

Faculty Alliance Notes

March 21, 2025

3:30-5:00 pm

[Zoom Link](#)

Members

<u>UAS</u> Glenn Wright, Past- President UAS Faculty Senate, Brian Blitz, UAS Faculty Senate President Ali Ziegler, UAS Faculty Senate President-Elect  <u>UAF</u> Jennifer Carroll, Chair, Faculty Alliance, UAF Faculty Senate Past-President Abel Bult-Ito, President, UAF Faculty Senate Leah Berman, President-Elect UAF Faculty Senate	<u>UAA</u> Jackie Cason, President, UAA Faculty Senate LuAnn Piccard, Past- President, UAA Faculty Senate Matthew Cuellar, President-Elect, UAA Faculty Senate  <u>Ex Officio:</u> Brian Smentkowski, VP and CAO  <u>Support:</u> Sharon Dayton Noel Romanovsky
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1. Call to order
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of [Meeting Minutes February 14 2025](#)
4. New Business
5. Old Business
  - a. Support letter for [Faculty Regent Bill](#) - Faculty Alliance voted and passed the motion by adding their names to the letter.
6. Information/Discussion
  - a. Thought Leaders Forum: March 27 - 28 - This is next week and Jennie is worried that it's not advertised enough. Brian is in full support of the forum. There are issues with getting the word out to faculty.
  - b. Testimony on Faculty Regent Bill (Jennie and Abel) - This will be sent out by Jennie.
  - c. Federal Update - Discussion of Potential Alliance actions
    - i. DEI strategy - it was acknowledged that it was received. There has been no response from the BOR as of today. They will prepare something if they get no response within 2 weeks or before they are off contract.
    - ii. Funding issues - they would like an update of what is happening with federal financial aid. There is concern over investigations being conducted. It's challenging to keep up with Executive Orders and no substantial communications from university leadership. They want to hear of any contingency planning by the university. Brian added that there are no specific plans being discussed. There is a special BOR meeting for a federal update on April 7th. The communications from administration is not enough and doesn't foster confidence and trust. What








can the Alliance do to stay up to date over the summer? There should be a plan in place for the chair to be in communication with everyone. Faculty Alliance should be prepared to offer responses.

- iii. BOR response to Alliance Leaders Letter (not received)
- d. [UAF Chancellor Directive](#) re: Gardner curriculum recommendations - this appears to be an encroachment on curriculum. Leah explained the process from Gardner and concerns regarding developmental math. No one from the math department has been consulted by anyone. It affects student success. The Gardner Memo indicates that they don't understand how the university is structured. Curriculum design and what works best shouldn't come from the Chancellors.
- e. Employee Experience Survey results: March 31

## 7. Faculty Senate Reports

- a. UAS
  - i. I sent the endorsement letter of UAF's resolution to the UAS Chancellor, UA President, and UA BoR.
  - ii. We are considering having AAS degree requirements to align with UAA and UAF, however, one of our AAS degrees does not want to require 2 writing classes.
    - 1. Jennie, accreditation requirements are followed.
  - iii. There were complaints about the Open Enrollment dates.
    - 1. A student expressed concern about the dates due to finals. Faculty Alliance noticed it's been shortened. That's a concern.
- b. UAF
  - i. The Faculty Senate passed a resolution for free speech and in support of DEI on 3 March 2025. The resolution was distributed to the Board of Regents, President Pitney, Chancellor White, and Provost Prakash on 4 March, 2025.
  - ii. A motion regarding graduate credits as a non-degree seeking student passed and was approved.
  - iii. A motion to modify catalog language regarding Honors College admissions passed and was approved.
  - iv. A motion to remove the syllabus checklist requirement from CourseLeaf passed and was approved.
  - v. A motion to change UAF's current credit transfer procedures covering Study Away passed and was approved.
  - vi. A motion to establish a Space Operations, Minor (New Program) passed and was approved.
  - vii. A motion to deactivate the Petroleum Engineering, BS passed and was approved.
  - viii. A motion to establish a GER Adhoc Committee passed and was approved.
  - ix. A motion regarding a DEI Replacement Statement passed the senate but was only acknowledged by Chancellor White.
    - 1. Are they tracking what sites, what information and when it was changed?

