UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

System Governance Council

Monday, October 25, 2010
2:30 – 4:30pm, Fairbanks and by audio conference
Bridge # 1-800-893-8850, conference code *8266781*
Fairbanks site: Room 208A1, Butrovich Building, Fairbanks Campus
http://www.alaska.edu.

Draft Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 2:32pm

Members present:

Joe Hayes, Chair; Executive Director, UAF Alumni Association
John Petraitis, Chair of the Faculty Alliance; President, UAA Faculty Senate
Jon Dehn, Past Chair of the Faculty Alliance; President, UAF Faculty Senate
Megan Carlson, Past Chair of the Staff Alliance; President, UAA Classified Council
Maria Russell, Chair of the Staff Alliance; President, UAF Staff Council
Mary McRae Miller, Member of the Staff Alliance; President, UAS Staff Council
Lisa Sporleder, Past Chair of the Staff Alliance; President, Statewide Admin Assembly
Nicole Carvajal, Pro-Tem, Coalition of Student Leaders; President, Associated Students of UAF
Nick Pennington, Member, Coalition of Student leaders; President, Kodiak College Student Government
Brandon Cox, Vice President, Kenai River Student Union
Julia Martinez, Senior Director of Alumni Relations and Annual Giving, UAA
Keni Campbell, Alumni Relations Manager, UAS

Pat Ivey, Executive Officer, System Governance

Guests:
Tom Hewitt, Reporter, UAF Sun Star Newspaper
Josh Luther, Publications Assistant, System Governance Office and Coordinator, Coalition of Student Leaders
Kim Fackler, Admin Coordinator, System Governance Office

2. Adopt Agenda

MOTION: Passed

"The System Governance Council moves to adopt the agenda for the October 25, 2010 meeting as amended. This action is effective October 25, 2010."

3. Chair's Report and Orientation

Joe Hayes welcomed everyone and Pat Ivey explained the role of the System Governance Council. The Council is one of four system governance groups established in Regents Policy 03.01.01, and the only group that represents faculty, staff, students and alumni. The Council serves as a think tank for strategic planning and budget, and allows faculty, staff, students and alumni to speak with one voice. The Council has taken action on issues affecting all the groups in areas such as support for the UA budget, and non discrimination and non retention policies. In past years, the Council has conducted in depth surveys of legislative and gubernatorial candidates.

4. Elections

Joe Hayes and Nicole Carvajal were nominated for the position of 2010-2011 spokesperson (chair) of the Council. Both candidates briefed the Council on their qualifications. Jon Dehn was appointed Pro Tem for the election. Joe Hayes and Nicole Carvajal voted by secret ballot and then stepped out of the room for the roll call vote.

Joe Hayes was elected spokesperson (chair) for 2010-2011.

Nicole Carvajal was elected 2010-2011 vice chair of the Council by unanimous consent.

5. Adopt 2010-2011 Calendar

MOTION: passed

The System Governance Council moves to adopt the 2010-2011 calendar as presented.
Monday November 15, 2010, 2:30-4:30pm audio conference
Monday, January 24, 2011, 2:30-4:30pm audio conference with President Gamble
Monday, February 28, 2011, 2:30-4:30pm audio conference
Monday, April 18, 2011, 2:30-4:30pm audio conference
This action is effective October 25, 2010."

Joe Hayes will be unavailable on November 15 so Nicole Carvajal will chair the meeting. Megan Carlson will be absent on January 24, 2010."

6. System Governance Reports

6.1 Faculty Alliance

John Petraitis reported that most of the Faculty Alliance time has been taken up with the academic master plan. The regents gave it to President Gamble in September to rewrite and President Gamble gave it to the Faculty Alliance. The Alliance had AMP workshops October 17-19 and will meet October 28 and November 18 to continue work on the plan.

6.2 Staff Alliance

Maria Russell reported that the Staff Alliance worked on copyright issues and encouraged everyone to look at current policy and procedures. The Alliance also worked a lot on performance evaluation forms policies and procedures and compensation adjustments in the fy12 budget. Efforts to organize non-represented staff in a union have ceased for now.

6.3 Coalition of Student Leaders

Nicole Carvajal reported that the Coalition is currently focused on tuition issues and was successful in persuading the Board of Regents to decline to raise tuition again in AY 2011-2012 and hold off on deciding the tuition rates for AY 2012-2013 until the December Board meeting. Meanwhile, a tuition advisory task force is examining the impacts of various percentages from six to twelve percent and beyond. The Coalition position is that tuition increases for AY 2012-2013 not exceed seven percent.

It is likely that the Coalition will take up a revision to the nondiscrimination policy after the tuition issue is settled and will likely request that the Council also support the Coalition's efforts. The Coalition is also testifying to the Higher Education and Career Readiness Task Force and the Scholarship Funding Task Force, both legislature-driven.

6.4 Alumni Associations

The UAA Alumni Association just completed its first Green and Gold Gala on October 9 and raised more than $28,000 for the Alumni Scholarship Fund. The next gala is October 1, 2011.

The UAS Alumni Association will have its beer and wine tasting fund raiser for 200 people, will hold its spring gala in April, and is doing a series of 101 continuing education events to raise money. The last one was on the election process. The next 101 event is wildlife photography on November 13. The big UAS alumni gala will be held in the spring.

