



UNIVERSITY  
*of* ALASKA  
*Many Traditions One Alaska*

Minutes

**Faculty Alliance**

Friday, April 12, 2019

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

[Zoom](#)

Audio: 1-929-205-6099; Meeting ID: 689 183 259

Members

Sine Anahita, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

Heather Batchelder, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate

Donie Bret-Harte, President, UAF Faculty Senate

Megan Buzby, Past-President, UAS Faculty Senate

Sharon Chamard, Past-President, UAA Faculty Senate

Scott Downing, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate

Chris Fallen, Past Chair, Faculty Alliance

Robin Gilcrist, President, UAS Faculty Senate

Jak Maier, FY20 President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

Maria Williams, President, UAA Faculty Senate; Chair, Faculty Alliance

Staff

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

1. Roll and Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 2:34 p.m.

2. Review of Agenda

There were no objections to the agenda as presented.

3. Approve

a. [March 22 Minutes](#)

Robin moved to approve the minutes, seconded. There were none opposed. The minutes were approved as presented.

4. Public and Guest Comments - Dave Fitzgerald, UAA

UAA has formed an ad hoc committee to review and address system deficiencies, including decentralization and separate Board of Trustees for each accredited university; the constitutional language that created the university was drafted back when there were fewer than 1000 students at UA--it is perhaps time to update it, especially now that Alaska isn't awash in oil money, so perhaps this is a good time to review and make changes; the committee is reviewing other systems as well as working to find support in the community; Forest Nabors is heading the committee; the Anchorage mayor is supportive; essentially, UAA is ready to do its own thing and feel it would be to the benefit of its students and community; they plan to publish an op ed for the ADN.

5. Chair's Report

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Ascds%3AUS%3A8620ff63-2de7-4e50-bd1a-9f0aaa39217c>

Maria noted she had not yet met with President Johnsen or VP Layer. However, she would like to focus on timeline for courseblock alignment. Sine note it might be useful to use a different phrase than 'courseblock alignment' and switch the narrative to 'intercampus collaborations' to lessen the emphasis on aligning course schedules. Maria noted she didn't want to completely discard this phrasing so that it isn't pulled back from the faculty and decisions are unilaterally made by administration (as had happened with several other issues). Scott asked that the Alliance start to formally address the issues surrounding shared governance at UA (lack of faculty input, lack of opportunity for input and feedback, etc.). Jak noted UAF Faculty Senate Faculty Affairs committee is sending a resolution to their chancellor asking for increased transparency and additional opportunities for shared governance; although structural changes are the purview of the administration, they have impacts on instruction, which is the purview of faculty, and use this current budget climate as an opportunity to re-invigorate shared governance, rather than to dismantle it.

6. Senate Reports

- a. UAS - UAS Faculty Senate passed a resolution regarding the UAA SOE decision (see below). Also looking at the Passport System, a consortium of universities are participating and the program allows students to move within the different schools as long as they meet certain requirements. Also continuing to research dual enrollment and have reached out to the provost for additional information. Senators also discussed the state budget and the FIF awards.
- b. UAF - Sine noted they had passed the Blue Book revisions onto senators and anticipate approving the changes at the next meeting; also approved the Student

Extended Leave Policy; Donie is strongly opposed to separating the universities from the UA system; UAF Faculty Senate did not have the opportunity to discuss the UAA SOE decision at their meeting (it was being held at the same time as the BOR meeting)

c. UAA

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZbKhiX6FF5aQx3QctgcXhD2ntS7kMcLX/view?usp=sharing>

UAA Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee on Budget Reform

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Aascds%3AUS%3A91e7ae31-76c3-4b51-be77-8cd7fa634418>

Scott will take over the Faculty Senate in a few weeks. There was a discussion at the last meeting about the SOE decision and how it was made. Elections have concluded and they are just waiting on results for 1st VP and several other positions.

7. New Business

a. BOR Update

i. UAA SOE Decision

Video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGUAN\\_uiuLk](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GGUAN_uiuLk)

Several regents expressed concern regarding how swiftly this decision was made and noted their frustration with not having an in-person meeting.

Members discussed whether the Alliance should make a formal response to the decision and the way it was made.

