UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

Faculty Alliance

Friday, January 23, 2009 via audio conference

TIME CHANGE: Beginning at 3:30pm, Bridge # 1-800-893-8850, pin 2151251

Fairbanks site: Carter Conference Room204, Butrovich Building

MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

   The meeting was called to order at 3:31pm

   Present:
   Jill Dumesnil, Chair of the Alliance; President, UAS Faculty Senate
   Anne Bridges, President, UAA Faculty Senate
   Jonathan Dehn, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate
   Marsha Sousa, President, UAF Faculty Senate
   Jon Genetti, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate
   Jonathan Anderson, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate
   Genie Babb, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate
   Patt Sandberg, Chair, UAA Faculty Senate Graduate Affairs Board
   Cathy Connor, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate

   Pat Ivey, Executive Officer

   Guests:

   Dan Julius, Vice President for Academic Affairs

2. Adopt Agenda

   MOTION: passed

   "The Faculty Alliance moves to adopt the agenda for the January 23, 2009 meeting. This action is effective January 23, 2009."

3. Approve Minutes
   http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/Minutes/2008/12-12.pdf

MOTION: passed

"The Faculty Alliance moves to approve the minutes for the December 12, 2008 meeting as amended. This action is effective January 23, 2009."

4. Chair Report

Board of Regents met in retreat in January. The academic master plan process is going very smoothly. SAC met twice in January, made a lot of progress and will meet again later in February. Dumesnil called for a volunteer to fill in for her at the System Governance Council meeting next Wednesday. Cathy Connor will substitute for Dumesnil.

5. Old Business

5.1 Academic Master Plan

NEW: http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-11-20.AMPchargedraft.pdf
http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-08-19AMP.pdf
http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-08-28.trans-motions.pdf

Dan Julius said the academic master plan process is going very well and that faculty can email suggestions to him.

5.2 Distance Education

http://www.alaska.edu/swacad/files/SACmeetings/2008.10.16-DE-Core-Committee.pdf
http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-07-31.de-auditsummary.pdf

The distance education group is reviewing its own data and talking about what else needs to be added. The group is waiting for the written audit report. The goal is to move to an integrated plan that honors the campuses as well in keeping with the academic master plan.

5.3 Role of Governance

No firm update at this time. System Governance Council has taken this up and is drafting something.

5.4 Other Old Business

There was no other old business.

6. New Business

6.1 Family Medical Leave Regulations Changes

http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2009-01-13.behner-transfmlregs.pdf
http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2009-01-09.fmla-sickleaveregamends.pdf

This was an item of information. No action was required.

6.2 State 10 Year Plan

http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2009-01-07.trans-state10yrplan.pdf
http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2009-state10yrplan.pdf

This was an item of information. No action was required.

6.3 Economic Stimulus Plan

http://www.nacubo.org/x11226.xml?ss=pf

The economic stimulus plan currently includes $200 million for volcano research that will have to be spent within 30 days of receipt of the funds. Jon Dehn has a copy of the bill. Mark, Wendy, Pete and others are in Juneau making sure that the university portion of the federal pass-through to the states gets to the university. From a broad band perspective, the state does not have a plan for broad band internet access. The university is in a good position because it has many well thought out proposals that never got funded that are ready to go through established university channels. The sentiment is that we need to be very prepared to help implement this.

Regarding the state hiring freeze, we will probably pay close attention. UA is in relatively good shape compared to other shortfalls. But we will be hit shortly and already are hit in terms loss of interest income.

There have been a number of emails back and forth about the hiring and travel freeze and the impact on UA. At statewide the procedure for refilling vacancies is very rigorous. Positions must remain unfilled for at least two months before being approved for recruitment and many positions are already going unfilled. We will have to show we haven't hired people and cut back on travel over the time period while at the same time asking for more money.

7. Faculty Alliance Initiatives – 2008-2009

7.1 Sustainability

The UAA Faculty Senate will have more news from UAA February 6 when new sustainability director Paula Williams comes to talk to the senate. No reports from UAA and UAS.

7.2 Need based Financial Aid
http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_bill.asp?bill=SB%20%2033&session=26

Student leader-initiated legislation is going forward. The Coalition of Student Leaders' main goal is to get the legislation passed this session.

7.3 Civic Engagement

The Alliance decided to delete this as a system goal. Jonathan Anderson is looking at a minor in civic engagement. If something comes out of this, Anderson will report to the Alliance.

8. Administrative Advisory Council Reports

8.1 Systemwide Academic Council
http://www.alaska.edu/swacad/sac.htm

Jill Dumesnil reported that in addition to the academic master plan, SAC has approved several programs, and the summaries of the SAC meetings are put on the web site as soon as they are approved. If there are any issues in the summaries, Dan Julius will do his best to address concerns. The next SAC meeting is February 20.

8.2 Human Resources Council

There was a January meeting but Jill Dumesnil was not able to attend.

8.3 Instructional Technology Council
http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2009-01-07.Review-of-Automation-Resources.pdf
http://www.alaska.edu/itc/meetings/index_docs/ITC_2008_12_Notes.pdf
Marsha Sousa has been unable to attend ITC meetings because she teaches during that time. She plans to ask Steve Smith to attend the UAF Faculty Senate meeting, so will report to the Alliance after that. There is another reorganization going on and might go back to UAF. Right now, statewide is examining its core mission in service, programs and compliance. Under that umbrella, there is some sentiment statewide should just be a policy shop.

8.4 Research Advisory Council

RAC has met and is working with SAC regarding the academic master plan. Most are waiting for the economic stimulus money.

8.5 Business Council
http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2009-01-07ccbuscouncilnotes.pdf

The Business Council has concerns about loss of interest income. There is some talk about outsourcing some IT functions and/or shifting responsibilities to campuses. The wide area network is up for renewal and IT will trim other areas to keep this function for the rural campuses.

8.6 Student Services Council

The Student Services Council met with the Business Council and others regarding a host of issues. President Hamilton will have a pervasive presence in Juneau and Pete Kelly is working with the budget advisory groups on advocacy.

8.7 Student Success Steering Committee.

DJ said re student success steering committee, the budget planning group process is the process we use to include as many as can to draft the budget. There are six planning groups. Two are more being contemplated, social sciences and humanities and one on extension.

8.8 Retirement Committee

The retirement committee has not met since the last Alliance meeting.

9. Senate Reports

UAA Faculty Senate is working on constitution and bylaws amendments. UAA has a new vice provost for research, Bob White from Fairbanks. The vice chancellor for student affairs is leaving UAA and Bruce Schultz is interim vice chancellor. Chancellor Ulmer just appointed Maggie Gregga as the one-stop shopping point for legislative information for UAA. This is the first time there has been just one person designated by the chancellor just to work on legislative issues.

UAF – The new HR director should be announced very soon. Classes started yesterday; and the hottest issue is electronic bookstore, contracted with Follett. Evidently because of the switch to electronic bookstore status, only about 20 percent of students actually have books. Some ordered their books five weeks ago and haven't seen books yet. It costs $50 to overnight ship books.

UAS – The first faculty senate meeting of the semester is February 6. The curriculum committee meets next Friday. The interim vice provost is serving as interim dean of arts and sciences.

10. Agenda Items for Next Alliance Meeting February 13, 2009, 2:00-3:30pm

Under new business add legislative report from Joe Trubacz, delete student success steering committee and civic engagement.

11. Other Items of Interest

There were no additional items.

12, Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:17pm.