

UNIVERSITY *of* ALASKA

Faculty Alliance

Wednesday, October 29, 2008

9:00am – 10:30am

Fairbanks Site: Room 109AB Butrovich Building and by audio conference

OFFICIAL MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Members present:

Jill Dumesnil, Chair, Faculty Alliance; President, UAS Faculty Senate
Anne Bridges, President, UAA Faculty Senate
Marsha Sousa, President, UAF Faculty Senate
Genie Babb, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate
Jonathan Dehn, President-elect, UAF Faculty Senate
Jonathan Anderson, President-elect, UAS Faculty Senate
Cathy Connor, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate
Jon Genetti, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate

Pat Ivey, Exec. Officer, System Governance

Others present

Dan Julius, Vice President for Academic Affairs
John Monahan, Director, Alaska Distance Education Consortium

2. Adopt Agenda

MOTION: passed

“The Faculty Alliance moves to adopt the agenda for the October 29, 2008 meeting as amended to include the UAF motion regarding resident tuition for graduate students, and recent events at UAS. This action is effective October 29, 2008.”

3. Approve September 12, 2008 minutes

<http://gov.alaska.edu/Faculty/Minutes/2008/09-12.pdf>

MOTION: passed

“The Faculty Alliance moves to approve the minutes from the September 12, 2008 meeting. This action is effective October 29, 2008.”

4. Report from the Chair – *Jill Dumesnil*

Jill Dumesnil deferred her report in the interest of time.

5. **John Monahan, Director, Alaska Distance Education Consortium and Education Summit Coordinator**

5.1 Distance Education Audit and Status

<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-07-31.de-auditsummary.pdf>

The audit management letter has not arrived from Legislative Audit yet but is expected shortly.

5.2 Education Summit November 13 and 14, 2008, Anchorage

<http://www.akdec.org/>

<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-10-04edsummitworkgroup.pdf>

<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-10-07.edsummitgoals.pdf>

<http://gov.alaska.edu/faculty/2008-10-07.edsummitinvitation.pdf>

The Alaska Distance Education Consortium (ADEC) has been around for about 10 years and includes K-12 through postsecondary. ADEC objectives include increasing bandwidth across the state, and figuring out what to do with the bandwidth once obtained.

Across Alaska, technology ranges from having a lot of technology but little use of it and little technology but maximum use. ADEC is also trying to connect K-12 district to district. The consortium attempts to bridge the gap within k-12 and between k12 and the university. The Alaska Society for Technology in Education (ASTE) has also been a part of this effort. ASTE wants to have a higher involvement in postsecondary, and wants ideas on how to broaden ASTE to include postsecondary. See <http://www.aste.org/>.

ADEC is working with Department of Education and Early Development Commissioner LeDoux and President Hamilton on having a statewide education summit which will be funded by DEEC grants. Participation in the summit is by invitation only. About 100 postsecondary people have been invited. Commissioner LeDoux invited 100 postsecondary people to the November 13 and 14 summit in Anchorage. Participants include includes k-12 postsecondary, parents, Board members and superintendents. The intended outcome is to develop action steps to accompany top goals and form work groups from participants who can follow through on the action steps. DEEC is very interested in having a good relationship with higher education.

5.3 US Senate Hearings, November 15, 2008, 10:00 am, Anchor

Senator Murkowski's hearings on high school graduation rates and postsecondary success will be held in Anchorage at the Anchorage School District Board Room beginning at 10:00am. President Hamilton is expected to testify.

6. Financial and Performance Reviews

http://www.alaska.edu/swbudget/budget_planning/PBBFinancial_Review/index.xml

These were items of information.

7. Board of Regents meeting October 31, 2008

This is an item of information. The Alliance chair is expected to give a report during public comments.

