



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Minutes
Faculty Alliance
Friday, February 9, 2018
2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
[Google Hangouts](#)

1. Call to Order

Members:

Donie Bret-Hart, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate
Megan Buzby, President, UAS Faculty Senate
Sharon Chamard, President, UAA Faculty Senate
Chris Fallen, President, UAF Faculty Senate
David Fitzgerald, Past President, UAA Faculty Senate,
Robin Gilcrist, President-Elect, UAS Faculty Senate
Lisa Hoferkamp, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate, Chair, Faculty Alliance
Orion Lawlor, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate
Maria Williams, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate

Staff:

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

Guests:

James R. Johnsen, UA President

2. Adoption of Agenda

Due to a flight conflict, Lisa was unable to attend until 3:50. Chris led the meeting up to that point.

Megan moved, David seconded. There were no objections and the agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes – FA Retreat & January 26

No objections, however members asked Morgan to double check on Staff Alliance members attending the second meeting of the month.

4. Public or Guest Comments

None given.

5. Report from Chair

Lisa provided a [report](#) via email prior to the meeting.

6. Questions for President Johnsen

Do you feel the universities' current policies on Credit for Prior Learning are adequate?

If not, what about these policies do you feel faculty should discuss?

Do you distinguish prior learning from prior experience? If so, how?

Robin gave an example of using credit for prior learning--a welder needs a certificate but already had welding experience -- Are we going to require they take an Intro to Welding course?

Dave noted there were 10 categories at UAA for non-traditional credit options (including credit for prior learning).

Title IX - Can UA move away from Haven? Can we develop an AK-specific training (increased focused on suicide and domestic violence)?

Will there be follow up on the Jan. 18 leadership workshop?

When will the Szmak report on IT at UA be released?

DISCUSSION w/PRESIDENT JOHNSEN

Operating budget--The president noted he is optimistic after meeting with legislators that UA will receive more than the \$317M in the governor's budget; he also working to support renewal of the Alaska Education Tax Credit (want to extend the sunset clause which currently expires end of December 2018) -- no major changes to the credit just want to extend it. Industry is taking the lead and pushing for extension of the credit--especially the mining community. The president thanked Megan and UAS faculty for their positive support on Feb. 2 with the higher education rally in Juneau. The president report Abel Bult-Ito is also lobbying in Juneau and is advocating for the regents' budget. The president noted that he complimented the faculty during his finance testimony for their collaboration with GER alignment but also told legislators that everything at UA doesn't need to be exactly the same. The president noted VP Layer is going to develop a one-pager to explain transfer at UA and how courses align currently. He noted that overall the tone in Juneau is more positive this year than last year.

QUESTIONS

Follow up to leadership workshop - To what extent is there going to be someone coordinating efforts individuals will be making (as discussed at the workshop)?

JRJ: UA wants to support advocacy efforts during session but are sensitive to advocacy fatigue so want to time it for maximum possible impact. For larger advocacy efforts, AVP Miles Baker and AVP Robbie Graham will work with their teams of campus communication folks (media, alumni, public relations, etc.) on messaging and coordination. Ultimately, long-term planning is on the back burner for the moment while they deal with the current legislative session.

Credit for prior learning - What are your expectations for this since it has been worked on already in recent history?

JRJ: Not hearing a lot right now but thinking that it will help our students complete programs faster. Ultimately, this is a part of his desire to improve access but he in no way wants to degrade the quality of UA's educational offerings. Alliance members noted they still want faculty to develop the standards to assess what type of experience/prior learning receives credit.

Title IX - Is SW still open to faculty/staff review of policy changes as they are proposed?

JRJ: He noted no problem other than the short timelines and the stringent requirements of the OCR--many of the policies are prescribed to UA and we can only decide how we roll out the communication. But he welcomes feedback and input. There is a weekly meeting with Title IX players and he can check to see how they can include participation from this group (although, there will need to be some sensitivity about certain conversation and actual cases and examples).

Title IX - Is SW open to revising training materials, especially to include AK-specific topics such as suicide and domestic abuse?

JRJ: Yes, definitely and this is a good time to discuss that.

IT consultant (Szmak) report - The president gave a brief update and noted there are issues between the combination of SW and UAF IT, issues with IT governance at a system level and some decisions should be moved back to the university level. Clearly personnel issues that have been raised. There are plans to release the report shortly but he won't have an action plan immediately, although they are already working on one.

7. Ongoing Business

7.1. Faculty regent update - Lisa and Jeff checked with Rep. Parish--the bill is still in LAA (legal office for legislature)--so sounds like it is moving

7.2. GER Retreat 2/10/18 – 2/11/18 - Lisa and Maria will be attending for the Alliance and will help keep the group on track

7.3. Morale Survey – Sharon Chamard report the survey is still moving along and plans to send out on all faculty list serv.

7.4. FIF RFP – Approval of VPASA edits - Members reviewed the edits, accepted changes, and made suggestions to the draft. Morgan noted VP Layer asked for feedback so he can share with Academic Council on Feb. 15. Chris asked for any objections to the suggested changes by Saturday.

