

**Academic Council NOTES**  
**April 14, 2022; 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

Recording: [https://media.uaf.edu/media/t/1\\_yv861ed9](https://media.uaf.edu/media/t/1_yv861ed9)

**Action/Business:**

1. Approve [March 17, 2022 Meeting Notes](#) (01:16)
  - a. Recording: [https://media.uaf.edu/media/t/1\\_uvm3p1zk](https://media.uaf.edu/media/t/1_uvm3p1zk) (no passcode required)
    - i. Send any comments/corrections to Paul and Kelly - no comments during the meeting.
2. Program Changes - Anupma, Denise (04:32)
  - a. UAA
    - i. Proposed Undergrad Certificate in [Ahtna Language Instruction](#) - add
      1. Focus on revitalization of the indigenous Ahtna language. Courses include instruction in field methods, language acquisition strategies, and a mentorship component. This is in response to a local partnership. Builds in the OECs listed below. This is a traditional 30 credit undergraduate certificate, and it would be offered through the college of arts and sciences. True collaborative effort across multiple colleges and campuses.
      2. Demand - partners specifically asked for this certification based on need. This will teach people how to teach language to others and preserve language.
    - ii. Proposed Undergrad Certificate in [Dena'ina Language Instruction](#) - add
      1. Focuses on revitalization of the Dena'ina language. This is in response to a local partnership. Created by the same cross campus cross college working group that showed amazing collaborative effort. Incorporates the OECs.
      2. Demand - partners specifically asked for this certification based on the need to preserve the language. The aim is to teach people how to teach the language to others.
    - iii. Proposed BA in [Communication](#) - add
      1. A communication degree exists at UAF. Multiple degrees in history, math and other foundational liberal arts and science disciplines programs exist not only across the UA system but also across all systems of higher education. This is something that has come to be seen as a foundational discipline. Differences:
        - a. Purpose built to be delivered across UAA's 5 campuses with the participation of both the upper and lower division courses by faculty from all 5 UAA campuses in a rotation. Because of this there is a distance component to it but it is primarily intended to be a face to face

program where students can take courses from their local instructor and then fill in as they need to with online courses and remote real time distance delivered formats.

- b. Curriculum differences - Arose primarily because UAA already has all of the courses, except for one. Popular academic minor in communications (last Denise checked there were 59 students who had declared that minor). Able to offer a BA without having to add courses. All that needs to be done is make the rotation clearer and cleaner across the 5 campuses.
2. DISCUSSION: Letters of support from local businesses and communities are important. Anupma appreciates the communication between UAA and UAF faculty and deans. Through those communications they are identifying pathways and different areas that could be mutually beneficial.
3. No objections - will advance to the Board for consideration
- iv. [Ahtna Language](#) Occupational Endorsement - NOI - add
  1. Stepping stones to the undergrad certificate
  2. DISCUSSION: In person? Both languages and Business Management are hybrid. They're a mix at this time - varies semester by semester - considered hybrid. Ahtna is fully distance - interest of people not currently residing in the state of Alaska but who have significant interest in learning the language.
- v. [Alaska Native Business Management](#) Occupational Endorsement - NOI - add
- vi. [Dena'ina Language](#) Occupational Language Endorsement - NOI - add
- vii. [Graphic Design](#) Occupational Endorsement - NOI - add
  1. Faculty and JPC collaborating with and talking with faculty in art.
- viii. [Hospitality](#) Occupational Endorsement - NOI - add
  1. UAA had eliminated a BA in Hospitality through the expedited program review process, but there is still a need in the community for training in hospitality, so this provides a more targeted training without the need for the general education. No new costs - same faculty
- ix. [Natural Resources Technician](#) Occupational Endorsement - NOI - add
  1. Arose as a partner request up to our Prince William Sound campus and has application beyond, but serves a particular need. There is a particular need for several agencies near Valdez and in Glennallen
- x. [Professional Writing](#) Occupational Endorsement - NOI - add

1. UAA has a standalone dept of writing and a separate department of English but they still collaborate and are closely tied. This OE is the product of ongoing collaboration between the two units.

