



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Agenda

Minutes

Faculty Alliance

August 28, 2020

3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Zoom Recording and Transcript

Members

Heather Batchelder President, UAS Faculty Senate; Chair, Faculty Alliance

Jak Maier, President, UAF Faculty Senate, Vice Chair, Faculty Alliance

Donie Bret-Harte, Past-President, UAF Faculty Senate

Scott Downing, Past President, UAA Faculty Senate

Gökhan Karahan, UAA Faculty Senate 1st Vice President

David Noon, President-Elect UAS Faculty Senate

Kelly Smith, President, UAA Faculty Senate

Orion Lawlor, UAF Faculty Senate

TBD, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate

Guests:

Mary Gower - Title IX Update - new federal rules released this spring; big shift in requirements and narrowing of definition of what behavior/conduct will be addressed under title IX. UA has developed new regulations and they went into effect on August 14. Although federal guidelines have narrowed, UA will still look at behavior that doesn't fit the federal guidelines but falls under behavior previously considered unacceptable by UA--they will just do so under other regulations pertaining to student behavior. The new regulations were written in such as was as to still address behavior that would have previously triggered a title ix investigation. What is different now, is that DOE wants the final determination to go to an outside decision-maker. There is also the role of the advisor, who will facilitate asking questions (now that cross-examination is allowable); essentially, they do not want the complainant and respondent to ask questions to each other directly. The advisor can be a lawyer, but does not have to be. Federal guidelines will basically allow anyone to serve as an advisor (and they do not have to have any particular training--either about conflict management, federal regulation, or university policies. UA would like to make this role available to faculty and staff at UA. They are putting together a pool of about 15 individuals across the system who can be drawn on to serve as an advisor. New general

Title IX training will go live September 1 for faculty, staff and students.

Paul Layer - SW COVID-19 Update - Noted the changes of the summer--a new president, budget issues, COVID response. Also noted the BOR Academic and Student Affairs committee will meet September 3 to review four non-action items: an update on accreditation and program review; expedited program review process for AY2020/2021; teach-out plans and program discontinuations; and an update from the vice chancellors for students on student affairs and campus life. Noted his appreciation for the faculty's ability to switch quickly to online classes when the health crisis took hold last spring. Noted each chancellor and president developed incident management teams so they could make decisions about how to respond to COVID. Now that this is an ongoing situation, it is no longer an incident but rather a daily operation issue that works on campus control and local response. Paul noted he would look into mental health issues for students, after Maria noted in the chat and Heather mentioned three Alaska Native students took their lives over the summer. Paul noted each campus has testing protocols in place; UAF had 10 positive tests and those (asymptomatic) students were quarantined. There is no plan to test students who are not living in the dorms, however, he believes there will be an update from the vice chancellors on this next week. Paul also noted they were hoping to address some of the university's debt load through a bond matched by the legislature; it will be part of the discussion with the Board in September and November when they review the budget.

1. BOR Meeting September- committee updates: Maria Williams, Ian Hartman, LuAnn Piccard
2. SW Council Membership <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bcGHW-d-CJ7NAP9Rs0RZIUTsScdCyJFMpXpTsBfoNkY/edit>
Members discussed whether these councils will be used by interim President Pitney going forward (given that several councils only met once or twice last year, and were considered by some to be created by President Johnsen to create the appearance of seeking feedback) and wondered if it would be worthwhile to find faculty representatives to serve on them. Jak suggested proposing a new structure
Research, UAF - Seth Danielson
Research, UAA - needed
Facilities, UAF - needed
Facilities, UAA - needed

At this point, the chair asked that the Faculty Alliance go into executive session in order to discuss sensitive information with identification of individuals. The Alliance moved seconded and voted unanimously to do so.

3. Disproportionate Loss of Alaska Native Faculty Update [Faculty-
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Qc4jjY6DRe-0YgJoJ4F3cxLIA7tao3BsluMFPgy6ss0/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Qc4jjY6DRe-0YgJoJ4F3cxLIA7tao3BsluMFPgy6ss0/edit)
4. [AKCOE](#)

5. UAA FS Report
UAF FS Report
UAS FS Report
6. UAF Expedited Program Reviews/UAA review already identified programs/UAS none scheduled
7. Fall and Spring Retreats-Fall virtual-usually in October (23. 24. 25) - near November BOR meeting- Spring-possible live retreat in Juneau
8. Member concerns
9. Adjourn
The meeting adjourned sometime after 5pm.