For VPASA response see

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1JsPc9kOh_M_LKc3HmCeeNpbZzp_jtNI4pcu6EKmlm5w/edit#

7.5. Double-counting courses – Senate feedback.

General support but some parts of advising think it could be bad for students.

Double-counting v. course sharing? Might go over better with the BOR

Members reviewed the letter and voted to approve it.

MOTION: Orion moved, seconded by Sharon

OUTCOME: none opposed, Lisa will send the letter to President Johnsen

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1RR3USN73O9zDrg73at09Tyqs_0oQ8QEsYkMB3Bkqa8M/edit

- 7.6. [Information Resources Policy](#)
FA members report to group on discussions with affected students
 - 7.7. Approval of letters
 - President's contract renewal
ACTION: Lisa asked to approve the letter via email and for members to note any changes, questions, or objections on the draft doc.
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1YVt4ncl6YqkLRdQV5JmHbsMH-K7x70FRKcM4dGdt-YE/edit>
 - 3 universities vs 1 University
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NZEKREw6MQpsGkyzkV95l46M8p-Ywx7a3BmUgGH4lOO/edit>
 - 7.8. Revisions to the Academic Council Charter - POSTPONED
https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MLyP8R_XXEdttrurxOVAeEwDQHMSoSXQYX9m8z-sII/edit
 - 7.9. UA Teacher Education Council charter - POSTPONED
https://drive.google.com/open?id=1eVEVgFS0Szy26yXvK6MY0Oo_PSeGf2ez
 - 7.10. Residency requirements for students participating in courses shared across universities - POSTPONED
8. New Business - POSTPONED to next meeting
 - 8.1. Categorizing Business GERs: Social Science GERs?
 - 8.2. MW or MWF classes - Alignment
Current FA stance on aligning course blocks: Course blocks are a faculty issue and any changes to them must be faculty derived. Faculty recognize that for particular departments (e.g. computer science and engineering) course sharing would alleviate a shortage of faculty. The UA faculty also recognize the importance of addressing the issues that come with course sharing, however, UA faculty are acutely aware that mandating course sharing and alignment of course blocks will adversely affect all faculty and students across the system and will create numerous additional academic issues. The FA reminds everyone that course block length is part of instruction and thus an academic issue. Changing it would have pedagogical and accreditation implications. The FA strongly encourages administration to support the efforts of departments who pursue course sharing and their efforts to develop shared courses based on input from all affected faculty. Please be sure to mirror this stance when asked to discuss the issue.
 9. Reports
 - 9.1. Faculty Senates (current Presidents)
 - 9.2. VPASA search – Chris
 - 9.3. IT Council - Lisa, Chris, Dave
Computing platform (Mac vs PC) - establish baseline based on Educause data and Gartner Higher Ed metrics

10. Comments, concerns, and announcements
 - 10.1. Video conferencing equipment RFI
Reminder – instruct university IT committees to consult with faculty and provide feedback to SWIT council.
 - 10.2. Cash-in of FTO
 FY18 supplemental bill requesting use of FY 18 funds to support cash-in
 see http://www.akleg.gov/basis/Bill/Detail/30?Root=HB%20321#tab6_4
 see 2018-01-17 UNAC Memo FTO Cash In.pdf on Google/shared with me/Faculty Alliance
 - 10.3 Web Accessibility Policy
 KK says a reasonable accommodation shall be determined by affected student working with Disability Services.

11. Adjourn
 The meeting adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

Important Dates

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| February | 15 – System Governance Council, 2:00-3:30
16 – Academic Council, 3:00-5:00
21 – FA Chair w/ VPASA, 1:30-2:30
22 – ASA Committee
23 – Faculty Alliance meeting, 2:30-4:30 via Hangout/audio |
| March | 1 & 2 – BOR in Fairbanks
2 – UAA Faculty Senate meeting. 2:30-4:30
2 – UAS Faculty Senate meeting
5 – UAF Faculty Senate meeting #230 (1-3 pm via A/V)
8 – Summit Council, 1:00 – 4:30
9 – Faculty Alliance meeting, 2:30-4:30 via Hangout/audio (Johnsen@3:30)
12-16 – SPRING BREAK
20 – IT Council, 10:30-12:00
21 – FA Chair w/ VPASA, 1:30-2:30
22 – Academic Council, 3:00-5:00
23 – Faculty Alliance meeting, 2:30-4:30 via Hangout/audio |
| April | 2 – UAF Faculty Senate meeting #231 (1-3 pm via A/V)
5 – Summit Council, 1:00-4:30
6 – UAA Faculty Senate meeting, 2:30-4:30
6 – UAS Faculty Senate meeting
13-14 – ACE-NASH Leadership Summit
18 – FA Chair w/ VPASA, 1:30-2:30
20 – Academic Council, 3:00-5:00
24 – IT Council, 10:30-12:00
27 – Faculty Alliance meeting, 2:30-4:30 via Hangout/audio |

May

4 – UAA Faculty Senate meeting, 2:30-4:30

4 – UAS Faculty Senate meeting

7 – UAF Faculty Senate meeting #232 (1-3 pm via A/V)

11 – Faculty Alliance meeting, 2:30-4:30 via Hangout/audio (Johnsen@3:30)

18 – Academic Council, 3:00 – 5:00

22 – IT Council, 10:30 – 12:00