b. UAF

i. Proposed [Bachelor of Arts in Computer Science](#) - add

1. UAF already has an existing BS in computer sciences. A BA has less math requirements than a BS - easier for students to obtain the degree while still meeting their professional needs. Many linguistics and liberal arts students have a desire to learn computer science, but the higher math skills may be a barrier to them.
2. Discussion - Previous BA chemistry was not popular. Will there be a demand for this? The BA chemistry was geared towards the more niche teaching profession. This is geared for the profession and industry where computational skills are highly valued.
  - a. Maren shared with Arts & Sciences dean, business chair, and others, and there are no objections to the program
3. No objections - will move to Board for consideration

ii. Proposed Bachelor of Science in [Anthropology](#) - delete

1. There is currently a BA in Anthropology that fulfills the professional needs of students.
2. Discussion - Are there any students in the program - teachout. Potential savings? -
3. No objections - will move to Board for consideration

iii. Proposed Master of [Marine Policy \(MMP\)](#) - add

1. UAF and UAS joint degree program - An area of emphasis and is a longtime acknowledged area of need within the state. There are several strong support letters for the program. Has been in development/discussion for several years. Support from Industry and stakeholders. Ties to the state initiatives - Blue Economy. Faculty from both sides have reviewed the curricula and approved. Truly joint degree with students from both universities able to take it.
  - a. Maren - Before the steering committee started to work, Pearl Brower did a needs analysis, which showed there was a demand. Confident we're meeting a need within Alaska. Graduate curriculum committee and faculty senate both approved.
2. No objections - will move to Board for consideration

Grad Certs - The target audience are students who are completing their bachelors degree, but will not be seeking a Masters before joining the workforce.

iv. [Arctic and Northern Studies](#), Grad Certificate - NOI - add

1. Discussion - Arctic and Northern Studies students getting proficiency in areas of environmental, political, geographical, cultural, and historical context. Often looking for work in policy and indigenous peoples. This will build off on the success of the BA and MA in Arctic and Northern Studies. The market is for students who want to extend their expertise past their BA but don't want to go into a full MA in Arctic and Northern Studies. There are students who are coming from other institutions, but the market is much broader than those students. Collaboration opportunity with UAA - Internships are not currently part of the certificate, but does not mean it can't be in the future.

v. [Geospatial Science](#), Grad Certificate - NOI - add

1. This is extremely market driven. There is a lot of need for geospatial and location based mapping. The certificate will give an advanced level of opportunity for students. The 12 extra credits will give them GIS, GPS, and specialized remote sensing techniques for mapping that will enhance their skill sets and marketability. Can be added to BA or BS

vi. [Justice Administration](#), Grad Certificate - NOI - add

1. The Justice program leads did a thorough analysis on the needs for specialized knowledge areas. Current and projected growth/need in both the public and private sector. The graduate certificate will give students additional training and prepare them to join this unmet need in the justice field (attorneys, paralegals, parole officers, corrections officers, and other private investment areas).

vii. [Climate Security](#), Grad Certificate - NOI - add

1. Capitalizing on our academic strengths in the climate science area and coupling that with security aspects. Looking at impacts of climate change, climate modeling, and security management. More of a unique niche. Incremental enrollment increases expected.

viii. [Yup'ik Language Competency](#), Occupational Endorsement - NOI - add

1. In response to the needs of the communities, students, and partners. This will help in modernizing curriculum and leadership when it comes to indigenous knowledge. Help students with their credentials in the Yup'ik language and increases their workforce marketability. Students who start with the Yup'ik OEC are more likely to step into the BA Yup'ik language that UAF offers. The courses they take also count towards degrees in tribal governance certificates and the

AAS and other associate degrees available at UAF. It supports students towards language proficiency.

