UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

Faculty Alliance

Minutes
Friday, April 12, 2013
Meeting commenced at 3:00 pm via audio conference
Telephone bridge: 1-800-893-8850 Pin 2151251

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

   Members Present:
   Nalinaksha Bhattacharyya, Past President, UAA Faculty Senate
   Robert Boeckmann, President, UAA Faculty Senate
   Mark Fitch, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate
   Virgil Fredenberg, President-elect, UAS Faculty Senate
   Dan Monteith, 2011-2012 Alliance Chair; Past President, UAS Faculty Senate
   Jennifer Reynolds, President, UAF Faculty Senate
   Mike Stekoll, President, UAS Faculty Senate
   David Valentine, President-elect, UAF Faculty Senate

   Staff Present:
   LaNora Tolman, Executive Officer, System Governance
   Joseph Altman, Coordinator, System Governance

2. **Adopt Agenda**
   Jennifer moved to adopt the agenda and David seconded. The agenda was adopted.

3. **Approve Past Minutes**
   3.1 **February 8, 2013**   Attachment
       Jennifer motioned to accept the February 8, 2013 minutes and Dan seconded. The
       February 8, 2013 minutes were approved.

   3.2 **March 8, 2013**   Attachment
       Dan motioned to accept the March 8, 2013 minutes and Jennifer seconded. The
       March 8, 2013 minutes were approved.

4. **Report of the Chair**
   Robert spoke in Cathy's absence.
   Last Wednesday was spent with SAC and the President's Cabinet. They had a
   presentation by a psychologist to be on the alert and watch for minors being abused.
   Tuition was also a topic of discussion and included the conversation about required
   courses versus non-required and senior level courses versus lower level.

There was a discussion about MAU transfer credits and the C minus issue. C minus transfers are accepted for core requirements but a D minus only applies to transfers with UA electives.

Administration asked faculty to consider Massive Open Online Courses (MOOC) for credit. UAA had discussions with the registrar. In addition, a few executive board members attended presentations from other institutions who accept MOOCs. UAA Faculty Senate moved to not accept MOOC courses at this time. Discussion took place regarding the mode of delivery versus the assessment and evaluation process of the courses.

5. **Public or Guest Comments**
    No public or guest comments.

6. **MAU reports**
    6.1 **UAA**
         The Faculty Senate passed a motion to not accept MOOC courses. All the programs, both academic and administrative, are under review to see how they align with the mission and strategic guidance. Program Review is an internal review of the program but the program prioritization will compare all the programs and rank them according to priorities. There are 10 criteria recommended to follow in the book they are using as a guide: *Prioritizing Academic Programs and Services* by Robert C. Dickenson. They are currently training faculty evaluators. The Faculty Senate constitution and bylaws are under revision to include research.

    6.2 **UAF**
         The Faculty Senate approved a new bachelor of arts degree in secondary education. It actually combines two degrees in a single degree: both the topic area to be taught and the secondary education. It will probably take most students five years to complete. They also passed a motion to create a centralized repository for expanded course descriptions. Several reports due at the May meeting and include the electronic course evaluation and a report on interdisciplinary issues, teaching and research. The UAF strategic plan is nearing completion with a goal for this summer. The senate tabled the motion of the promotion and tenure topic until the May meeting. Cecile Lardon is the new Faculty Senate president-elect.

    6.3 **UAS**
         Administration decided to sell a building: the Bill Ray Center without consulting the faculty. All the Allied Health classes are taught in the building and there is no place for the classes to go. They finished draft of the faculty handbook and sent it out to the faculty for review by the end of April. The academic record for each faculty member will be electronically available to the individual. They passed an associate of science degree. A rubric was developed for the senate to look over pertaining to the GER Lab. Elections did not result in anyone being elected for FS

senate elect. They will try again in the fall. They aligned their transfer policy with UAA and UAF to include the C minus and D minus issue.

7. **General Education Learning Outcomes Committee**
There is a virtual meeting place and archive now for the committee.

8. **SDI – next steps**
Discussion took place about SDI and whether it would still be around in two or three years.

9. **Faculty Regent**
No comments. Mark Fitch is working on this and he is absent today.

10. **Credit for MOOCs?**   Attachment

11. **E-labs Taskforce Recommendations**
Mark Fitch is not present to give a report. Jennifer would like to provide some feedback to Mark and asked it not be settled yet.

12. **Alignment of Placement Cut Scores across MAUs and expiration dates**
No comments.

13. **Electronic Student Evaluations**
Jennifer mentioned this in her UAF report and asked to keep this for next month discussion

14. **Transfer Grades and the C Minus Issue**
See the discussion in #4 under the Chair's Report.

15. **Student Conduct Revision**
UAS has concerns. It looks like the language was being simplified and they compiled issues in one lump that should be separated. Specifically, students should not have to ask an instructor for their permission to get help with their homework.

16. **BOR Outstanding Faculty Award**
It was on the SAC agenda but they did not get to the topic. Robert recommends Faculty Alliance take this over and determine the criteria, then submit it to the Board of Regents. The president suggested the award. It would be a cash award from the land grant trust. It was suggested the award should not be quantitative but more about quality and impact. Robert, Jennifer and Virgil will work on the criteria.

17. **Course Management Software Evaluation**
Robert said there were murmurings at UAA, but nothing yet. David said he has been working with Carol Gering from UAF E-Learning to develop a focus group of faculty who would feed back their results. Moodle, Canvas and Desire to Learn are the software under review.

18. **Preparation for Shooters on Campus**
Since the recent shootings on other campuses, Robert sent a recommendation in a memo to the UAA provost suggesting a drill and a system of signaling. The UAA chancellor has taken an interest in the topic. The higher rate of mental illness and drug abuse in Alaska causes concern and can create a climate for adversity.

19. **External Administration Committee/Council Reports and Appointments**
Item skipped due to lack of time.

19.1 **Statewide Academic Council**
Alliance Members: *Dan, Cathy, Robert*
19.2 **Human Resources Council**
Liaison: *Jennifer,* Alternate*: Virgil*
19.3 **Student Services Council**
Liaison: *Robert,* Alternate*: Mike*
19.4 **Informational Technology Executive Council/ITEC**
http://www.alaska.edu/pmo/governance/itec/
Liaison: *Mark, Dave,* and *Susan Feero (UAS)*
19.5 **Retirement Committee**
Liaison: *Mike,* Alternate: *Bhatta*
19.6 **Tuition Task Force**
Liaison: *Virgil,* Alternate: *Robert*
19.7 **Other Committees/Councils**

20. **Other Items of Concern**
LaNora will send an email asking for schedules and she will send a proposal out to Alliance members.

21. **Agenda Items for May 2013 meeting, 3:00-5:00 p.m.**
No agenda items. Robert will cross out existing topics already discussed and notify Cathy of the changes.

22. **Comments**
No comments.

23. **Adjourn**
Virgil moved and Jennifer seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.