ACTION: Maria offered to begin a draft response to the president and the Board.

ii. UAA Faculty Senate Resolution

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XJSDF0iFCWGOQp7Dy7PHoGqSn0VaT0Ly/view?usp=sharing>

iii. UAA Faculty Senate email to BOR

<https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/track?uri=urn%3Aaaid%3Aascds%3AUS%3A9ab97888-fda7-4edc-a4ff-ecc6a3195093>

iv. UAS Faculty Senate Resolution

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1iPrrG7m9BT0SmiqOXLEdQsKM5nevHMyR>

v. Budget Discussion - House has passed its budget, allocating \$317M to UA for FY20. The budget now moves to the Senate.

b. Faculty Morale Survey - Sharon - Is waiting to hear back from the provost on her proposal for time over the summer for her to analyze the faculty morale survey

results. Sharon noted she plans to send out another morale survey out in the coming weeks at UAA and will share the survey link with UAS and UAF faculty senate presidents.

- c. Concur—required trainings take two hours but are unavailable at UAF after April 12 — Sine - Morgan will follow-up with Sine and the SW Financial Systems team who is hosting/coordinating the trainings/
  - d. Administrative overreach, non-transparent decision making, non-inclusive restructuring processes — Sine and Jak
  - e. <http://www.akleg.gov/PDF/31/A/HB0039-H062-001.PDF> - Sine - This has been shared around Facebook. It is intent language passed by the House, however, it does not appear to have support within UA administration.
8. Ongoing Business
- a. FIF Proposal Reviews - Debrief and Update - Maria noted she has not heard anything more from VP Layer, other than to say that last year after initial scores it was pretty obvious who the awardees would be and then had them reviewed by a smaller committee with the provosts and deans; Maria objected to a second review, noting it would cause a delay in announcing the winners.
  - b. Courseblock Alignment Update - Can we identify a deadline to write our recommendations?
    - i. [Draft summary of UAF survey results and course-sharing options](#)
    - ii. UAA Faculty recommendations for Course block alignment  
[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yxLV0tIhp47luLTF8RVw7xZUpUk\\_aN2pvJLHQdlpSOZM/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1yxLV0tIhp47luLTF8RVw7xZUpUk_aN2pvJLHQdlpSOZM/edit?usp=sharing)
    - i. Megan has not had a chance to implement a survey for course-sharing at UAS
  - c. FY2020 Budget - Postponed due to lack of conclusive information.
    - i. [Faculty Alliance brainstorm](#)
    - ii. [Faculty Alliance draft letter](#)
  - d. Follow-ups:
    - i. Distribute approved draft GERM bylaws and convene the committee [notes from GER Advisory meeting](#). Please note that the Interim members of this committee will be at the April 26, FA meeting. Dan Kline will share a list of all currently aligned GER courses. This committee will serve to review the list a couple times a year to ensure information is current and new courses are added as necessary. Maria plans to follow up with the group prior to the April 26 meeting.
    - i. Common Calendar Committee update - Postponed to the April 26 meeting.

- ii. Statewide Council updates - Maria will check with VP Layer regarding the recommendations Chris sent to the president on Feb. 11.

9. Adjourn

Sharon moved to adjourn, seconded. The meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

*Important Dates*

**2019**

April

- 4- UA Summit Team; 1-4:30 via video
- 5 - UAA Faculty Senate meeting, 2:30-4:30
- 5 - UAS Faculty Senate meeting
- 8 - UAF Faculty Senate meeting (1-3 pm via A/V)
- 8 - Special Meeting of the BOR (1:30-5:30 pm via video/livestream)
- 12 - Faculty Alliance meeting, 2:30-4:30 via Zoom/audio
- 19 - Academic Council, 3:00 – 5:00
- 22 - Chair meets w/President Johnsen; 2-3m
- 26 - Faculty Alliance meeting, 2:30-4:30 via Zoom/audio
- 29 - Last Day of Instruction

