



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Agenda

Faculty Alliance

Friday, Nov. 10, 2017

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

[Google Hangouts](#)

Audio only: 1-855-280-1855

1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 2:34 p.m.

Members:

Donie Bret-Hart, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

Megan Buzby, President, UAS Faculty Senate

Sharon Chamard, President, UAA Faculty Senate

Chris Fallen, President, UAF Faculty Senate

David Fitzgerald, Past President, UAA Faculty Senate,

Robin Gilcrist, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate

Lisa Hoferkamp, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate, Chair, Faculty Alliance

Orion Lawlor, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate

Maria Williams, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate

Staff:

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

Guests:

Dan Kline, GER Task Force Chair

2. Adoption of Agenda

Sharon moved, and Chris seconded. There were no amendments or objections. The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Approval of [10/27/17 Minutes](#)

Chris moved, and Sharon seconded. There were no amendments or objections. The minutes were approved as presented.

4. Public or Guest Comments:

None given.

5. Report from Chair – Lisa noted she will send her report after the meeting.

6. Ongoing Business

6.1. GER Alignment - Lisa and Dan

Lisa reported Dan had distributed communication to the GER Task Force and Disciplinary Leads to get started on the alignment.

Dan reported the task continues to expand and he has fallen behind in pushing this forward. They are close but there are still some small details that are creating sticking points. He notes there is a general lack of support throughout the whole initiative; however, it is still important for the faculty to take this on or they will be plowed under. Dan reiterated it will need to have engagement horizontally and vertically to be successful. As faculty, it cannot be sloughed off. Communication GERs are now live and there are courses aligned. Dan noted he is hoping to get updates from the disciplinary areas and work on planning a retreat in early 2018.

Dan noted the coordinating task force has not yet met this fall. They are meeting Nov. 14 and then again in December. They met last in May.

Lisa suggested discussing policy changes at the GER retreat, to help foster discussion and clarify perspectives.

ACTION: Lisa asked the senate presidents to ask their disciplinary leads at their campus to contact relevant faculty and encourage them to prepare progress report to share with Dan Kline by Dec. 1, who will then follow up with the Alliance on Dec. 8.

ACTION: Dan agreed to provide a flowchart with timelines for the remainder of the project. Dan also noted he has been asked by several members to write letters to their dean to legitimize the work and their time toward it, and agreed to create a form letter for all members of the task force and discipline areas to use.

ACTION: Dan and Morgan will work together to create a folder in Google Drive to share GER Task Force-related documents and materials.

6.2. Student fees and tuition across campuses – response?

Lisa noted the president had shared a [response](#) with the Alliance that noted he had tasked the Academic Council and Student Services Council to look into the issue further.

ACTION: Members discussed briefly whether to respond and decided Lisa will draft a letter, emphasizing their anticipation of his January 2018 follow up to them.

6.3. Non-teaching days - response?

Lisa noted the president had shared a [response](#) with the Alliance that indicated only one non-teaching day would be allowed per year. Members discussed briefly whether to respond and decided not to at this time.

- 6.4. Letter to CIO Management Team
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xc3l086xIDBPRrZise39a56rGf69TvCut063Nqmoplk/edit#>
ACTION: Members discussed the above draft and Lisa agreed to make several changes. She will notify the Alliance when the changes are complete and members agreed to approve it via email.
- 6.5. Morale Survey – Sharon Chamard - see [draft survey](#)
Lisa noted she liked the draft survey that Orion put together. Sharon noted efforts at UAA are moving forward slowly. Megan will contact the UAS reps for the Faculty Morale Committee and request an update. Sharon will submit a draft of the faculty morale survey tool to the Alliance by Dec. 8.
UAS: Ali Ziegler, Kathy DiLorenzo
UAA: Sharon Chamard, Diane Hirshberg
UAF: Orion Lawlor, Sine Anahita
- 6.6. Council nominees - see https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FftpM-07wpnluYgcuTGlqMo-HZtL_5OLE4ttI-rH5JU/edit
ACTION: Lisa noted she will summarize the faculty representatives and will send to President Johnsen by Nov. 22.

