



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Minutes

Faculty Alliance

Friday, April 28, 2017

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Google Hangout

Audio only: 1-855-280-1855

1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 2:30 p.m.

Voting Members:

Sharon Chamard, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate *left at 4pm*

Chris Fallen, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

David Fitzgerald, President, UAA Faculty Senate,

Maren Haavig, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate

Lisa Hoferkamp, President, UAS Faculty Senate

Orion Lawlor, President, UAF Faculty Senate

Debu Misra, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate

Tara Smith, Past President, UAA Faculty Senate; Chair, Faculty Alliance

Staff:

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

Guests:

Dan Kline, Chair, GER Coordinating Task Force

James R. Johnsen, President, University of Alaska

Members Absent:

Megan Buzby, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate *proxy given to Maren*

2. Adoption of Agenda

Sharon moved to approve, and Maren seconded. There were no objections. The agenda was approved as presented.

3. Approval of April 14 Minutes

Postponed to the May 12 meeting.

4. Public or Guest Comments

Dan Kline – GER Coordinating Task Force Update: Dan provided an update on GER Coordinating activities. He noted it was a long process to find what worked for each

campus individually with regard to the AK Native Studies GER; they are now waiting for more formal reports from the campuses on how they will move forward. They are currently working with UAF on its processes for this fall. But, all the hard work notwithstanding, UA will be the first university to require a course on AK Native studies. Dan reported the WRTG prefix has been approved and will roll out in Fall 2017. Math has already been rolled out and Composition will roll out in the fall 2017, Communications will be shortly after that, and then the final four subject areas (Humanities, Social Sciences, Fine Arts, and Natural Sciences) will be done the following year. There wasn't a Humanities rep from UAF until late in the process which slowed down progress considerably. Dan noted the task force would also like clarity on the mandate/charge from the Board regarding alignment of pedagogy, curriculum, learning outcomes and schedules. Ultimately, after completion of alignment, UA will have a faculty body that is aware of course and programs at other campuses. Another medium- to long-term concern is the request for the coordinating task force for revised Board policy on Gen Ed. There were GELO discussions that happened a few years ago but there wasn't buy-in across the system. Dan also encouraged Alliance members to look at the [interstate passport](#), previously shared by Dana Thomas when he was VPAA, gives another way to think about Gen Ed. Dan also mentioned a curriculum matrix—shared courses of Gen Ed but then some courses only taught at a certain campus. Dan noted UA's is a soft alignment that only requires agreement on some learning outcomes and basic elements. A hard alignment would require identical course numbers and course content. UA's is only for common courses or courses that are already very similar.

5. Report from Chair

Tara reported that during her meeting with President Johnsen, she asked about the faculty regent proposal. She reported that Johnsen noted SW will remain neutral and that the Board would only discuss process rather than offer support. The Summit Team discussed the Alliance's recommendation on the common calendar and noted they support chancellors being able to designate one day per year but they aren't yet sure about designating the Wednesday before Thanksgiving as a no class day.

6. Report from Faculty Senates (current Presidents): Issues, concerns, motions; questions or comments to Faculty Alliance

UAF Special Meeting – Orion reported there were 15 programs for discontinuation on the agenda. The Senate did not officially approve any programs for discontinuation (which, Orion noted, is only an advisory vote to the provost/chancellor/Board). Most of the programs are already in suspension and are not taking on new students. There is an effort by Sociology and Economics programs to request that the current interim chancellor hold off on discontinuation until the new chancellor is installed. Lisa asked if the cost-benefit analysis were available; Chris noted in this instance they were shared with all of the UAF senators but that the data isn't that clear on cost savings. Chris also noted there is a survey available for feedback on the UAF Chancellor Forums.

UAS – Lisa noted Megan worked on the suggested rally for next Wednesday, however, there wasn't enough interest to continue their efforts. Lisa reported she is scheduled to speak before the legislature this coming Saturday.

UAA – Dave reported their E-Board met with President Johnsen and discussed the vote of no confidence regarding CITO Kowalski. Dave noted he wasn't sure of what the outcome will be but expects some sort of response within the next month. Dave also noted the deadline for the Board to respond regarding the vote of no confidence on President Johnsen. Dave noted he contacted the Board Office and today received a message from Chair O'Neill that she would like to talk to him to discuss. UAA will hold a national search next fall for a new chancellor. It has not yet announced who will be the interim provost while Provost Gingerich serves as interim chancellor.

