



UNIVERSITY  
of ALASKA  
*Many Traditions One Alaska*

Agenda

**Faculty Alliance**

Friday, December 11, 2015

Via [Google Hangout](#)

Audio-only: 1-855-280-1855

1:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Voting Members Present:

Maren Haavig, President, UAS Faculty Senate

Lisa Hoferkamp, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate

Kevin Krein, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate

Cécile Lardon, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate, Chair, Faculty Alliance

Orion Lawlor, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

Debu Misra, President, UAF Faculty Senate

Tara Smith, President, UAA Faculty Senate, Vice Chair, Faculty Alliance

Staff Present:

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

Guests Present:

Dan Kline, Professor of English and Director of General Education, UAA (joined at 3pm)

Voting Members Absent:

David Fitzgerald, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate

Diane Hirshberg, Past President, UAA Faculty Senate

***Note for the record: Quorum was not met initially, however, the six members present opted to discuss information items (they focused on the Chair's Report). Tara Smith joined at 2:25 and the meeting was called to order.***

2. Adoption of Agenda

Tara moved, Maren seconded. No objections

3. Approval of November 20 minutes

Attachment 1

Lisa noted she was present on November 20 but is listed as absent in the minutes. Maren moved to approve with the noted correction, Kevin seconded. No objections.

4. Public or Guest Comments  
None provided.

5. Report from Chair

5.1. Roundtable on Higher Education in Alaska – Cécile reported that the roundtable focused on the question of whether and in what way the university is meeting state needs. WICHE and NCHEMS provided facilitators and the group were given a presentation of data on education trends including funding and degrees awarded. The data was presented in a way that seemed to show Alaska receives a lot of funding but doesn't graduate a lot of students. Which led to a conclusion that, essentially, there is money but it is not being used efficiently. President Johnsen seemed optimistic overall about the discussion, however, it can be seen as somewhat discouraging from the faculty perspective. Cécile noted she hoped the next meeting will take additional perspectives on the issues. The next roundtable will be held in spring 2016.

5.2. Board of Regents December meeting – Cécile provided an update to the Board of Regents and noted it would take another two years to complete the GER alignment. Regent Anderson was vocal that he didn't understand why it was taking so long to align GER; he asked Cécile to review it further with him. Regent Hughes also mentioned GERs were being reviewed by the Board (as one of their four focus groups) and, as such, the Alliance working group process may be interrupted by the Board's work.

At the Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting, Dan White gave a review of programs and provided breakdowns by college (rather than individual programs) and also noted how comparing colleges between the universities was not a useful comparison. There was some concern regarding the expedited program review list requested by President Johnsen (by Jan. 13). The request didn't note a specific number of programs to be reviewed and standards regarding selection were left open to each campus.

6. Reports from Faculty Senates

6.1. UAA – The UAA Faculty Senate is holding a joint session with the Union of Students of the University of Alaska Anchorage. The joint meeting will allow for review of two motions presented by students: shared governance and having governance members on all policy groups. They have formed a joint task force with the students to evaluate the faculty assessment process, and are also looking at issues regarding recommended/required course blocks.

6.2. UAF – There has been no discussion of course blocks at UAF. Update on regular

business included elimination of a master's program, approval of a new set of bylaws for the Senate, an invitation from the chancellor for governance leaders to join the Chancellor's Cabinet, the Senate passed the Bucket List of GER courses. Debu has also discussed a proposed Title IX-related course mandatory for all UAF students with Chancellor Powers at their monthly meeting.

- 6.3. UAS – The UAS Senate is asking that the administrative processes be rolled back special courses and course substitutions. There was some acceptance but also some push back to the request. They sent memo to Chancellor Caulfield regarding IT issues which resulted in an external review set for spring. Also chasing down issues and procedures that need to be reviewed but don't really have a home (e.g. room scheduling). Caulfield has expressed interest in attending UAS Faculty Senate meetings – mostly met favorably by the senators but some are worried it will impinge robust discussion.

## 7. Ongoing Business

- 7.1. GER alignment – Although there was some disappointment with the delayed timeline, the regents did not outright say the alignment needed to be done sooner. However, it seems there may be some difference between what is considered 'complete' by the Board and the faculty, so the two and a half year timeline may actually not be accurate according to the BOR's definitions (i.e. the alignment might be considered 'done' by the Board sooner than by the faculty). Faculty discussions would be done next year and then the last year of the timeline would be for system coordination.
- 7.2. Course re-design update – Cécile, Maren, and Dan – Dan noted at UAA there didn't seem to be much discussion surrounding the issue. Cécile reported Provost Henrichs said UAF would not be using NCAT for course re-design.
- 7.3. Title III grant update – Dan Kline – Dan reported that he met with Dave Dannenburg and Heather Nash, authors of the grant, and they assured him that there will be a lot of flexibility within their proposal and it would be voluntary for departments to join. Primary concern of grant is to create course modules that can be easily distributed to faculty (especially adjuncts), to help develop an institutional infrastructure, and to support efforts of underrepresented students.

## 8. New Business

- 8.1. 2016 Meeting Schedule – Cécile proposed moving back to meeting once a month and finding other ways to collaborate between meetings.
- 8.2. Retreat
  - 8.2.1. Agenda – Cécile asked members to send suggestions to her for the retreat agenda.
  - 8.2.2. Room – Admin 204 – Morgan will book
  - 8.2.3. Restaurant choice - Provide suggestions on the list serv

9. Comments, concerns, and announcements
10. Adjourn

Debu moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:32pm.