c. UAA

- i. We passed two resolutions relating to the BOR's 2.21.25 motion, one from eboard that largely replicated the UAF motion  
 Faculty Senate Resolution in Support of Free Speech and one from our Diversity committee that was inspired by an earlier UAS motion  
 FSDC Faculty Senate Resolution on Diversity . So thank you all for sharing. A footnote explaining the removal of Aspiration 2 from our strategic plan has been posted on our website, but now I cannot find it, so I think it is not as readily apparent as we hoped. I will follow up. It's embedded on the Chancellor's page [UAA Mission and Vision | Office of the Chancellor | University of Alaska Anchorage](#) You might appreciate a poem written to mark the occasion of a DEI motion  It Has Only and Ever Been about Us.docx ;  
 It Has Only and Ever Been about Us.m4a
- ii. A motion from our student success committee that seeks to strengthen the collaboration between staff advisors and faculty advisors was also passed.  
 SASS Report to the Faculty Senate March 2025.docx The Provost is preparing a response, and we believe this effort will support retention efforts.
- iii. A proposal to offer resident tuition for federally protected groups passed on our consent agenda.  2024 Resident Tuition Proposal.pdf
- iv. The campus is fast approaching an accreditation visit next October, and our most recent PRFR report came back free of recommendations.
- v. As we look ahead to transitions in leadership, we are discussing at the Chancellor's Cabinet and our quarterly UAA Caucus meetings the process of transitions and how best to build the institutional knowledge that supports a successful transition.
- vi. Related to efforts for smooth transitions, we passed a joint resolution with the Staff Council affirming the vital support needed from the position of a Governance Coordinator.  
 Resolution #3072025 UAA Joint Resolution Governance Coordinator.pdf  
The resolution was motivated by gaps in service and limited onboarding.
- vii. We are coordinating with the Seawolf Debate team to run an exhibition debate during our April Faculty Forum. The proposition will focus on academic freedom/free speech.

# AY 24-25 Calendar as of August 2024

Day (Friday, 3:30 to 5 pm unless otherwise noted)	Tentative Agenda Items
August 23, 2024	Invite Ben Shier to discuss Banner Upgrade
September 13, 2024	
Saturday, October 5, 2024 in Fairbanks	Fall Face-to-Face - identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Key issues for the year</li> <li>• Prep for FIF</li> <li>• Prep for Thought Leaders Forum</li> </ul>
November 15, 2024	
December 13, 2024	Determine Juneau F-T-F dates for February/March
January 10, 2025	
February 14, 2025	
March 14, 2025	
April 11, 2025	
May 9, 2025	

tentative ASA agenda for February BOR meeting:

## Action items

UAA academic program requests

UAF academic program requests

UAS academic program requests

## Information items

Common Calendar information item

Online Degree Program information item (from November)

Fall enrollment final freeze, spring enrollment report


SIS/Data warehouse modernization.

ACEC update

## Idaho Alliance around AI–Resources created

- Idaho AI network–use of AI Fellows, in collaboration with their State Board of Education, produced a lot of meaningful results.

 Encouraging Sensemaking Estrem Vecchione.pptx

-  Fall 2024 GenAI Professional Development (AI Basics, Ethical Considerations, T/L Tools).

- OER Guide for Teaching and Learning with AI [A Guide to Teaching and Learning with Artificial Intelligence](#)
- [Idaho Statewide Shared Principles](#)
- [AI Guidelines](#)
- [Privacy and AI - Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) - LibGuides at North Idaho College](#)
- [Best Practices | Idaho State University](#)
- [AI Statement](#)
- [Generative Artificial Intelligence \(AI\) - Guidance on Use and Applicable Policies](#)
- [Managing generative AI in Idaho's public higher education](#)