

Academic Council NOTES
October 13, 2022; 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Recording: https://media.uaf.edu/media/t/1_6xfzi7hq

Action/Business:

1. Approve [September 15, 2022 Meeting Notes](#) (0:02:20)
 - a. Recording: https://media.uaf.edu/media/t/1_gyhzmvj2 (no passcode required)
 - b. No comments - if any changes/updates need to be made, please let Paul or Kelly know.
2. Title change - [Master of Arts Anthropology](#) - UAA (0:03:15)
 - a. Denise/Susan - Has gone through the faculty curriculum process, provost, chancellor, and FS. Aligns with the nature of the program and in the interest of the students. Many other universities have done the same.
 - b. No comments - no objections.

ACTION: Move forward for consideration by the ASA committee.

3. Program Action Request
 - a. [Earth System Science, MS](#) - UAF
 - b. [Earth System Science, PhD](#) - UAF
 - c. Anupma - There are 72 faculty members who are involved with earth system science faculty who unanimously support the earth system science program. Restructures existing courses into a new degree program. Students are looking for a more holistic approach. Structure also allows for specialized tracks. The degree will have five tracks; atmospheric and climate sciences, cryosphere, solid earth geophysics, geosciences, and geospatial sciences. This program isn't developing new courses or bringing in new faculty, instead it's restructuring the existing graduate programs.
 - d. Gokhan - are there PhD or Masters programs that take this same track - yes, those will be suspended and the students will be provided the choice of staying in their current track or changing. Future students will only be able to choose this one.
 - e. Gokhan - What jobs will be available to students - There will be an earth science field available to them. Employers want the overview of other systems - higher level knowledge - to allow for knowledge on how one system affects others.
 - f. Provide slide presentation to upload to BoardDocs and the names of the people who will be presenting to Kelly

ACTION: Advance these requests to the ASA committee for consideration

4. Approve of the Academic Council Charter: (0:18:20)
 - a. [AC Charter - DRAFT](#)
 - b. [AC Charter - Clean copy](#)

- c. Gokhan - FA does not seem to have much of a problem with this. FA is included on the membership list. Would like to see all three ANSI leads included on the membership list. The VC for Rural Community and Native Education is on the list because of the role that the position plays in the academic programs at UAF. ANSI is not active in programs at this time.
 - i. Charlene - There is a shared interest in using ANSI throughout the institution, but it is important that the ANSI leads have ownership over the direction of that. If that were a request, it would come through those channels. As issues come up that are focused in areas of interest to other groups, the leads are asked to join for those discussions.
 - ii. Anupma - we always have the option to invite interested groups.
- d. Sandra - who represents Workforce Development - Teri Cothren (AVP Workforce Development)
- e. Paul - Kelly and Paul will look at the document to incorporate corrections (Anupma noted some errors in the document).
- f. ALL - Talk about how goals 3 and 4 relate to the function of this committee. Rephrase workforce goal and eliminate the enrollment strategies goal. Possibly include a workforce component in goal 2. Increase student access to increase equity in student success. Various other edits are discussed and implemented.

Agenda Items:

1. Faculty Governance Reports - Gokhan, Jennifer/Sandra, Jennifer/Andrea (0:40:38)
 - a. Gokhan - Updated call for proposals went out to each of the three universities. Working on the FA retreat in March 2023. President Pitney discussion on how best to have improved communication and shared governance. Discussed desire for a more inclusive search committee for the proposed system wide executive director of ANSI. Recommended some names from the Alaska Native Studies Council. Agreed to send a proposal to each FS to vote on whether to allow the faculty alliance past chair to keep serving one additional year as a non voting ex officio member. Gokhan believes that UAA voted affirmatively on that proposal, Gokhan hasn't heard from UAA or UAS yet. Each of the three faculty senates voted in favor of a resolution of support calling on UNAC and UA administration to come to a quick agreement on faculty contracts. Gokhan added an extended analysis of differential tuition in his report.
 - i. Anupma - What are thoughts about tuition policy - Comments will be coming from FA. Differential tuition - pros and cons of this approach. UAF has everything from OE's to PhD's so the niche is different.
 - ii. Gokhan - Some pros and cons of what differential tuition can do to a university. One study mentions something along the lines of if a university does not have a strong market power (enrollment) in an education market place they need to be careful.
 - b. Andrea - Last year when Andrea was FS President they asked for a revision to the meritorious service part of BOR policy (specifically mechanism of revocation). Since the BOR implemented

those changes there are two revocation requests for service recipients. These are both sexual assault (criminal) charges. Strategic enrollment plan reviewed and faculty are working with that as well. A lot of faculty attrition - has a service impact in the area of curriculum is vital and the need to protect workload, increase morale, and increasing retention is vital to the system.

