



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

**Faculty Alliance
Draft Minutes
Friday, April 17, 2015**
Via Google Hangout
1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Meeting started at 1:08 p.m.

Voting Members:

Mark Fitch, Past President, UAA Faculty Senate

Virgil Fredenberg, Past President UAS Faculty Senate

Maren Haavig, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate

Diane Hirshberg, President, UAA Faculty Senate

Kevin Krein, President, UAS Faculty Senate

Cécile Lardon, President, UAF Faculty Senate

Debu Misra, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

(Absent) Tara Smith, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate

David Valentine, Chair, Faculty Alliance; Past President, UAF Faculty Senate

Staff:

Joseph Altman, Coordinator, System Governance

Guests:

Pat Gamble, President, University of Alaska

Daniel White, Vice President, Academic Affairs and Research

Agenda adopted and March 13, 2015 minutes approved.

Agenda adopted unanimously. Maren moved to approve the March minutes. Debu seconded. The minutes were approved.

Public or Guest Comments

UA President, Pat Gamble updated the Alliance on what was going on in Juneau. Nothing has changed in the past couple of days. The university is looking at taking a potential \$31 million cut. The cut would be divided up proportionately between Statewide and the three universities. The president is not expecting a huge swing either way in regards to the budget. Salary increases are being frozen. House Bill 107, changing the representation requirements for the Board of Regents, would have led to the board resigning on the spot and then re-populating the board under the new terms. The bill is currently being rewritten to allow current members to complete their terms. The president also discussed the announcement of UAF Chancellor, Brian Rogers' retirement.

In the wake of the Title IX compliance review from OCR, the Board of Regents thinks it's time for the university to address a Code of Conduct. There is an expectation from the Board of Regents that the university will come up with a Code of Conduct. President Gamble would like to prepare the Faculty Alliance that this issue will be coming in the future.

Report of the Chair

System Governance Office future

David has a concerns about what the future is with the System Governance office and how it's going to be staffed. There will be a meeting with the System Governance Council where VPAA, Dan White will give an update.

Faculty representation on Summit Team

David spoke with the UA President about appointing a Faculty Alliance member to the UA Summit Team. The president informed David that he would be willing to address a potential appointment with the Summit Team.

Presidential search status

Due to the nature of the presidential search committee there is little David can discuss with the alliance. An update was given about UAF Chancellor Brian Rogers's retirement announcement.

Statewide trimming

Michelle Rizk is heading up a statewide committee overseeing trimming Statewide down per the recommendations of the Fisher and MacTaggart reports. David noted that the committee formed relatively fast after the submittal of the Faculty Alliance memo to President Gamble. David felt the administration was a little frosty toward the Alliance right now. He also feels that the concerns of the Alliance are being acted on by Statewide.

GER progress

David reported on the GER working groups. The math group is done, also resolved were some registration issues with UAA. The English groups are moving along with a couple of issues, however they are making progress. The third group, the GER taskforce, is having issues with history and art not lining up across the system. Some members of this group would like to see

university regulations changed to allow alignment of GER's. The proposed changes would broaden regulation and allow faculty to make changes in the future.

Plus/minus grading issues were discussed. At the last BOR meeting in Bethel, during the Academic and Student Affairs committee, Regent Enright signaled that it was her intent to charge the faculty at the three universities with adopting a common grading system either with plus/minus or without. Diane has heard from students on her campus (UAA) that they don't want to change.

New Business

Credit hour policy

The credit hour policy was discussed. This is to be added to University Regulation. SAC has proposed new regulations in section R10.04.xxx concerning the Calculation of credit hours. There was a change to the regulation last fall. SAC has asked the Faculty Alliance for feedback on the proposed draft university regulation changes. Days after the SAC meeting a UAF motion from the faculty senate proposing an 800-minute definition. UAF is trying to amend regulation to reflect what the standards they use now. Mark let the group know that UAA would like to become outcomes-based. David is going to draft a memo to SAC so they have some feedback from the Faculty Alliance.

Ongoing Business

College readiness definition

The Faculty Alliance has asked Dayna Defeo to come up with a definition. The definition was brought to SAC at the last meeting and now the Faculty Alliance has been asked to weigh in on it. There is concern that she is using jargon that educators will understand but potential students will not. After much discussion they agreed that it was fine the way it is. There will be some minor wordsmithing on the truncated definition prior to submittal to SAC. David will send a final email with the edits to the Alliance prior to submittal.

Student code of conduct status at UAF, UAS

UAF and UAS, with some revisions, have passed the student Code of Conduct. UAA has not yet. UAF added a friendly amendment to change a word from "another person" to "others". David asked if UAS and UAA would accept the change. Kevin and Maren agreed that the change was fine. Diana agreed with the change and will update the UAA Faculty Senate.

Core values feedback/synthesis

The group has not meet on this. There is a question if it should be kept on the list of things to do. David feels this should be part of a much broader conversation and not something the Alliance should be addressing. There was a recommendation from the governance office that David take the agenda item to the System Governance Council, he was in agreement.

Priorities and remaining target dates on items in FA issues [spreadsheet](#)

Some items are still unclear like Baccalaureate minimums. Diane and Tara are going to work on the admissions criteria. David feels that the group is done.

Committee Reports

Statewide Academic Council

See credit hour policy above. Cecile and Virgil gave an update on SAC. They discussed the credit hour and dual enrollment.

Student Services Council

No report was given.

Tuition Task Force

No report was given

System Governance Council

The council coordinated their governance reports to the Board of Regents and felt that was useful and would like to continue doing this in the future. They are also discussing the staffing of the governance office.

Meeting adjourned at 3:05