Statewide Academic Council Meeting Summary  
July 21, 2017; 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Meeting participants: Saichi Oba, Paula Martin, Susan Henrichs, Helena Wisniewski, Chris Fallen, Lisa Hoferkamp, Sam Gingerich, Maria Williams, Nycolett Ripley (scribe)

1. Safety Minute – Saichi Oba

Parking lot safety: less than 1% of driving time is spent backing up, but 25% of accidents are as a result of backing up. Other tips include not driving across empty parking lots and back into a space to reduce chances of accidents when you leave.

Susan H.: The parking lots on campus have people walking behind cars, especially during winter when the sidewalks may not be plowed, yet. It is a good idea to be aware of that.


a. ACTION ITEM: Provosts will discuss the Strategic Pathways e-Learning direction and report due in September as well as the Academic Council to be established by President Johnsen. Susan H. will organize the call. Comments are due to Saichi by July 15 for transmittal to President Johnsen. DONE.

b. ACTION ITEM: Saichi will follow up with Dan on possible ALEKS placement testing in high schools. ON HOLD until new Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs is named.

c. ACTION ITEM: UAS Associate of Business degree PAR form will be signed “consensus of SAC” and forwarded to President Johnsen for consideration. DONE will be on the September ASA agenda.

d. ACTION ITEM: Fred will convene the Concurrent Enrollment subcommittee. ON HOLD. Fred is out of the office.

3. Review and approve 6/16/17 meeting summary – All (attachment), 5 min.

No comments. Summary approved.

4. UAS Vice Provost for Research & Sponsored Programs Transition – Saichi, 5 min.

Paula Martin is the interim UAS Vice Provost for Research & Sponsored Programs and Dean of Arts & Sciences. She has had previous roles with UAS and Kenai Peninsula College and looks forward to her interim position.


President Johnsen distributed a June 26 memo that expands the Summit Team membership and explained new system wide councils, to be established. The Academic Council will replace SAC.

a. Members

The members of the new Academic Council are predominately already on SAC. Two new members include the Community Campus Directors’ Council chair and the Dean of Health. Gary Turner is the council chair, but he has requested that Priscilla Schulte represent the chair. Jeff Jessee will be joining the council as the Dean of the College of Health. All of the councils designated in the memo have been asked to develop a charter following a template.

b. Charter due 9/1/17

ACTION ITEM: Susan Henrichs will lead a subcommittee of the three provosts to draft the Academic Council charter. The draft will be discussed at the next meeting.
6. Update on Strategic Pathways (SP) e-Learning direction – Susan H., 10 min. (attachment)

As a result of the last meeting, the provosts discussed how to report on e-Learning as a result of Strategic Pathways. The provosts agreed that e-Learning should work through SAC as e-Learning is a method of class delivery that cannot be separated from academic policy and procedures. The document shared with SAC is a draft. The first part of the document outlines the council members and their role in e-Learning collaboration. The second part of the document is the e-Learning report that is presented to the Board of Regents.

Proposed membership includes a lead in e-Learning from each campus, an academic dean from each campus and one provost, one faculty senate president, and one community campus director or dean. The Provost, faculty senate president and community campus director would each be from a different university and the positions would rotate through the campuses. It might be appropriate for the deans to be involved in the e-Learning programs/class delivery.

The question of how, or do we incorporate the objectives from Strategic Pathways into the charter?

The draft charter was set up with idea that this would report to SAC and make recommendations through SAC. More refinement may be needed on the mission, scope and goals.

If there are no objections to the membership, the next step would be the appointment of the members. Provosts could propose deans for the members for President Johnsen’s consideration. SAC could decide on the rotating members.

No objections to the proposal. ACTION ITEM: Provosts will have suggested e-Learning subcommittee council members ready for President Johnsen’s consideration by August 4. Names will be sent to Saichi to be shared with the Academic Council to discuss via email on Monday, July 31. The Academic Council will review and provide feedback by Aug. 3, prior to sending to President Johnsen.

7. New program additions and discontinuations – Provosts, 10 min.
   a. UAA working on an accelerated bachelors/master’s degree in civil engineering which will be forthcoming.
   b. UAF: Will have programs to be submitted for consideration at the next meeting.

8. Proposals for program suspension of admissions – Provosts, 5 min.
   a. None

9. UAA annual BOR accreditation report/program updates – Sam G., 5 min. (attachments)

This report is an update on the accreditation activities at UAA this last year. It also provides an update on program changes that are routinely reported to the Board of Regents at the September meeting.

UAF and UAS will be submitting their reports in time for the September BOR meeting. Paula will touch base with Karen about the report.

10. Protection of minors regulation update – Tim Edwards, 5 min. (attachment)
The latest draft of the protection of minors regulation was shared by Tim E. with the system offices earlier this week. There may be minor language changes to the draft, but they will not be substantive changes. Monday, July 24 is the deadline for feedback. If SAC has any comments, please send to Tim by then. If there are detailed questions, please send to Tim and Mike O’Brien. SAC will have a chance to review the draft after the comments are incorporated. Lisa H. will send an email with questions.

11. Concurrent enrollment draft regulation update – Fred, 5 min.

Will be on the next agenda.

12. Faculty Alliance update – Lisa, 10 min.

a. At the June BOR meeting, Faculty Alliance (FA) was asked by Regent Heckman and Anderson for a commitment to get the GER common course completed. This will be discussed at the FA retreat (August 20 and 21). FA was also asked to submit a 6-month update to the Board, which would be at the November BOR meeting. ACTION ITEM: Lisa H. will send the provosts information about remaining hurdles to complete the GER alignment following the Faculty Alliance retreat August 20/21 to request feedback/assistance.

b. Regent Davies requested information on faculty concerns about the Alaska College of Education. Faculty Alliance is in the process of sending a letter to the regents.

c. Faculty Alliance is working on collecting faculty concerns about SP3 to send to President Johnsen by August 25.

d. Additional topics discussed are addressing and recommending changes at the Statewide system offices and working on the protection of minors draft regulation.

e. The contract between the EAB Student Success Collaborative and UA has been shared with the FA. The reduction in fees and an opt-out option satisfies the FA and they are appreciative.

f. Faculty Alliance discussed and commented on potential actions made by IT council to address budget reductions. IT council responded they would reevaluate options in order not to impact services.

g. Addressing student medical leave with the Student Services Council.

h. Faculty Alliance is working on a letter of thanks for completion of an equitable and fair bargaining contract.

i. Officially requesting information on analogous salary and compensation for all UA employees concerning salary and compensation that was imposed on faculty.

j. FA will send a recommendation to President Johnsen that filling the Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs position be delayed for one year. They will propose the provosts rotate leadership during that time.

13. Upcoming topics – All, time remaining

Sam: Will there be enrollment management conversations scheduled similar to the enrollment summits? Saichi: Gwen Gruening is working on scheduling meetings, but does not believe the meetings will be like the summits. The discussion now is what are the goals of the university and how does that roll up to the financial framework? May also include how it relates to the State’s goal of 65% by 2025 of Alaskan educated people filling Alaskan jobs.

Susan: The original presentation by President Johnsen to the Board of Regents on goals for 65% by 2025 gave the impression that the increase in enrollment would be at no additional cost, but this doesn’t seem feasible. An analysis of the actual increase in costs to teach these additional students is needed.
14. Roundtable – All, time remaining

Saichi: Received a note from CHRO Keli McGee about the VPASA search committee. Understanding is that the committee will be chaired by Keli. ACTION ITEM: Saichi will send the link for the VPASA job posting to SAC.

7/21/17 SAC ACTION ITEMS

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