by updating applicant qualifications and program requirements.**

- What are gaps in current program models as well as outreach about program models that has limited awareness?
- What do stakeholders see as the outcome for increased funding given the APS decline in use?
- How do stakeholders anticipate their role in delivering messaging and support to students/families regarding current and new programs?

### **OUTREACH RESOURCES & PROGRAMS**

**Respondents primarily indicated they were “somewhat” familiar with ACPE’s outreach programs (AKCIS, ACAC, Early Outreach), but over 34% indicated the most important improvement ACPE can make to support PSE is to increase outreach and participation at school district and/or postsecondary education events.**

- How can ACPE Outreach develop stronger connections and pathways for consistent access to and participation in school district and/or community education events?
- What are current identifiable gaps in services and support/resources available from Outreach that can better meet stakeholder needs?
- How do stakeholders anticipate their role in engaging and collaborating with ACPE Outreach to connect ACPE to students, families, and communities?

### **ADDITIONAL NEEDS**

**Stakeholders identified additional programming needs focused around the areas of: increased collaboration with Rural Alaska and Alaska Native/Tribal Organizations; K-12 postsecondary outreach programming with targeted middle school populations; and financial aid opportunities/enhancements (specifically scholarships & grants) for Alaskans.**

- What kinds of added-value programming can ACPE offer in Rural Alaska and through/with Alaska Native/Tribal Organizations?
- What kind of middle schools outreach programming would be beneficial for ACPE to offer in support of growing a postsecondary-going culture in Alaska?
- How do stakeholders anticipate their role in developing and implementing these programmatic initiatives?