Lisa asked if UAA or UAF had faculty names to add to the list and they provided the following names:
Nicole Cundiff at UAF - HR Council
Sine Anahita at UAF - eLearning Subcommittee
Chanda Meek at UAF - Student Medical Leave Policy Working Group

Sharon noted she is still waiting to hear back from her chancellor regarding the faculty rep on the Research Council.
- 6.7. Blackboard Issues
Chris reported he had not heard of major issues among faculty at UAF regarding Blackboard. Lisa noted it was an issue at UAA and UAS. Dave noted CITO Kowalski had attend the ACDLITE meeting earlier in the day. Dave reported UAA faculty are reporting delays in updating courses and students are unable to access homework or complete tests, among other issues, but noted they had not yet received any solutions or even a timeline for a solution from UAA OIT or SW OIT. Megan reported UAS was pursuing a solution but that UAA and UAF had opted not to implement it (due to upcoming BB upgrades?). Lisa noted she will share the consultant's report when she receives it.
- 6.8. FA RFP for convening and collaborating across the University - Lisa

Lisa reported she had started the RFP and will share with Alliance members via the shared Google folder prior to the Dec. 8 meeting.

- 6.9. UA Enrollment Challenge – Orion
Orion noted he hadn't yet heard from Eric or Shiva but that he would check in with them on progress prior to the Dec. 8 meeting.
- 6.10. Double-counting courses
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1RR3USN73O9zDrg73at09Tyqs_0oQ8QEsYkMB3Bkqa8M/edit
Members discussed the above draft and agreed to share it with their respective senates for discussion, with the hope an Alliance resolution can be passed in February, to share with the Board at their March meeting and for implementation in Spring 2019.
- 6.11. Course Blocks
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1C5B6qwS3gx3SJ1Stf6ayvmugUOmQFOew_wW40kcwLR4/edit
Chris noted UAF is considering moving to a 50-minute credit hour, and noted they hoped that would encourage course block alignment. Lisa asked Chris and Orion to share UAF's proposal with the Alliance.
- 6.12. Letters
 - Utility of three universities (to the editor) – No new progress to report.
 - Importance of Alaska Scholars and Alaska Education Grants programs (to the editor) – No new progress to report.
- 6.13. University-wide definitions – No new progress to report.
7. New Business
 - 7.1. Spring Faculty Alliance Retreat; 1/13/18 - 1/14/18?
Members discussed the above dates, possible location, and whether to include the GER Coordinating Task Force.

ACTION: Lisa asked members to provide their availability for the above dates.
8. Agenda Items for December 8
If members have any, please send to Lisa and Morgan.
9. Report
 - 9.1. Faculty Senates (current Presidents)
UAA: Sharon reported they passed a resolution regarding Blackboard, a resolution to create an ad hoc committee to look at education abroad, talked about Faculty Handbook (currently in shambles) and the possibility of moving it online.

UAF: Chris reported UAF FS had passed motion to revise unit criteria on CENA; two motions tabled - one to amend a pre-med policy and one to amend AHEAD program to encourage student retainment.

UAS: Megan reported they looked at course schedule changes (adding breaks between courses); the BB update and if it will happen on Dec. 22; Center for Excellence in Teaching and Learning position--funded by library so 20% of service would go toward improving ongoing technologies; GER discussion for general education learning outcomes and approve a set of six learning outcomes; new strategic enrollment plan; discussed Alaska Native Studies GER and has concerns it will be in the AY18 catalog; associate's degrees don't have room for another requirement so might only apply the Alaska Native Studies GER to Bachelor's degrees.

9.2. VPASA search - Chris

Chris reported that Paul Layer, dean of the College of Natural Science and Mathematics at UAF, had been named interim VP for Academic and Student Affairs; he will continue to serve as dean along with taking on VPASA duties.

10. Comments, concerns, and announcements

11. Adjourn

Megan moved to adjourn, and Maria seconded. There were no objections. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

[Important Dates](#) (meeting prior to next scheduled FA meeting)

- Summit Team meeting 11/16/17, 1 PM - 4:30 PM
- Academic Council meeting 11/17/17, 3 PM - 5 PM
- System Governance Council meeting 11/20/17, 1 PM - 2:30 PM
- IT Council meeting 11/21/17, 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
- FA Chair/UA President monthly meeting 11/30/17, 2:30 PM - 3:30 PM
- UAS Faculty Senate 12/1/17, 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM
- UAA Faculty Senate 12/1/17, 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM
- UAF Faculty Senate 12/4/17, 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM