



Faculty Alliance

FA Chair Report to Alliance Members
October 13, 2017

In an email dated September 19, 2017, President Johnsen responded to requests made by the Faculty Alliance at their August 2017 retreat. The basis of those questions included non-teaching days across the UA system, faculty representation on newly formed statewide councils and implementation of the Student Success Collaborative (SSC). President Johnsen's response are as follows.

- The President and Chancellors determined that a single non-teaching day will be available at each university. The specific date on which that non-teaching day will fall, is to be determined by the respective chancellor.
- President Johnsen acknowledged that faculty governance representation on the Academic Council will consist of one faculty governance leader from each university
- President Johnsen agreed that one faculty member shall serve on each statewide council with the exception of the Research Council, for which one faculty member per university will serve and that selection will be made by the chancellor in consultation with the chair of each faculty senate. Faculty representation on councils other than the Academic Council and the Research Council will be revisited at the 2018 Faculty Alliance Retreat. Specific faculty representation was verified in a September 29, 2017 letter to President Johnsen; representation on the Academic Council shall consist of the current, elect and upcoming-elect chair of the FA; representation on the VPASA Search Committee shall consist of the three faculty senate presidents.
- Faculty will be involved in the roll out of the Student Success Collaborative (SSC) and opportunities for faculty input and support to ensure effective implementation will be made available.

The decision by the administrative Executive Council to provide one non-teaching day was discussed by UAA, UAF and UAS Faculty Senates and the consensus was to continue to support two non-teaching days per academic year as the most logical solution to disparate numbers of teaching days from one semester to the next. I suggest a resolution stating as much.

On September 29, 2017 a letter summarizing Faculty Alliance recommendations regarding the recent changes in direction to implementation of the Alaska College of Education was sent to President Johnsen. While President Johnsen did not directly respond to the Faculty Alliance letter, his decision was published in a letter to the university chancellors which was subsequently forwarded to relevant parties, including me. That letter is available at <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B3DgUCDzKA-odkdSRIBWRTFXdlE>

The Statewide Information Technology Council (ITC) has not met since the September 22, 2017

meeting of the Faculty Alliance. On September 27, 2017 Faculty Alliance feedback on the draft administrative Email policy was forwarded to SW-CITO Karl Kowalski. On Wednesday, UAS-CITO Michael Ciri requested a copy of that same document.

The Academic Council Subcommittee on Concurrent Enrollment (SCE) was notified of faculty's desire to fully review the draft BoR regulation language on concurrent enrollment via email on October 02, 2017. That timeline was agreed to by the SCE chair (10/5/17).

The SW Academic Council (AC) met via teleconference on September 26, 2017.

- Additions and discontinuations scheduled for November 2017 BoR meeting
 - UAF: MS Degree in Resource and Applied Economics, UAF (discontinuation), Resilience and Adaptation Program, Graduate Certificate (addition), Arctic Engineering MS (discontinuation), Engineering Management MS (discontinuation), Science Management MS (discontinuation), Environmental Engineering MS (discontinuation), Mineral Preparation Engineering MS (discontinuation), Software Engineering MS (discontinuation)
 - UAA: Accelerated Master's in Mechanical Engineering (addition)
 - UAS: Associate of Business; suspended in 2013, now requesting elimination
- PAR form content is on the agenda for the 10/20 AC meeting. It was noted that Regent Bishop is interested in "atmospheric" issues surrounding discontinuations.
- President Johnsen cites accreditation issues as the primary driver in changing directions wrt CoE.
- I provided an update on system-wide GERs. The September 2017 matrix was provided to the group. Progress since the 9/17 BoR meeting was described as limited due to annual activities associated with a new academic year and that two members of the GER CTF at UAA will need to be replaced due to attrition.

The Summit Team (ST) met via video conference on October 11, 2017.