May

- 2 - UA Summit Team; 1-4:30 via video
- 3 - UAA Faculty Senate meeting, 2:30-4:30
- 3 - UAS Faculty Senate meeting
- 6 - UAF Faculty Senate meeting (1-3 pm via A/V)
- 9 - BOR meeting (9am - 3pm, ANC)
- 10 - Faculty Alliance meeting, 2:30-4:30 via Zoom/audio - new members are invited
- 11 - Faculty Contracts End
- 14 - Chair meets w/President Johnsen; 9-10am
- 17 - Academic Council, 3:00 – 5:00
- 30 - BOR Academic & Student Affairs Committee meeting, 8:30-11:30 via video

June

- 6-7 - BOR - Fairbanks
- 13 - UA Summit Team; 1-4:30 via video
- 21 - Academic Council meeting; 3:00 - 5:00

Copy of the Zoom chat:

From Kelly James to Everyone: (02:40 PM)

□ [https://www.boarddocs.com/ak/alaska/Board.nsf/files/B9KFBQ6B0A60/\\$file/ASA%20UAA%20SOE%20presentation%20-%202.21.19%20-%20FINAL%20-%20CORRECTED%20.18.19.pdf](https://www.boarddocs.com/ak/alaska/Board.nsf/files/B9KFBQ6B0A60/$file/ASA%20UAA%20SOE%20presentation%20-%202.21.19%20-%20FINAL%20-%20CORRECTED%20.18.19.pdf)

□

From Kelly James to Everyone: (03:04 PM)

□ Faculty Alliance budget response draft letter:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_clXNJPQEe4hYpwyszltrQrXPn0hS1dqY5h5\\_cDa0fY/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_clXNJPQEe4hYpwyszltrQrXPn0hS1dqY5h5_cDa0fY/edit?usp=sharing)

From Me to Everyone: (03:08 PM)

□ This just in:

[https://www.anchoragepress.com/columnists/outside-appointment/article\\_25890a38-f40d-11e8-9ac4-ab76a1b1572b.html?utm\\_medium=social&utm\\_source=facebook&utm\\_campaign=user-share&fbclid=IwAR3bVhJkvf52SRjz402KqNYjiWByCmcq6j1Opln8eLiypEgAZAmM-YvJoAs](https://www.anchoragepress.com/columnists/outside-appointment/article_25890a38-f40d-11e8-9ac4-ab76a1b1572b.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=user-share&fbclid=IwAR3bVhJkvf52SRjz402KqNYjiWByCmcq6j1Opln8eLiypEgAZAmM-YvJoAs)

From smdowning to Everyone: (03:35 PM)

□ <http://uas.alaska.edu/chancellor/docs/FY20-Advocacy-Final.pdf>

From Kelly James to Everyone: (03:42 PM)

□ If you dare: <http://mustreadalaska.com/>

From Kelly James to Everyone: (04:01 PM)

□ Here's the scorecard:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12IHCbxzK7Hc2oJC0MvTR-AGqnD29TsXdzru7VE3i3Ww/edit?usp=sharing>

From Me to Everyone: (04:04 PM)

□ Here are the draft GERM bylaws:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1\\_B6PBBf1AJ\\_Jn2vjIWI3KqZXfRV6cVy1xdar8eUOF0I/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1_B6PBBf1AJ_Jn2vjIWI3KqZXfRV6cVy1xdar8eUOF0I/edit)

□

From Kelly James to Everyone: (04:18 PM)

□ From Johnsen's Wednesday message: Earlier this week, the chancellors and I met to begin our budget contingency strategy going forward. The following points came out as a result of this discussion:

The university is not, at this point, implementing a hiring or travel freeze, but I ask all leaders to use an added level of judgement in filling positions, approving travel, and making other decisions with long term commitment.

In terms of what is on or off the table for consideration, everything is on the table.

We are not leaning toward recommending to the Board of Regents that the university consolidate under a single accreditation.

We are looking at the organization of our community campuses as a community college unit. We are not going to pursue a pro-rata approach to distributing reductions that may come our way; rather, our reductions will be made based on each university's unique strengths and mission.

From Kelly James to Everyone: (04:25 PM)

□ Here is the BOR's response to the request to post recordings of the meetings:

<https://alaska.edu/files/governance/2018-07-10-ONeill-to-SGC-re-BOR-Mtg-Recordings.pdf>