The UAF Alumni Association has just completed its Portland chapter event with 70 alumni at the Portland State Museum and will meet next with the California based UAF

alumni in San Francisco on November 10. On October 28 the UAF Alumni Association will host an event with the Economic Development Council, and another one on November 18 and on November 2 a leadership luncheon for students in the Alumni Lounge. The UAF alumni are also working in support of Proposition B. The KRC Student Union is also sponsoring a 907 event on Friday with former state senator John Torgerson speaking on Proposition B. The UAF Staff Council held an information event on Proposition B. ASUAF is thinking about doing a tabling session in Wood Center.

7. Local Governance Reports

7.1 UAA

John Petraitis said UAA just went through accreditation and it went well. UAA still has not had any progress on starting a formal search for a new chancellor. UAA is thinking about doing a bit of reorganizing colleges to have a college of health. UAA Faculty Senate is looking critically at the on line course evaluation system which is broken. UAA is migrating their students to Google mail fairly soon. For the most part, students do not use their UA email address. Faculty and staff are not moving to Gmail is because of security concerns. Jon Dehn asked if anyone realized that Gmail will cost money after the initial four year freebie contract runs out.

Megan Carlson reported that the new NWCCU accreditation review period is seven years and UAA piloted the new process over 2.5 years. The site visit team held 70 meetings in 2.5 days during the first week of October. UAA is the only MAU with two staff councils, the Classified Employee Council and the APT Council. These groups will be holding a joint retreat.

Brandon Cox, representative of the medium density schools, restated that the Kenai River Campus Student Union is sponsoring a 907 event with John Torgerson speaking and had a bunch of successful OSHA inspections. Nick Pennington from Kodiak Campus Student Government representing the small schools said Kodiak got $3 million in Title III grants. The Kodiak Campus Student Government is working with the high school student government.

7.2 UAF

Jon Dehn reported that the big items for the senate include accreditation and aligning the core of general education requirements. The senate is working with the vice chancellor of administration to change tuition waivers for graduate students to tuition awards because these tuition awards are paid from research grants and also why UAF does not want to see graduate tuition costs increase. There is a trend in many UAF departments to hire post docs because they hit the ground running and then hiring much cheaper undergraduate students for research and office work because they are cheaper. UAF has an have 85 percent retention among first time freshmen and 45 PhD's up from 39 last year. The senate is hoping tomorrow's hearing on the optional retirement plan is

positive and leads to a court trial. The employee contribution to ORP is supposed to be the same as contributions to PERS/TRS and it is not.

Mark Meyers is the new vice chancellor for research, Dan White is the new associate vice chancellor and searches are underway for deans of mathematical sciences and liberal arts.

Dehn said the question is coming up about how we measure governance group success. Faculty senate has its own metrics. Do staff and student groups?

Maria Russell reported that the UAF Staff Council is working on the Staff Appreciation Day. There seems to be a reduced IT effort at UAF which is problematic. The Staff Council is also working on administrative performance reviews and looking at personnel policies.

Also the chancellor has initiated soft closure Dec 20-22 and January 1-7 which stretches closure to three weeks. The chancellor is not forcing anyone to take leave during soft closure but some departments are forcing closure. The fear is that employees could wind up with a possible eleven days or 88 hours of forced leave during soft and hard closure combined and if an employee does not have leave time, will have to take leave without pay. State policy is that if more than ten days leave without pay in a given year is taken, that affects retirement pay. The Staff Council is creating a motion that once passed will be shared with other UAF governance groups and with the Council. The concern is that the soft closure could spread to other MAUs.

ASUAF had a debate for US Senate candidates with 188 dedicated viewers on line, filled the Schiable auditorium, two overfill rooms in Gruening and the pub.

7.3 UAS

Mary Miller reported that the UAF Staff Council had held elections and participated in an open session with President Gamble. The Council is very interested in JHCC discussions on benefits. Staff Council retreat is December 9 and 10 and is focused on infrastructure. None of the governance groups have any staff support; all activities are volunteer. The faculty/staff UA Foundation giving campaign is just starting. The MAU is engaged in strategic planning and enrollment is up. UAF was thanked for sending Provost Rick Caulfield to Juneau, and UAS has two new academic deans. UAS received three Title II awards, two in Ketchikan and one in Sitka.

7.4 Statewide

Lisa Sporleder said SAA organized a brown bag luncheon with HR and union people for an information session which filled the regents' conference room with several people on line in Anchorage. The event was videotaped and the tape is linked on line. Additional questions were submitted to HR and to the unions. HR responded last week but the union did not respond. The union has since withdrawn its petition to organize UA staff. We finished up our statewide giving campaign with 53 percent responding, about 20

percent lower than last year. However, the total dollar amount was higher than last year. There were three OIT layoffs because of UAF budget cuts. These positions reported to statewide OIT but were UAF employees.

8. Other items of interest

John Dehn was horrified that UAS had no staff support. UAS Staff Council has a $5,000 budget. UAA and UAF have staff support. SAA is staffed by the System Governance office as are the System Governance Council, the Faculty Alliance, the Staff Alliance and the Coalition of Student Leaders.

ACTION: For the November meeting, a comparison of governance budgets will be prepared for Council consideration.
Items to be included in the comparison include

Total Budget by group
Travel Budget by group
Governance group leader stipends
Number of staff serving the groups
Who provides the funds

This item will be on the November Council agenda.

9. Comments

Everyone should remember to vote.

Joe Hayes received a plaque for his leadership as chair of the System Governance Council for 2009-2010.

The System Governance Office has two new staff. Kim Fackler is the new administrative coordinator. Josh Luther is the new publications assistant for the office and coordinator for the Coalition of Student Leaders. Pat Ivey advises that all attempts to abscond with the new system governance staff are forbidden.

Comment [mc1]: Right?

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:26pm.