



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Minutes

Faculty Alliance

Friday, February 12, 2016

Via [Google Hangout](#)

Audio-only: 1-855-280-1855

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order

Voting Members:

David Fitzgerald, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate

Diane Hirshberg, Past President, UAA 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

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

Staff:

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

Guests:

Kat Milligan-Myhre, University of Alaska Anchorage

Members Absent

Maren Haavig, President, UAS Faculty Senate

Orion Lawlor, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

Debu Misra, President, UAF Faculty Senate

2. Approval of Agenda

Tara moved to approved, Lisa seconded. No objections. Agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approval of January 29 Minutes

Lisa moved to approve the minutes, Diane seconded. No objections. Minutes were approved as presented.

4. Public or Guest Comments

None.

5. Report from Chair

Cécile reported that she is preparing her testimony for the board meeting coming up next week. She also plans to attend the reception to get more face-to-face time with the regents. Cécile reported she had asked VP White to add Strategic Pathways to the SAC agenda. After the Board meeting and the SAC meeting, she hopes to have a better idea of what direction

UA is moving, and would like to re-visit the priorities the Alliance had discussed at their retreat in January. She noted senate elections are approaching—nominations for UAF are coming up in March, UAS is a little later in the semester, and UAA in April.

6. Report from Faculty Senates

UAA – The UAA Faculty Senate met prior to the release of the Strategic Pathways document. They’ve had discussion with Provost Gingerich and VC for Admin Bill Spindle and voiced concerns about the amount of input they will have and their desire to be involved at the ground level. Tara and Diane also met with the coordinating assembly (staff, faculty and student governance) and discussed SP. Several conversations around SP have not been productive and have been more inflammatory. The executive committee of the senate also met and encouraged UAA faculty to provide feedback on SP via the form on System Governance website.

UAS – The UAS Faculty Senate also met prior to release of Strategic Pathways. They had previously asked that they look at ways to streamline administration and support academics. They have had one meeting to discuss but haven’t seen any movement but are hoping the new chancellor and provost will take it into consideration.

UAF – The new chancellor search moving along and interviews will take place in Seattle in late February or early March.

7. New Business

7.1. Revisions to R03.01 – Faculty, Staff and Student Governance

After discussion, Alliance members agreed they don’t like the term ‘emergency’ and would prefer ‘instances requiring immediate action.’

Kevin moved to approve the discussed changes, seconded by Tara. No objections. Motion passed. Cécile will share the new wording with VP White.

7.2. Draft Regulation on Telecommuting

Diane noted she had personally seen issues involving geo diff and travel and tax costs, and would like to share with her UAA financial people to see if they have any issues with the draft. It was also noted that it would be worthwhile to make sure that people who want to try telework are made aware of the regulations and procedures beforehand.

Morgan let Alliance members know they would have until March 5 to provide feedback. Chair asked members to send comments/suggestions/changes to Cécile/Morgan and will discuss either via email or at their next meeting.

Note for the record: Members agreed to address items 7.4 and 8.1 before engaging in a discussion on Strategic Pathways.

7.3. Discussion of Strategic Pathways

Cécile opened the floor for a discussion on Strategic Pathways.

Lisa and Kevin noted the pathways document didn’t list very big changes for UAS and that is more what everyone is talking about—there was nothing that truly indicated

what type of change will take place other than new fisheries and technologies programs.

Tara noted she hadn't heard any positive comments about the plan at UAA and the pathways document seems to be creating conflict between campuses, does not effectively respond to the public debate. Also noted that cuts to administration and athletics should come before cuts to academics.

Cécile noted that from her conversations with the president, it seems like each campus will still offer courses in each program but the focus for the program will only reside at one campus.

Cécile will draft a response for Alliance members to review over the weekend and respond by Tuesday. The draft will be a request for answers/clarification to certain questions along with the Alliance's view of how they could be addressed.

7.4. Communication to Regents

Diane distributed a draft to members prior to the meeting. Members agreed to have Cécile send the final draft to the Regents'. There were no objections. Asked that any changes to meeting dates be sent to Cécile and Morgan.

8. Ongoing Business

8.1. Meeting dates for spring semester

Alliance members engaged in a discussion on when to meet.

Tara moved to hold meetings on the second Friday of the month for March and April, and Kevin seconded. There were no objections. Motion passed.

Cécile asked Morgan to send out a poll regarding the first week of May.

9. Comments, concerns, and announcements

Alliance members engaged in a brief discussion on SB 174: An Act relating to the regulation of firearms and knives by the University of Alaska. They agreed they would touch base with student leaders at their local campus to draft a response to the bill.

Kat asked for input on best ways to address concerns about restructuring—should they just go to the president or should they try addressing them to other administrators.

Cécile noted Provost Henrichs told her she thought the best way to make their feedback have impact would be to combine it as a group—like the FA or department—and to address it to the president and the Board of Regents.

10. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Minutes taken by Morgan Dufseth.