



ASUAF GOVERNANCE REPORT

Dear Faculty Senate Members,

September 12, 2016

For those of you I have not had the pleasure of meeting yet, my name is Colby. I have the honor of serving as the 2016-2017 Student Body President, and in my capacity as President, I would like to thank you all for your service to the University community and to students.

I would also like to thank you for the opportunity to share with you the recent activities of ASUAF Student Government. As we are going through this period of change, open, honest, and frequent communication between governance groups plays an increasingly important role. Since ASUAF has last reported to you, the Student Body's focus has shifted to two primary areas of concern: Title IX and Strategic Pathways.

As the most recent edition of the SunStar shows, students value Nanook Athletics and the role they play in a well-rounded education and holistic college experience. While it has become very clear through the recent discourse what the pros and cons of the 'Athletics debate' are, there is a perspective missing from discussion: That of the individual student athlete that has committed four years of their life to academics and athletics at UAF. These students are caught in the cross-fire of debate. Because there is no teach-out for athletics, student athletes face immediate consequences that will have lasting impacts on their lives. I urge all members of the UAF community to consider the impacts our leaders' decisions have on these students

The second issue in the fore front of students' minds is the University's actions regarding Title IX. Since Chancellor Powers' open letter in fall of last year, UAF has made progress towards a safer learning environment for students. Most recently, the University has made the Everfi Haven Healthy Relationship and AlcoholEdu training mandatory for incoming students. While the University prioritization of education as a component to campus safety is commendable, students have voiced concerns regarding the implementation of this training.

Student Government will pursue better pathways to a safer campus, possibly including the creation of a low-to-no cost mandatory single credit condensed course that focuses on issues surrounding Title IX, alcohol consumption, study and research skills, and financial literacy. Over the coming weeks, my colleagues and I will be assessing the value such a course would have for students. It is my hope that we can work together to improve safety on campus.

Thank you for your time and please do not hesitate to contact my office with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Colby Freel

UAF Student Body President