

## DRAFT FA MEETING MINUTES

**January 27, 2012**

Present: Dan Monteith (Chair), Nalinaksha Bhattacharyya, Robert Boeckmann, Cathy Cahill, Jon Dehn, Jennifer Reynolds, Mike Stekoll, Pat Ivey (Executive Officer).  
Guest: Paula Dodson.

Note that John Petraitis is no longer a member of Faculty Alliance, having ascended to the position of Associate Dean for Social Sciences at UAA. His seat will remain vacant pending election of a new UAA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President in May.

December minutes approved.

### **E-Lab Task Force:**

Dan Monteith praised this as an "excellent committee." The Task Force preferred the term "distance lab" to "e-lab." Their term for the standard type of lab was "face-to-face." At the two-day retreat in Anchorage, they focused on the process for reviewing, vetting and approving courses specifically for core (general education) requirements. They felt there is probably a need to review all lab courses for core (general education) requirements, not only distance lab courses. These courses should be reviewed first in the academic departments, then through the curriculum review structure at each MAU. The Task Force role would be to create a list of guideline questions for this review.

The draft policy submitted by the Task Force will be circulated among Faculty Alliance members for comments, then sent to the three faculty senates for further input. The comments and suggested edits will go back to the Task Force, in an iterative process. Faculty Alliance members should send comments to the Chair by the end of next week.

### **Policy and Regulation Review:**

Despite the Faculty Alliance request and agreement with President Gamble at our meeting on November 18, there is apparently still a deadline of January 31 for comments on the Policy and Regulations Review. Faculty Alliance members discussed why our verbal agreement with President Gamble was not implemented, and agreed that in the future any such agreement must be confirmed in writing. Faculty Alliance members remain concerned that the January 31 deadline does not allow enough time for a careful review, nor for participation of the three faculty senates. The UAA Faculty Senate subcommittees were scheduled to start their review in late January. UAF Faculty Senate committees received their assignments in November, and responses from some of them will be ready by the January deadline. All UAF committee responses will be forwarded to Provost Henrichs, who is compiling reviews for discussion by the Statewide Academic Council.

### **Strategic Directions update:**

Paula Dodson was a guest at the meeting. She described methods that the Strategic Directions team is using to describe and interpret results of the public listening

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sessions. They are not trying to do statistical measures, but are trying to gauge the strength of responses and importance of topics by observing how often specific themes are raised and the emotional expression of the speakers. The results of this "strength of topic" analysis have been shown to the Board of Regents.

Faculty Alliance members, particularly those with professional background in public surveys and stakeholder meetings, expressed strong and continuing concern about creating quantitative or even semi-quantitative measures of responses from these sessions, because the sessions provide unsystematic samples. Alliance members felt that such measures, though appealing, would be invalid and misleading. For example, moderators at the listening sessions sometimes prompted participants to comment on a specific topic, so counting the number of times a topic was raised would not be a valid measure of concern or interest by the participants. Likewise, presenting results from the public listening sessions as "external" input is misleading because those sessions have included many UA faculty and staff. In one of the UAA external listening session, a Faculty Alliance member asked for a show of hands; of 50-60 people, all but two were faculty, staff, or students. Because of the format of the meetings, the responses from external and internal participants cannot be separated. Paula Dodson responded that they are concentrating on a broad-brush portrayal of the listening sessions and are not attempting to use scientific principles. She and Alliance members agreed that what Paula Dodson and Chas St. George are doing is a subjective interpretation. Alliance members agree that the information is valuable, but caution that the University should be careful how the data are presented.

Regarding internal listening sessions, the first two have been held. A different set of 20 questions is being used. Chas St. George will send this list to Faculty Alliance. Paula has been sending notes from the external and internal listening sessions to the chancellors and community campus directors.

### **Agenda:**

Agenda items on the Stay on Track program and experiential learning credit for military were postponed to the next meeting.

Draft Notes are attached.

# UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

## Faculty Alliance

Friday, January 27, beginning at 3:00pm via audio conference

Bridge 800-893-8850 Pin 2151251

Fairbanks site; 204 Butrovich Building; Fairbanks participants please join meeting on site.

### AGENDA

1. Call to order and Roll Call

Dan Monteith, President, 2011-2012 Chair; President, UAS Faculty Senate  
Nalinaksha Bhattacharyya, President, UAA Faculty Senate  
Robert Boeckmann, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate  
Cathy Cahill, President, UAF Faculty Senate  
Jon Dehn, 2009-2010 Alliance Chair; Past President, UAF Faculty Senate  
John Petraitis, 2010-2011 Alliance Chair; Past President, UAA Faculty Senate  
Jennifer Reynolds, President-elect, UAF Faculty Senate  
Mike Stekoll, President-elect, UAS Faculty Senate  
Sherry Tamone, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate

Pat Ivey, Executive Officer

2. Adopt Agenda

3. Approve December 16, 2011 Minutes

4. Report of the Chair

5. Public or Guest Comments

6. E-Lab Task Force Preliminary Report

7. Policy and Regulation Review

8. Strategic Direction Update

9. Staying on Track; Compete to Complete

<http://www.alaska.edu/student-services/stay-on-track/>

10. Experiential learning credit for military, HB 282 and SB 150

[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_bill.asp?session=27&bill=HB282](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_bill.asp?session=27&bill=HB282)

[http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get\\_bill.asp?session=27&bill=SB150](http://www.legis.state.ak.us/basis/get_bill.asp?session=27&bill=SB150)

11. ORP Settlement

12. External Administration Committee/Council Reports and Liaison/Alternate Appointments

12.1 Statewide Academic Council

Alliance Members: *Dan Monteith, John Petraitis, Cathy Cahill*

12.2 Human Resources Council

*Liaison: Jennifer Reynolds*

12.3 Business Council (*on hiatus pending appointment of new CFO*)

- Liaison: Nalinaksha Bhattacharyya*
- 12.4 Student Services Council  
*Liaison: Robert Boeckmann*
- 12.5 Instructional Technology Executive Council/ITEC <http://www.alaska.edu/pmo/governance/itec/>  
New Interim Chair: Michelle Rizk  
*Liaison; Jon Dehn; Alternate: Sherry Tamone*
- 12.6 Retirement Committee  
*Liaison: Mike Stekoll*
- 12.7 Tuition Task Force  
*Liaison: Sherry Tamone, Alternate: Jon Dehn*
- 12.8 Joint Health Care Committee – <http://www.alaska.edu/benefits/joint-health-care-committ/>
- 12.9 Other Committees/Councils

13. Other Items of Concern

12. Agenda Items for February 24, 2012, video conferenced meeting

**President Gamble is scheduled to visit the Alliance on February 24 at 3:30pm for approximately one hour.**

*Deadline for submitting additional agenda items is February 14, 2011.*

13. Comments

14. Adjourn