



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA

Many Traditions One Alaska

Minutes

Faculty Alliance

Friday, April 13, 2018

2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

[Google Hangouts](#)

1. Call to Order

The meeting came to order at 2:33 p.m.

Lisa was unable to attend and Chris ran the meeting.

Members:

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

Orion Lawlor, Past President, UAF Faculty Senate *left at 3pm*

Maria Williams, 1st Vice President, UAA Faculty Senate

Staff:

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

Guests:

James R. Johnsen at 3:30

Members Absent:

Lisa Hoferkamp, Past President, UAS Faculty Senate, Chair, Faculty Alliance

Donie Bret-Hart, President-Elect, UAF Faculty Senate

2. Adoption of Agenda

Orion noted he would like to add the item on the student success portal. Orion moved, Robin seconded. No objections. The agenda was adopted with amendment.

3. Approval of Minutes – March 23, 2018

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/14WD8QJ6ULNU->

[Wa5bJvnFGYf9zZQI2vpLK4sjFEjv-Ko/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/14WD8QJ6ULNU-Wa5bJvnFGYf9zZQI2vpLK4sjFEjv-Ko/edit?usp=sharing)

There was no discussion or objections to the minutes as presented.

4. Public or Guest Comments
5. Report from Chair – see
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1fYlmt9HZ2AniWCxT8zc6rSH62TbctPZRLSzpatNQ5hY/edit>

Members engaged in a brief discussion of president's comments on posting BOR meeting recordings.

6. Ongoing Business

- 6.1. Faculty regent update - no new information; current session is coming to a close, however, there hasn't been any movement in the legislature.
- 6.2. GER Alignment - Chris noted the GER group is trying to wrap up their work in time for the June BOR meeting, however, it seems to be slow going. Sharon noted UAA FS passed a resolution similar to the one UAF passed on the subject.
- 6.3. Morale Survey – Sharon noted she was in the midst of completing it and is going to post it to Google Docs for the Alliance to review prior to distribution to the faculty. Asks for comments early next week.
- 6.4. FIF RFP – Lisa
- 6.5. Letters

3 universities vs 1 University – waiting on UAA addition. See:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NZEKREw6MQpsGkyzkV95146M8p-Ywx7a3BmUgGH4IOQ/edit>

Members opted to wait until UAA had added their section before discussing.

- 6.6. Banner 9 upgrade
David noted there were current difficulties cross-listing courses that have recently undergone a prefix change and plans to ask the Banner Committee to look into the issue. Members didn't offer up any other issues with the upgrade plans.
- 6.7. Revisions/updates to FA Constitution – motion to approve
Article 3, B., 2 (Consultation): Change “UA vice president for Academic Affairs and Research” to “UA vice president for Academic and Student Affairs”
Approve proposed amendments Fall 2016
<http://www.uaf.edu/files/uafgov/FAConstitutionBylaws-DRAFT-REVISION-2016-Track-Changes.pdf>
New suggestion to update name of Statewide Academic Council to just Academic Council.
MOTION: Megan moved to approve, and David seconded, the change in VP's title and update the name of the Academic Council.

7. New Business

- 7.1. Request for university representation on SW IT Council
Recommend to President Johnsen that faculty representation on the IT Council be met by appointment of one Faculty Alliance member from each university to serve a one-year term.

Discussion: Sharon noted she felt it shouldn't necessarily have to be a Faculty Alliance member since they might not have the requisite experience. Overall agreement from FA members. Members agreed nominations would come from the Faculty Senates.

- 7.2. VPASA Search – LH is on search committee
Application review 5/4 – 5/9. Outline desirable characteristics.
see
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1_7wJfeNC13eMdQNkAX7LEIzAYeNh5kKp/view?usp=sharing
see
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ldbxxkq3VX2qcUaMYWJa-GxjokMRqQSLv/view?usp=sharing>
- 7.3. HR Compensation Analysis Advisory Group membership
See
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/11gfi4KHPeT4C8Y6Jbn1hKyAuTKxKUpxt/view?usp=sharing>
See
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/10MO87wE1flp5YxF9kNLGnli46QiUJYGQ/view?usp=sharing>
- Discussion: Megan noted she had heard that UA faculty compensation isn't on par with counterparts in the rest of the US, and noted it will be good to see what the actual comparison is.
- 7.4. Response to BoR comments regarding shared governance
See <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1j-Y3Rvw-AC5-e3mtrVJP4RmGXgOxp55BsBJiVHM8bfE/edit?usp=sharing>
Discussion: Members reviewed the letter drafted by David Fitzgerald, in response to Chair O'Neill's letter to him on shared governance at UA. Chris asked members how they would like to proceed (let Dave send the letter by himself, approve it to come from the Alliance, pass a motion in support of the letter but have it come from Dave, etc.). Chris asked members to continue to refine the letter. Sharon noted she thought it should come from the Alliance and she would be happy to endorse it. Megan was also supportive of sending it from the Alliance but wanted to make sure the tone was on target to continue communication channels open. Suggestion to approve at the next Alliance meeting.
- 7.5. Statewide Student Success Network and university-based student success advisory groups/councils/posse - whatever you want to call them
Discussion: Megan noted she had some objections to the proposed student success network at UAS, mainly because they are so small and there are several groups already working on student success and this new group would be redundant and unnecessary. UAF and UAA members noted they had not yet experienced similar issues. Alliance members agreed to review the letter over the weekend, make suggestions, and finalize/send early next week, for the purpose of having the most impact on the RFP process.