- ix. [Rural Human Services Behavioral Health Aide](#), Occ. Endorsement - NOI - discontinue
  1. Has been inactive for a couple of years. This was in response to a community need that no longer exists. There is a certificate program that will remain.
    - a. No students in the program

### **Agenda Items:**

1. Faculty Governance Reports - Jak (Jennie filling in for), Gokhan, Jennifer (Andrea filling in for) (54:25)
  - a. Andrea - UAS - Attending the UA Mariculture Conference - has been fantastic. The presenters have been excellent. FS is wrapping up the faculty handbook. Faculty, staff, and students - concerns come to FS - finding students needing a lot of support. Keep communication open between disability services. Disability services coordinator at UAS showing an increase in student needs.
  - b. Ian - FS met and will meet in April- Faculty Alliance met in March during the retreat. Pat Pitney met with them and discussed the budget. On Monday they met with legislatures and spoke with several. Would like to spend more time next year meeting with them. Advocates for making this a regular occurrence.
  - c. Jennie - ANCSA at 50 symposium - was very good. It's all recorded. Good collaboration. The FS is winding down. Working hard to get as much as they can completed and on the agenda so all of these new programs were a big part of their work. Final meeting is in May.

DISCUSSION: Paul appreciates all of the hard work the committees have put in to push the programs through. Andrea - This went well and in the future we may want to look to this when thinking about more joint degree programs. Ian - in chat - Alaska Native colleagues met with the FA and discussed ANSI during the retreat. Paul - met with the coalition of student leaders during their Fairbanks retreat - bylaws revision - looking at how they can modify what constitutes a quorum while preserving the student voice across the system. Their bylaws state that their membership is one representative from each campus and many campuses did not organize student governance. Having the faculty and students go down during the budget time was helpful.

2. Ad Hoc Committee on Tuition update - Paul (1:06:23)
  - a. Reg Davies suggested a meeting in April. Will be on the 26th. Paul will meet with him tomorrow to work on the agenda. Also working with the VCAS and VC for students at each of the universities to do a deep dive working on policy change recommendations.
  - b. Whether or not some of the things in policy ought to be in regulation. For example, the list of non resident surcharge waivers. There is a list of 13 different categories that may be better in regulation than in policy.
  - c. The committee has been gathering information.

3. Legislative update - Paul (1:19:09)

- a. Updates. SB36 is moving along well. SB111 testimony has been delayed. College credit for high school programs (Alaska middle college) is moving along as well. HB48 is in the House Rules committee and is not moving.

4. Roundtable and future agenda items - All (1:22:15)

- a. Paul - The full board is meeting to extend the 6070 Union contract for another year. The board will likely go into executive session to discuss the request and vote on the motion to extend the contract. Needs to touch base with Reg. Purdue and Pres. Pitney. Pres. Pitney is looking for an update on some of the Goals and Measures planning for the academic goals (what are we doing to increase retention and graduation). Anupma - Verbal update or presentation on each metric? Focus will be on Academic Goals (enrollment, retention, graduation, etc.) not the numbers as much as what are the steps planned to meet the objective.
- b. Priscilla - Represent the CCDC - had a meeting this week and they are planning for the meeting with Pres. Pitney next week. Alaska Advantage program and elearning classes, how to support dual enrollment students, how to hold onto staff. Often there are other jobs in the community that pay much better. Overworked, underpaid staff is an issue. Planning for a fall meeting.
- c. Alex - No updates
- d. Denise - Main thing is searches - VC for student affairs, college of health, school of education, coming up soon will be VC for administrative services and vice provost for student success/dean of honors college. There are really strong pools of candidates both internally and externally. They are hopeful that by Fall 2022 UAA will have no interims in key administrative roles.
- e. Anupma - Working with the school district on alignment of spring breaks. Fairbanks has aligned the 23-24 spring breaks with UAF but there is still the larger issue of synchronizing all districts across the state.
- f. Jennie - nothing
- g. Andrea - nothing
- h. Ian - Under future agenda items Dual Enrollment Age requirement elementary school students. There are some programs where age is a factor (welding for example) so there have to be some constraints. There is also some review of protection of minors compliance.
- i. Kelly - nothing

PENDING: UAF System Sciences degree - needs to go through FS. May have one more OE.

**Action items from previous meetings:**

- Develop regulation associated with Policy [P10.02.070 Accreditation](#) - Working Draft Doc - [Regulation](#)
- FA to review the language of the "Accelerated Masters" and make recommendations (5/13/21 meeting)

**Future Meeting Agenda Items:**

- Dual Enrollment - Age requirement - elementary school students

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, May 12th, 2:00-4:00 pm