- c. Sandra - Earth System Science degrees were a big project for the FS. Because it's a new program and is structured differently there was concern that the FS wouldn't have oversight over the deletion of programs (as they have in a normal departmental structure). Because of that a motion was passed requiring faculty senate approval for the deletion of concentrations within a graduate program. After the motion passed, Earth System Science degrees moved forward. Reaffirmed ad hoc committee on COVID academic policy - changed name to include a more broad 'AdHoc Committee on COVID-19 and Health and Safety Related Academic Policy'.
 - d. Faculty 180 has been used for faculty evaluations and they are looking to see if they want to continue using that program or look for a new one.
 - i. Maren - Is the reason for finding a new program because the contract is coming due? - Yes - they are looking into options. There has been some dissatisfaction with Faculty 180 because it is somewhat cumbersome.
 - ii. Denise - UAA has a contract with Watermarks Digital Measures. Only one college (CBPP) is currently using it. Has contacted CITO Ben Scheier to coordinate with all of the campuses and do some information gathering for all.
 - iii. Anupma - When they went with Faculty180, it went through the faculty senate and reviewed many options. It took 2 years. Due to the nature of the software industry, the product sold is usually different than the one you receive. Faculty180 contract has been extended to provide time to review options. - Sandra will share this information with the committee.
2. Renaming Thanksgiving holiday break (1:06:30)
- a. At UAS, student government, staff council, and faculty senate are all in favor of changing the name from thanksgiving break to fall break. BOR policy specifies the holiday (Christmas, Thanksgiving, etc.) but the name of the break doesn't have to reflect that. Comment about commencement ceremonies being listed because it could confuse students at community campuses. Discussion over other holidays and wording so far.
3. Common Calendar proposal (Megan 3:00pm) (1:01:10)
- a. [Common Calendar](#)
 - b. [Common Calendar Memo](#)
 - c. Megan is the chair of the common calendar committee. In 2015 the BOR adopted P10.04.100 "A common academic calendar for all university campuses will provide for a fall and spring semester of not less than fifteen weeks of instruction, which may include examination days;

start and end dates, recesses, and daily schedules.” At the time, the Faculty Alliance was charged with creating a committee to develop an academic calendar (with registrars and others) and reporting through the alliance to this council and then to the universities. The common calendar committee membership is made up of 2 faculty members from each MAU and each of the registrars.

4. November ASA and Board planning - Paul (1:23:36)

- a. ACEC is prepping their biennial report on SB 241 (Alaska’s teachers for Alaska’s schools). Amy Vinlove is chairing the writing committee. Report from the BOR to the Legislature. Ben Shier (CITO) will provide an update to the committee on the student information system modernization project.
- b. Earth System Science proposal - will submit paperwork of intent to suspend admissions for MSc and PhD in geophysics, geosciences, and atmospheric sciences.
- c. ASA - Sana Efird (ACPE) will update on activities of ACPE and a potential loan repayment proposal for the state that would help reduce debt for students who are committed to staying and working in Alaska.
- d. Enrollment report and discussion of the goals and measures for student success (retention, graduation rates). Paul is putting it together and will send it out.
- e. At the full BOR meeting, tuition policy change will be a major discussion point. Up to BOR on whether to adopt it at this meeting or to wait for more feedback. UAF proposal on tuition, UAA and UAS aren’t proposing changes in tuition for next AY. ‘Did you know’ the presentation will highlight arctic policy research and leadership. ASA will be via zoom but the full board meeting will be in person in Fairbanks for the first time since 2020.

5. Workforce development updates - Teri (1:29:00)

- a. The Fisheries, Seafood and Maritime Initiative meeting was a couple of weeks ago. Met with Industry Partners for the first part of the day and engaged many new industry partners. FSMI met and talked about how to reprioritize the economic development administration's good job challenge proposal of \$16M down to the \$2M received in appropriations. There was good discussion and collaboration. Budget has been finalized and will meet with the budget office tomorrow to begin distributing.
- b. DoL - Project to add 112 programs across the system to be added to the list of approved programs on the ETPL. There were 53 programs slated to be removed. There were 13 that were disputed and they approved all 13 to be kept and provided a 1 year waiver for the remaining 40.
- c. TVEP resources were distributed today. We’ll typically hear from DoL on what the funding level will be in November/December. Last year \$6.2M but with employment levels back up and wages higher, we may see a higher amount.

6. Roundtable and future agenda items - All (1:33:20)

- a. Paul - November meeting scheduled for just after the BOR meeting in November. Paul will be on leave so the next meeting will be on December 8th. CCDC fall meeting next Wednesday in Anchorage.
- b. Gokhan - sent email to AC.

Action items from previous meetings:

- Develop regulation associated with Policy [P10.02.070 Accreditation](#) - Working Draft Doc - [Regulation](#)

Future Meeting Agenda Items:

Next Meeting: Thursday, December 8th, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm