Statewide Academic Council Summary – December 2013

Present: Dana Thomas, Susan Henrichs, Helena Wisniewski, Alex Fitts, Karl Kowalski, Elisha Baker, Robert Boeckmann, David Valentine, Cathy LeCompt, Cecile Lardon, Virgil Fredenberg, Rick Caulfield

1. Approval of the summary of the 11.21.2013 meeting – Dana Thomas – Approved

2. Collegiate Learning Assessment presentation – Roger Benjamin (via video) – rubric based assessment of critical thinking. Ensures reliability, validity, and integrity of campus assessments – needed for increasing accountability. Showed scenarios and rationale. Additional information for employers to use for selecting candidates for interviews. Encourage students with Pell Grants to take the CLA with cost paid by foundations; major employers would take part in a virtual career fair to help these disadvantaged students. Available online so student can take at their convenience. Do testing at college/school level to determine where curriculum needs revision. They have recently addressed the distribution – bell shaped curve. CLA+ is reliable at the individual student level so will likely be used by more departments. The more writing students do the higher the scores on the CLA+. Value rubrics are in the formative assessment category. CLA+ brings greater validity and reliability over the Value Rubrics. CLA+ is not sufficient alone – multiple measures are needed.


4. UAF Music MA to MM degree – Susan Henrichs – http://www.alaska.edu/research/sac/new-programs/
   Accreditor indicated MA not up to standards – suggested faculty revisions or change to MM degree. Music students expressed more interest in this approach. No objections. Move these proposals to the BOR.

5. DELAYED Aggregate measure of faculty research productivity and quality
   Average peer reviewed publications/faculty for an institution – consider impact factor of journals published in, H-index, citations

6. DELAYED Program review cycle – Dana Thomas
   Is a 7-year cycle preferred to a 5-year cycle? Should different programs have different cycles, e.g., certificate/AAS shorter than baccalaureate or graduate? Should there be common sequencing of program review, i.e., math at UAA, UAF, and UAS would be reviewed in the same year and each university would be engaged in the review of the other’s program?

7. DELAYED Qualification standards for high school teachers to teach lower division courses – Dana Thomas
   Should there be a system wide standard? Possible standard – a master’s degree in field or related field or AP certified teacher in that area. Problem – potential transfer issue among MAUs if there is not such a standard. This will be increasingly important for dual credit delivery and the Alaska Learning Network. We need to be careful about tech-prep in this discussion.
8. Common survey update – Alex Fitts and Robert Boeckmann – Have met since May – on each campus focus groups, surveys, etc. with student services, faculty senate, and other groups. Have not heard from students directly at this point. Responses grouped into broad categories – info and outreach, level of use, opportunity for feedback, service needs. UAA asked Hanover group to summarize what is currently in use for statewide systems. Still need to address whether different surveys are needed for bacc. Versus certificate/associate – and addressing distance student needs. Budget concerns of implementing common surveys.


10. **DELAYED** Common Placement Tool Decision Processes, e.g., moving away from ACCUPLACER

11. IT – AA interface, ITEC membership (John Pugh, Michael Siri, Pat Pinney, Saichi Oba, Karl Kowalski, Bruce Schultz, Michelle Rizk) Academics is not well enough represented on ITEC currently for them to make decisions impacting academics – Dana serve on ITEC – Establish a systemwide eLearning committee? Ask for process to be such that issues impacting academic affairs should request a recommendation from SAC prior to – SAC would like to receive ITEC agenda in advance to evaluate where SAC input is needed.

    David Valentine summarized LMS work to date at UAF. Is AA adequately represented? Robert asked each MAU faculty senate to connect their eLearning advisory group with ITEC. Discussed the value of a common LMS across the system. What are the conversations taking place (get input from CITO Kowalski and VP Roy)? LMS selection process (Cecile or David Valentine). Where do we have conversation about whether we should have a common LMS across the system – what is the mechanism for having this conversation – faculty alliance. Look at UW webinar ([http://www.insidehighered.com/audio/2013/11/06/good-students-good-faculty-uw-reviews-lms](http://www.insidehighered.com/audio/2013/11/06/good-students-good-faculty-uw-reviews-lms)).

12. February Board of Regents’ meeting
   a. In-state, out-of-state, and international student recruiting efforts by each university; what is working, what is not, and how they know – VCs of Student and Enrollment Services – Saichi Oba will coordinate
   b. Policy and regulation revisions 10.07
   c. New program proposals or deletions – UAF Music MA to MM
   d. Arctic Region Supercomputing Center presentation – requested by Regent Heckman
   e. National Council on Teacher Quality report

13. **Ran out of time** Roundtable