Dave noted the Common Calendar Committee met yesterday and reviewed history and charge. They will meet one more time before the end of the semester and have invited the registrars to participate.

7. Discussion with President Johnsen

FY18 Budget – President Johnsen noted UA's budget is still at \$325M in the House and \$303M in Senate. He is currently working the back stage to garner support and advocate for the University. The House Finance Committee will hold a hearing tomorrow (April 29) from 1:00–3:30. The president noted he does not think SB 103 is going to move this session but notes UA still needs to do more research on how to defend it and see if there are changes that would make sense. He recently met with members of the Finance Committee and it seemed like they were amendable to increasing the UA budget above the Senate budget of \$303M. The president noted if the budget comes in below \$325M there will likely be a mid-year tuition increase and increased pressure to reduce administrative services. The president also reported there was some initial support for a referendum for 2018 ballot to dedicate a portion of permanent fund revenue to support K12 and higher education. Another out-of-the-box funding option would be to get a guaranteed portion of revenue from new oil fields. Both tough ideas that would take a great effort but that could be highly beneficial to the University and school districts.

Timeline for SP Phase 2 and 3 – The president noted there was one area where they will move forward with Board approval at the June meeting—Fisheries and creating a joint program between UAF and UAS. In other areas, he has removed some options that have not garnered any support and does not think any other decisions will be put before the Board at their June meeting. Regarding community campuses, there was a suggestion to create learning centers so they are looking into the differences between learning centers and campuses with respect to accreditation and Title III funding. He noted UA is also exploring partnerships with tribal colleges, and has started initial conversations with APU. In the near term, there will be continued collaboration internally. E-Learning has several faculty and campuses who are interested in exploring a partnership with Pearson or another contractor (the president reminded the Alliance he is not mandating this effort but has offered it as an opportunity to interested parties). Human Resources and Student Services options are being deferred to their respective councils to determine what can be streamlined and automated (also includes Institutional Research). The president noted in those administrative areas he doesn't foresee major reorganization. The president acknowledged the Phase 3 options were only released on April 11 and noted he understands the timing does not allow for feedback over the summer, so he will push back the feedback date to October (at least for students and faculty).

8. Ongoing Business
 - 8.1. Shared Governance Survey
Members reviewed the survey developed by Orion and agreed to distribute to their Senates. Feedback will be collected until May 11.
 - 8.2. Enrollment Plan Response
Members reviewed the draft response developed by Sharon and Megan. Orion moved to approve, seconded by Chris. There were no objections. The memo was approved unanimously.
9. New Business
 - 9.1. Feedback on recognizing Indigenous People's Day
UA governance leaders were asked by President Johnsen to provide feedback on recognizing Indigenous Peoples' Day at UA after the Coalition of Student Leaders passed a resolution in support. Tara drafted a resolution in support but also noting each campus should be allowed to decide what is meaningful to their community. Debu moved to approve the resolution, and Lisa seconded. There were no objections. The resolution was approved unanimously.
 - 9.2. Feedback on Phase 3 Options
Tara revised the memo to request an extension to September 29. Dave moved to approve, and Debu seconded. There were no objections.
10. Agenda Items for May 12 Meeting
 - 10.1. Revised Phase 2 Options, if available
 - 10.2. Shared Governance Feedback Results
 - 10.3. Induction of new members & installation of new chair
 - 10.4. Confirm meeting dates/times for AY18
 - 10.5. Fall retreat dates/location
11. Agenda Items for August Retreat
 - 11.1. Phase 3 Options Feedback
 - 11.2. Others?
12. Comments, concerns, and announcements
13. Adjourn
Debu moved to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 4:51 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

May

- 1-Faculty Alliance report due to Statewide Governance
- 1-UAF Faculty Senate, 1p-3p
- 2- Chair meets with President, 1p, Anchorage
- 2- Chair meets with VPAAR, 2p, phone
- 5-UAA Faculty Senate, 2:30p-4:30p
- 5-UAS Faculty Senate, 3p-5p
- 12- Faculty Alliance Meeting & Transition to new members, 2:30-4:30p via Google Hangouts

19-SAC, 3-5p, Audio

22- BOR Public Testimony, 4p-6p, audio

25- BOR ASA Committee meeting, 8:30a-11:30a, video

25- BOR Facilities Committee meeting, 1p-5p, video

26- BOR Audit Committee meeting, 9a-11a, video

June

1-2, BOR meeting, Fairbanks

16: SAC, 3-5p, Audio