



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Minutes

Faculty Alliance

May 22, 2020

3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Zoom: <https://alaska.zoom.us/j/97570030190>

Call-in: 1-669-900-6833

Meeting ID: 907 450 8042

Members

xHeather Batchelder President, UAS Faculty Senate; Chair, Faculty Alliance

xJak Maier, President, UAF Faculty Senate, Vice Chair, Faculty Alliance

xDonie Bret-Harte, Past-President, UAF Faculty Senate

xScott Downing, Past President, UAA Faculty Senate

xGökhan Karahan, UAA Faculty Senate 1st VP

xDavid Noon, President-Elect UAS Faculty Senate

xKelly Smith, President, UAA Faculty Senate

TBD, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

TBD, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate

Staff

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

Guests:

Paul Layer, Vice President for Academics, Students and Research (4:00 p.m.)

Maria Williams, Ad hoc Committee Update

Gordon Williams, Professor of Mathematics and Statistics, UAF

1. Roll and Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 3:05 p.m. and quorum was met.

2. Adopt Agenda

Members reviewed the agenda and had no additions, corrections or objections.

3. Approve May 8 Minutes

Morgan noted she was having trouble locating the May 8 minutes in her records but remembers taking them. The minutes will be added to the next meeting agenda for approval.

4. Guest Comments

Maria gave an update on recent interest in aligned credit hour which would negate the work done by the Common Calendar Committee over the last two years. She was pleased to see the Alliance had formed the two ad hoc committees discussed at her last meeting (1. faculty control of modality and 2. collaboration and sustainability) .

Gordon Williams reported he is serving on one of the two ad hoc committees (faculty control of modality).

VP Layer joined at 4pm and gave an update on next week's BOR Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting. He noted there would be discussions in follow-up to the April 13-14 and May 13 ASA meetings and questions that regents had as part of the expedited review process. He also noted AKCOE will give an update to announce it has passed CAEP's accreditation process. He also reported that UA has decided to deliberately move slower at easing up on restrictions than the state, due to UA having several risk factors (residential dorms, dining services, events, asymptomatic populations, populations at higher risk, travel, etc.). He noted the president will continue to make regular announcements to the UA community regarding restrictions and how UA will work to protect its students and constituents. When asked, VP Layer noted he didn't have any information regarding the UAS chancellor search. He also noted there was no definitive decision regarding UA's involvement in developing testing centers or tests for Alaska; however, UA is looking at possible processes to test student, faculty and staff who return to campus in the fall (looking at the UAF IAB lab to see if it can be modified to conduct testing for the state). Alliance members shared concerns with VP Layer regarding the time on the transformation decisions (made when faculty and students are off campus), the availability of information on cost savings, and the rigor of the process; VP Layer agreed to bring these concerns back to the president.

5. [Chair's June Report to the BOR](#)

Heather noted at the meeting with the chancellors this morning, the chancellors said they are closer to finding a solution on tuition sharing for distance courses.

Donie noted the president is not expecting the Board to make a decision at the June meeting but rather select a few options from those presented to them for the president and administration to research further and prepare more in depth information at the September Board meeting.

Gordon noted there seem to be a lot of similarities with the weakness in the Strategic Pathways process, although this time around it was even more rushed, with little time to

process information in a meaningful way. He noted at the recent Business Council meeting, there seemed to be a strong focus from some of the members to only fill in the matrix requested by the president, but not look deeper at the implications and consequences of these decisions. Members discussed flaws in the academic and administrative review processes led by President Johnsen, as well as the troublesome patterns of ignoring governance and faculty feedback along with continued incompetence on the system councils and at the decision-making levels. Alliance members discussed options on how to bring this to the attention of NWCCU and the Board of Regents' so that they are not just hearing the president's perspective. There was overall a lot of concern over the delay to take action until students and faculty were off campus. Heather directed members to the FA Resolution folder for drafts communications to the Board and the president (see 7.b. below).

6. Faculty Senate Updates (Summer 2020- no FS meetings- unless emergency meeting needed)
 - a. UAF
 - b. UAS
 - c. UAA

7. Ongoing Business

- a. Academic Council updates - Academic Program Review
- b. Faculty Alliance Resolutions

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1ZGMT4M6C9F6Tmwped65CUjY34A-wbW0S>

Alliance members reviewed the draft resolutions and decided to try to approve them all today.

Scott moved to approve the resolutions (as a group, as amended), seconded by Kelly. There were no objections to the resolutions as amended during the meeting. The resolutions will be distributed post haste to the intended parties.

At the behest of members, Heather agreed to draft a memo on behalf of the Faculty Alliance outlining its concerns regarding the transformational change process and timeline.

8. New Business

- a. Transformation
- b. Covid-19- Fall 2020
- c. FA appointee to IMT statewide team

- d. Propose to introduce the Faculty Alliance at upcoming June 2020 BOR meetings;
Student Focus/Research Focus/Service Focus

9. Public Comments (if any)

10. Adjourn

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Every other Friday Updates BOR 8:00-9:00

May 28th: standing Academic and Student Affairs meeting

June 4th and 5th Full UA BOR meeting, ZOOM