



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

**Faculty Alliance
Minutes
Friday, November 15, 2013**
Conducted via Google Hangout
3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Voting Members Present:

Robert Boeckmann, 2013-2014 Alliance Chair, Past President UAA Faculty Senate
Virgil Fredenberg, President UAS Faculty Senate
Mark Fitch, President, UAA Faculty Senate
Diane Hirshberg, President Elect, UAA Faculty Senate
Kevin Krein, President Elect, UAS Faculty Senate
Cecile Lardon, President Elect, UAF Faculty Senate
Jennifer Reynolds, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate
Mike Stekoll, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate
David Valentine, President, UAF Faculty Senate

Staff Present:

LaNora Tolman, Executive Officer, System Governance
Joseph Altman, Coordinator, System Governance

Guests Present:

Dana Thomas, Vice President, Statewide Office of Academic Affairs
Eric Seastedt, Chief Human Resources Officer, Statewide Human Resources
Dayna Defeo, College and Career Readiness Program, UAA Community and Technical College

Call to Order and Roll Call

Mike Stekoll called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. Faculty began to review the constitution and bylaws. Robert came in from another meeting at 3:10 p.m. All members were present.

Approve Minutes

Oct. 11, 2013 minutes were approved.

Guests

Dana Thomas talked with the faculty about minimum baccalaureate admission standards. UAA has discussed the issue and invited Dayna Defeo to the meeting to share the research that has been conducted on college readiness. The question was how to meet the needs of a student who does not meet the minimum standard if a policy is drawn up for minimum baccalaureate admission standards. Dana recommended for the faculty to read what SAT and ACT say about

college readiness and how those align with the proposal. The majority of universities are separating out their community colleges from the baccalaureate degrees and they have differing standards between the two. Currently, UA has a dual admission for the community college and the university. The proposal is to set a minimum baccalaureate standard for the system with each university having the choice to set a higher standard but all would have to set the same minimum. Dana Thomas proposed the minimum standards and asked the alliance to revise them as necessary. Concerns include UA not having a separate community college and discouraging potential students from enrolling. At least they are enrolling in something even if they do not make it all the way and they would have the options in place to help them succeed. The minimum standard may exist to trigger other opportunities for assistance. The question is, "what is success?" Passing a course is success. This topic will be on the December Board of Regents' agenda.

Erik Seastedt brought up the latest Board of Regents proposed motion for the tuition waiver benefit to be reduced to 50%. It was a surprise. It will be on the Dec. 2013 BOR agenda for discussion. Faculty are protected under the union agreement but it can be part of the negotiation if the regents passed the motion.

ACTION:

Virgil moved to create a motion in support of continuing the tuition waiver benefit to be drafted and sent to the Board of Regents. Diane seconded the motion. There was a unanimous vote in favor of drafting the motion.

Dayna Defeo gave a presentation about advancing a more holistic policy for academic readiness. Prior to her hire, the college gave the Accuplacer test prior to the students' entry with narrow indicators of English and math setting the standards of readiness. After looking at literature, they advanced a more holistic approach to college readiness focusing on academic readiness through rigorous course work including English and math for students at the secondary level. There are standardized metrics to use and include their GPA and ACT scores. They would work with students on developing habit strategies and skills they need to apply to complete coursework efficiently and effectively e.g. information literacy, time management, prioritizing etc. A third piece in the curriculum is the College Knowledge, which educates students on the cultural expectations in the college environment and includes everything from the bureaucratic institutional procedures to behavioral expectations etc. Goal setting is also a focus, and finally, helping students to explore and develop the proper attitudes to prepare them for success in college. Faculty discussed the issue. Robert encouraged Alliance to prepare to give the administration feedback about the topic.

Agenda

Tabled until the next meeting:

- Constitution and Bylaws
- All other items on agenda were tabled until the future include the distance labs discussion in favor of discussing the Shaping Alaska's Future/SDI topic

SAC proposal for minimum standards for admission. Robert suggested for Alliance to create a motion to take to their senates for feedback. UAF and UAS have standards in effect. UAA will discuss it.

Shaping Alaska's Future/SDI Feedback

Faculty discussed the document and how they wanted to proceed with feedback to the administration. Alliance decided to work on a motion regarding the Shaping Alaska's Future document.

Add to December meeting agenda:

Geographic Salary Differential

Adjourn

Mark moved to adjourn. No one seconded, but the group agreed. The meeting adjourned at 5:28 p.m.

Minutes prepared by LaNora Tolman, Executive Officer, System Governance