

Faculty Alliance Minutes

January 12, 2024

3:30-5:00 pm

[Zoom Recording](#)

Passcode: ?+S7v+A4

Members

<p><u>UAS</u> Jennifer Ward, Chair, Faculty Alliance, Glenn Wright, President UAS Faculty Senate, Brian Blitz, UAS Faculty Senate President-Elect</p> <p><u>UAF</u> Jennifer Carroll, President, UAF Faculty Senate; Chair-Elect, Faculty Alliance Abel Bult-Ito, UAF President-Elect Ataur Chowdhury, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate</p>	<p><u>UAA</u> Jackie Cason, 1st VP, UAA Faculty Senate Ian Hartman, Past President UAA Faculty Senate LuAnn Piccard, President, UAA Faculty Senate</p> <p><u>Ex Officio:</u> Paul Layer, Vice President ASA</p> <p><u>Support:</u> Sharon Dayton Noel Romanovsky Mary Burnham</p>
--	--

1. Call to order
2. Approval of Agenda
Abel motioned to approve the agenda and Brian seconded the motion.
3. Mental health and wellness check in
A special addition to the agenda to check in to make sure everybody takes care of themselves and to state that everyone is appreciated. Please reach out if everything isn't okay, because your mental health is more important than anything done here.
4. Approval of [December Meeting Minutes](#)
Abel motioned to approve the minutes and Jackie seconded the motion.
5. Old Business
 - a. Update on Faculty Initiative Fund awards, announcements, reviewer remarks
 - i. Kudos to Sharon she has really run this program, we are very grateful for all the work she has put in.
 - ii. 41 total Submissions; 9 Tier 1 awardees; and 10 Tier 2 awardees.
 - iii. All letters to awardees and those that did not get an award have been sent out. The awardees will be posted on the Faculty Alliance website soon.
 - iv. Reviewers did not have to comment on every single item they scored but they did have to comment overall as part of the review process. Comments were extensive, which was much appreciated.
 - v. This would be a good time to review the Request for Proposals (RFP), to be more explicit about what the funds can be used for and remove some of the ambiguities. The process for the administrative team is very labor intensive and we need to figure out how to streamline that process.
 - b. [Memo response from Regent Perdue](#) re: ASA committee process

- i. Just an FYI that a satisfactory response from Regent Perdue was received. Summary of response: It was an oversight, not an intentional act that excluded the ex-officio member from the November 9, 2023, executive session. The Academic and Student Affairs Committee rarely has an executive session; however, I will be mindful of the topics and include the ex-officio committee member in future sessions as appropriate.
- c. Legislative visits / retreat. Everyone confirmed except no LuAnn.
 - i. Timeline: Most arrive in Juneau on Tuesday, 27 February; meetings with Chad and/or Sara on Wednesday morning and legislators Wednesday afternoon, 28 February, and Thursday, 29 February; check out of the hotel Thursday morning with departures scheduled for the afternoon/evening. Possible dinner at a restaurant Wednesday night, otherwise meals will be impromptu.
 - ii. [UA Advocacy site](#)
Create a spreadsheet for who will be meeting with which legislators to avoid overlap, but to have somebody from each university at each meeting to show solidarity with one another.
 - iii. Bills / other
Gather information from Chad and/or Sara, if there are any key pieces of legislation or any committee members/chairs that needs to be tracked in order to approach them from an issue oriented perspective. That way these items can be supported and have a bullet list of 4 to 5 items to discuss.
- d. UAF proposed [motion](#) to change BOR policy on academic integrity (Jennie Carroll)
 - i. Please review and if you have any wording suggestions please pass them on.
- e. Thought Leaders Update–Jennie
 - i. After a discussion with Paul: looking at the end of March possibly with half days on the 28th and 29th; structure similar to the student success convening system; continue every year; rotate through each of the universities; and the first topic would be Artificial Intelligence.
 - ii. It would be beneficial to have a group of organizers consisting of at least one person from each university. Having a team on the ground at a particular institution would be necessary and helpful.
 - iii. A motion or vote was discussed in detail of what would be involved to move forward with this new program.
 - iv. I, Jennie, move that the Faculty Alliance establishes an annual faculty forum. This year's forum shall be organized by Jennie Carroll and a team of Alliance members. The topic shall be AI and a new topic will be selected annually in the Fall. Jennifer W. motioned to approve and Jackie seconded. The motion passed.
- f. Draft language for bylaws / constitution for faculty evaluation of admin - [draft doc here](#)
 - i. Propose to insert the following sentence in the Constitution under article 3, subsection c Responsibilities

“The Alliance shall have an advisory role in providing feedback i) to the UA Board of Regents regarding the performance of the UA President and ii) to the UA President regarding the performance of their direct reports/executives.”

- ii. It was requested to include a little written background/rationale in the motion for when it is brought forward to all 3 faculty senates.
- iii. Amendments to the constitution, once passed by a 7 Alliance member vote, shall be transmitted to the President of the University of Alaska. However, amendments to the Constitution need to be sent to alliance members and the local faculty senates at least 30 days prior to the Alliance meeting at which they will be considered.
- iv. A notice will be in February and then we would take it up in the April meeting.

6. New Business

- a. Special full board meeting on Jan 17. Discussion with Mr. Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., President Emeritus, Purdue University; Chairman of the Purdue Research Foundation Board; Distinguished Scholar and Senior Advisor at Liberty Fund; and Former Governor of Indiana. [Copy of the agenda here](#)
 - i. A discussion took place regarding “transforming” our institutions and what does the term “transforming” actually mean.
- b. Additions for State of the University Pitney remarks
 - i. Does the faculty alliance want to put together something? Need by 25 January.
 - ii. President Pitney looks for a good story, such as student successes, faculty successes, or something along those lines that will resonate with the audience.
- c. Other
- d. Other

7. Faculty Senate Reports

- a. UAS - In the middle of 4 items to report: 1) committee putting together a review process for the UAS Deans and Directors; 2) the Gardner Institute, we haven't heard what is coming out of the December session; 3) having issues with a department of education policy with different entities (for example: financial aid, registrar, and faculty) interpreting it different ways and it is about the courses that overlap between spring and summer; 4) possible change to bookstore from the MBS system to what UAA uses, the Ambassador Education Solutions (AES).
- b. UAA - Had a special meeting to gavel in and gavel out and passed the consent agenda, which included the Associate of General Science that is moving through the curriculum system. In response to UAS' bookstore switch, UAA is still working out the kinks and some of the messaging in the AES system.
- c. UAF - In response to UAS' bookstore switch, this spring UAF will be utilizing Barnes and Noble, which is really mobile and has some sort of system where they do university bookstores. The subcommittee on an AI syllabus has come up with suggestions so that we can pass this and put it into our syllabus checklist. In February, there was a motion to eliminate the core GPA; Academic Integrity Policy; a motion to remove the requirements for TOEFL under IELTS for students from Anglophone countries; and the chancellor's advisory cabinet on Native education has approved our draft land acknowledgement.

- i. A quick reminder that Roadmap to Empower Alaska feedback is due very soon.
8. Statewide Academic Council

Abel motioned to adjourn the meeting and Jennie seconded.