- Title IX
 - The Title IX non-discrimination notice required under the VCA has been propagated through all UA print and online materials.
 - The Dept. of Education has rescinded 2011 Dear Colleague and 2014 Guidelines and announced that negotiated rule-making will be pursued. The UA remains committed to the conditions of the VRA but other items (not in VRA), i.e. the standard of proof (currently preponderance of proof is standard) are subject to review. The UA has requested that OCR provide response to 23 outstanding cases based on UA's description of redress provided in May '17. I stated that this is a good opportunity to reassess UA policy with focus on shared governance, academic freedom and privacy rights and asked that UA Title IX officers (Mike and Mary) meet with the Faculty Alliance.
 - President Johnsen requests that consequences (staff and faculty) for failure to complete training be discussed among governance groups; adjunct faculty are required to complete as well. Faculty Senate should discuss various options and provide feedback to the Faculty Alliance prior to the 11/16/17 Summit Team meeting.
- Council Reports

- The Academic Council summarized progress regarding the UAF/UAA Engineering Program. Within that report remaining hurdles included 1) difficulty associated with course sharing due to different course start times at UAA and UAF and 2) contact time disparities due to 50 minute (UAA) vs 60 minute (UAF) class hour. **NOTE: President Johnsen focused on these two points and implied they were adequate to justify aligning the teaching hour across campuses.** President Johnsen further noted the same hurdle was described in the Allied Health report. A proposal to create a Master in Public Policy and Master in Public Administration at UAA was presented and will be reviewed at the 10/20/17 meeting of the Academic Council. College of Education – see above
- The Business Council described implementation of a new travel booking and expense reporting tool to replace TEMS. This tool (Condor?) will go live July – August 2018.
- Grants & Contracts – implementing UA standardized practices and processes
- Community Campus Directors Council describe efforts to improve accessibility to website in response to an OCR-registered complaint; specifically wrt access by persons with disabilities. The CCDC chair notes this may be system-wide issue but Michael Ciri (UAS-CITO) points out that the UA Office of Information Technology (OIT) engaged the Bureau of Internet Accessibility (BoIA) to conduct accessibility audits of the main web sites: alaska.edu, uaf.edu, uaa.alaska.edu, uas.alaska.edu, and uaonline.alaska.edu. last year and notes that results were acceptable. Development of UA-wide Tech Prep agreements with high schools was cited as “in-progress”. A UA site listing options available to HS students and associated enrollment specifics was suggested as well as simplification of fees. These chores were passed to the Subcommittee on Concurrent Enrollment and should include conversations with Community Colleges.
- The Development and Alumni Relations Council report led to a discussion on endowed scholarship made with specific awardee requirements. President Johnsen and Susan Foley are working towards relaxing many of these eligibility criteria and inspiring unrestricted giving.
- Human Resources Council – asked to include information on post-graduation employment of UA graduates as a metric for recruitment and retention. President Johnsen states that annual leave and leave cash-in (as per the staff request for leave roll-over and cash-in) remains under consideration. The current “tendency” is to offer this to staff at grade 7 or greater, to move the roll date to June/July and to encourage employees to take leave. The change from fiscal year to calendar year will be brought before BoR in November.
- The IT Council will draft policy/process regarding a data breach. That policy will include reporting responsibilities as well as the relevant group(s) to which information on affected parties must be provided. At the November Summit Team results of the external evaluation (by James Szmak) of IT Services will be presented.
- The Student Services Council again brings up the system-wide registrars’ recommendation for system-wide alignment in *several* areas that are clearly faculty purview, e.g. 1) grading: use of +/-, I, deferred grades, 2) academic

standing, reinstatement and bankruptcy, 3) when the academic year starts, 4) summer term alignment and 5) common course numbering. I reminded the ST that these were faculty issues and any change should be faculty-driven.

- An enrollment financial framework that will guide the 10/24/17 discussion with the BoR was presented. This framework will be included in the FY19 UA budget presented to the BoR on 11/9. The framework cited system and university level goals as important but described mostly system-level goals with a target date of 2025. These included increased degree attainment (enrollment and completion), provide skilled workforce, grow research (increase research expenditures), contribute to economic development (increase number of invention disclosures and STEM graduates) and operate more cost effectively (decrease cost of education /completion, decrease annual student FTE/completion).
- Enrollment strategy focused on two issues; a proposal by CCD Dan O'Connor and elimination of the non-resident tuition surcharge. Feasibility of the latter was investigated and found to be insubstantial. The former included creation of a SW catalogue with provision for any CC to teach any course (presuming a qualified instructor) and statewide accessibility of Alaska Native courses. The SW common catalogue idea was rejected in favor of a course-sharing approach wherein faculty are shared across campuses, i.e. faculty are viewed as a system-wide resource. A single-entry catalogue (not a SW course catalogue) in which students are presented with all course options was proposed.

Letters, Memos and Resolutions:

1. 2017 09 27 FA Memo RE Email Policy.pdf
2. 2017 09 29 FA to Johnsen fac representation.pdf
3. 2017 09 29 FA to Johnsen CoE.pdf