

Academic Council Notes
January 11, 2024; 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

[Zoom Recording](#)

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Action/Business:

1. Program Action Request -
 - a. [Associate of Science - UAA](#): UAA does not currently have an Associate of Science degree, and there are students and industries that would like to see the word science in an associate degree. The Faculty Senate still needs to vote on the request in order for it to be passed on to the Board of Regents (BOR). There are no extra costs, courses, or administrative burdens associated with this request, but many benefits.

Agenda Items:

1. Faculty Governance Reports - Jennifer Ward, Jennifer Carroll, Jackie Cason
 - a. Chair - Jennifer Ward - 19 out of 42 applicants were awarded Faculty Initiative Funds. A retreat to Juneau to do legislative visits is planned for the end of February.
 - b. UAF - Jennifer Carroll - Nothing to report at this time. Faculty Alliance is beginning the planning for a spring forum on Artificial Intelligence (AI).
 - c. UAA - Jackie Cason - All of us have been queried by Jonathan Taylor on behalf of President Pitney to provide information from each campus to share in the State of the University Address.
 - d. CCDC - Paul Kraft - There is a concerted effort with the CCDC, the campus director, and community campus directors to organize a more concerted and organized public testimony presence at each of the BOR meetings. This is being done to get the message out regarding the positive, good things happening in the community campuses. Working on wrapping up the community campus profile sheets to again be able to tell our story to various stakeholders, legislators, regents, community leaders, etc. Also, planning a spring retreat sometime in March.
2. Board of Regents meetings
 - a. Special BOR meeting on 17 January with 2 topics: 1) guest speaker Governor Mitch Daniels, former governor of Indiana and president of Purdue University, which was requested by Governor Dunleavy; and 2) Todd Burnett, UA Foundation, has a presentation, kind of an orientation, on foundation for the BOR as we move into our fundraising campaign.
 - b. Full BOR at the end of February: 1) Mission Statement change for UA, and then we expect to have the Associate of Science degree for UAA; 2) presentation and discussion about our health programs; 3) possible discussion about the Alaska Reads program; 4) and Empower Roadmap discussion. Agenda not set yet, but budget may come up also. The next meeting is going to be

at UAF during the Festival of Native Arts and Nanooks Hockey will compete against Arizona State University during the same time.

3. Roundtable and future agenda items - All

- a. Trent - A “workshop” was started to rethink how specialized accreditations at UAF are tracked and how to interface those various programs. We have 30 specialized accreditations.
- b. Denise - Steven Rollins, Dean of the Consortium Library has announced his retirement. His position will be posted plus UAA is looking for the next Executive Director of ANSEP, Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program, since Dr. Herbert Schroeder retired.
- c. Maren/Jennifer W. - UAS had their Spring Startup event with plenary and breakout sessions for staff and faculty. This was the first one with Chancellor Apama Palmer and they did a session on transparency with the budget that was greatly appreciated.
- d. Paul K. - We will be having our spring startup tomorrow with one of the agenda items Budget 101, since both faculty and staff need to know more about this budget.
- e. Paul L. There was some OER (Open Education Resources) legislation introduced last year and that may come up again. There was some directive of how we inform students on the ability, the availability of free or low cost resources and other open education resources. Just a heads up we may want to take a look at that bill closely. It’s important but do we need a law to make us do what we know is right. The Board will take up a motion that they will review board policy on a regular schedule.
- f. Gwen - It is always exciting to report increasing enrollment. We have some draft reports that may have tangential interest to this group. Please feel free to reach out and let us know any feedback you may have.
- g. Jennifer C. - Faculty Alliance has a fairly small revision to the student code of conduct section that brings out academic integrity, and hopefully the UAF Faculty Senate will pass that in February.

Action items from previous meetings:

Future Meeting Agenda Items:

Next Meeting; February 8 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.