Introduction of meta majors (collections of academic majors that have related courses) to first year NDS for purposes of schedule/pathway design - feedback and input requested

see [FA letter on how to make the UA Portal actually useful](#) (added by Orion)

7.6. Communicating FA business to the faculty at large as per UnAc President Abel Bult-Ito

Discussion: Megan noted this came from a conversation between Lisa and Abel, wherein Abel noted he doesn't feel the Alliance communicates directly with their constituency and therefore don't represent the views of the faculty. Megan noted she didn't think news of the Faculty Initiative Fund was shared with Abel or Cyndy West, and that may have triggered the discussion in some part. Chris noted that next year he will work to establish (re-establish) communication channels with UNAC.

8. Discussion with President Johnsen

The president gave an update on the UA budget and how it is progressing in Juneau. He noted the House had passed an amendment to increase the governor's budget by \$19M; the Senate also passed an increase of \$5.5M. The budget will now go to conference committee for final decision. His administration has worked out plans for different funding scenarios. On the capital side, they are hoping to get \$5M for deferred maintenance. He noted when the state was still flush with oil money, the university would get on average \$35M each year. Because of this drop in funding, UA has had to take that funding from other places in the UA budget. He also noted the bill that would have trimmed the APS is not moving forward. The president noted they continue to work on UA's land grant, and plan to draft a resolution calling for the governor's support on the issue. Noted that overall, it was a much more positive environment in Juneau this year.

The president noted he met with the chancellors earlier this week and are working on a giving campaign. They plan to get feedback from the Regents at their June meeting and will ask for approval at their September meeting. They then expect to roll out the campaign this fall with the hopes of raising at least \$5M.

Questions:

- What will the pull back at UA look like if legislators approve a budget of \$317M?
 - SW is not expecting re-allocation at the current level, however, the chancellors may decide to make changes to their budgets based on the approved budget. At \$317M there might be the need for the chancellors to make strategic cuts, however, does not anticipate that even at the Senate level of \$323M.
- Would the president support an *ex officio* (non-voting) faculty regent? -- The president noted the University of California has a faculty representative to the regents. He noted that at this point, the chair of the Alliance is essentially that representative for UA.
- How does UA better market investing in our facilities to legislators so that we can support research activities and economic development? -- The president noted that

it can be tricky to get this message right but that sustainable resource development should be supported.

- Appointment of a CITO? -- The president noted he planned on an accelerated recruitment and asked for a faculty member to serve on the CITO search committee.
- ACE-NASH student success network -- The president noted he was not up to speed on the current status of the project but offered to get back to the Alliance after conferring with AVP Oba, who is heading up the project.
- Student Portal - possible better/cheaper solution -- President indicated interest when Megan brought this up and asked for a proposal on their idea.
- IT Council - having a faculty in governance at each university serve on 1-year appointments on the IT Council, with nominations from the Alliance sent to the president for selection/approval -- The president noted he was comfortable with the proposed membership and selection process.
- Alaska Native Studies GER -- Chris noted that at UAF there does not appear to be enthusiasm about this requirement, mainly due to the thought that it will discourage online degree students from outside Alaska. The president noted at the outset, this was proposed to be an Alaska Native Studies GER, not a Alaska Native Studies graduation requirement. He noted he is looking for a way forward and hopes to find a way to address this unintended impact.
- BOR meeting recording -- Chris noted that they had received the president's memo on the subject. The president reiterated posting meeting recordings would create the need for an archive and maintenance of that archive. He also noted the BOR is a governance body, not a legislative body, and so the recordings aren't considered minutes. He noted that recordings can be requested from the Board Office.
- Education tax bill - The president noted it is being extended to 2023.

9. Reports

9.1. Faculty Senates (current Presidents)

10. Comments, concerns, and announcements

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

Important Dates

April	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