8. Other Items of Interest

8.1 UAA CAS Electronic Activity Report Pilot Project

A few years ago UAA College of Arts and Sciences had an on line password protected mechanism for submitting activity reports. Statewide thought it was a great idea and tried to incorporate the workload agreement but that proved to be too complicated. As a result the original web site was taken down. CAS tried to do it again. Several problems impede implementation, but there are also a lot of worthy elements.

8.2 UAF Motion: Resident Tuition for Graduate Students

The UAF Senate resolution regarding state tuition for graduate students was proposed to free up tuition money to bring in more graduate students. The motion would apply to all masters and PhD students but came out of a need to fund more grad students out of research grant money. Tuition for approximately 200 out of 1,000 grad students is funded through grant money.

8.2 UAS Personnel Activities

MOTION: passed

The Faculty Alliance has recently become aware of the abrupt dismissal of the dean of the UAS School of arts and Sciences. While we realize that administrators serve "at will," we are concerned that this termination has the appearance of being arbitrary and capricious, which is very detrimental to morale and sets a dangerous precedent for the entire university system.

We are further concerned that such actions could adversely impact accreditation and ultimately the mission of UAS and of the university system as a whole. We believe that any executive decision that has a direct impact on faculty such as the removal of a dean needs to be explained to the faculty to facilitate a healthy and open environment.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the parties responsible for the termination of the dean immediately meet with the UAS School of Arts and Sciences faculty and explain the situation.

Distribution: faculty senates, presidents, provosts, chancellors and the Board of Regents.

8.3 **Academic Master Plan**

The Alliance outlined several elements critical to the development of a successful charge, including extensive faculty involvement at the Alliance and senate levels. These elements will be forwarded through the chair to the Systemwide Academic Council.

9. Agenda Items for Next Meeting Friday, November 14, 2008

Agenda items should be sent to pat.ivey@alaska.edu ten days in advance of the meeting.

10. Comments

There were no additional comments.

11. Adjourn – The meeting was adjourned at 11:30am.

UNIVERSITY *of* ALASKA

Faculty Alliance

October 30, 2008

TO: Mark R. Hamilton, President of the University
Dan Julius, Vice-President, Academic Affairs

FROM: Jon Dehn, Member, Faculty Alliance

RE: Alliance actions, October 29, 2008

The Faculty Alliance discussed the recent reassignment of the Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences, Patrick Brown, at the University of Alaska Southeast. In accordance with our role to address faculty concerns, and on behalf of the affected faculty we have passed a motion requesting clarification of the reassignment. The Alliance is very concerned about the direct impact to the work environment of UAS faculty, the precedent this sets for the university, and its potential impact on accreditation throughout the UA system.

The Alliance chair, Jill Dumesnil, has recused herself with regard to transmitting this motion since she is a member of the affected faculty.

cc: Interim Chancellor Rogers UAF, Chancellor Ulmer UAA, Chancellor Pugh UAS
Provost Henrichs UAF, Provost Driscoll UAA, Interim Provost Everett
UA Board of Regents
Faculty Alliance Members, Faculty Senates UAF, UAA, UAS



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Faculty Alliance

MOTION RELATING TO ACADEMIC PERSONNEL

The Faculty Alliance has recently become aware of the abrupt dismissal of the dean of the UAS School of Arts and Sciences. While we realize that administrators serve "at will," we are concerned that this termination has the appearance of being arbitrary and capricious, which is very detrimental to morale and sets a dangerous precedent for the entire university system. We are further concerned that such actions could adversely impact accreditation and ultimately the mission of UAS and of the university system as a whole. We believe that any executive decision that has a direct impact on faculty such as the removal of a dean needs to be explained to the faculty to facilitate a healthy and open environment.

Therefore Be It Resolved that the parties responsible for the termination of the dean immediately meet with the UAS School of Arts and Sciences faculty and explain the situation.

Distribution: faculty senates, president, provosts, chancellors and the Board of Regents.

Motion passed unanimously by UA Faculty Alliance on October 29, 2008.

