



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

System Governance Council Minutes

Monday, November 18, 2013

2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Via audio conference

1-800-893-8850 PIN: 8266781

Call to Order and Roll Call

Voting Members Present:

Faculty:

Diane Hirshberg for Mark Fitch, President, UAA Faculty Senate

David Valentine, President, UAF Faculty Senate

Kevin Krein, President-Elect for Virgil Fredenberg, President, UAS Faculty Senate

Staff:

Brad Krick, President, UAF Staff Council

Gwenna Richardson, President, UAS Staff Council

Elizabeth Winfree, President, UAA University Assembly

Dory Straight, President, Statewide Administration Assembly

Students:

Jessica Dominy, United Students of UAS-Juneau

Teresa Cross, Kenai Peninsula College Student Union

Ayla O'Scannell, Associated Students of UAF-Fairbanks

Alumni Representatives:

Joe Hayes, Chair, System Governance Council, and Executive Director, UAF Alumni Association

Keni Campbell, Manager, UAS Alumni Association

System Governance Staff Present:

LaNora Tolman, Executive Officer, System Governance

Joseph Altman, Coordinator, System Governance

Guests Present:

Chas St. George, Strategic Direction Coordinator, Statewide Office of Academic Affairs

Michelle Rizk, Associate Vice President, Statewide Budget Office

Erika Van Flein, Director, Statewide Benefits

Shauna Thornton, Speaker, Coalition of Student Leaders

Agenda Adopted and Minutes Approved

Jessica motioned to adopt the agenda and Dory seconded. The agenda was adopted. Gwenna motioned to approve the October 21, 2013 minutes and Keni seconded. The minutes were approved.

Chair's Report

Joe stated he missed the last BOR. He had no official report to give.

Guest Comments

Erika Van Flein gave an update on the wellness topic. UA issued an RFP to a new company Healthy Roads. WIN filed a protest and they were denied but they appealed and are pursuing administrative and legal options. UA is currently working through the process and had a September meeting to decide whether they had to stay the award until the process was over, but they did not and the university went ahead with Healthy Roads. In the meantime, WIN is questioning the process of the RFP. They had their hearing in October. UA will present in December at their hearing. Jim Lynch is overseeing the process and he has a hearing officer, outside of UA, who will make recommendations. The goal is to have an onsite portal with Healthy Roads by January 1, with staff in place by February 1, and have the full implementation by July 1.

Local Governance Reports

UAA

Faculty – no report

Students – Teresa Cross reported Kenai's upcoming events: Thanksgiving events, a dog show, a light parade with the community, Santa comes to Kenai, and getting ready for Anchorage and Juneau trips.

UAF

Staff – Brad Krick– UAF Staff Council meets tomorrow. They drafted a resolution regarding the employee tuition waiver benefit, which is planned to be on the December BOR agenda. The benefit is a great recruitment and retention tool. Regarding tobacco free campus, they have a draft resolution stating the recommendation for the UA President to direct the decision to the chancellors' and not retain it as a systemwide issue.

Students – Ayla O'Scannell – ASUAF elections will occur next Monday and Tuesday. The senate is drafting a resolution for residence life and looking over how they apply their rules.

Alumni – Joe Hayes – The alumni association is working on events for the Governor's Cup in December and working on the core needs for the university.

UAS – Kevin Krein, Gwenna Richardson, Jessica Dominy, Keni Campbell

Faculty – Kevin - Items of concern come later in the agenda. No report.

Staff – Gwenna - UAS Staff Council had a retreat in Sitka last week. They rotate their meetings at different campuses to expose the staff council. Topics they are working on: planning a staff development day in May, and drafting a resolution to their chancellor regarding supervisor training.

Students – Jessica – It is native history month and the events keep them busy. Events they are having include: showing independent native films every Wednesday, helping with the native Olympics with about 50 participant, financial events coordinating with financial aid. They talked about discrimination and how to bridge the gap and help to open lines of

communication. They have many new members in the senate and formulated committees. The biggest activity coming up is the stress week and includes how to manage stress and be ready for the finals coming up. They had lunch with the provost a few days ago and many questions were answered.

Alumni – Keni – The alumni are in the process of filling three seats in January and planning a reception for recent grads. They will be in Anchorage for West Side Story and they are giving tickets at a discount along with inviting UAF alumni; They have an upcoming event for families to build ginger bread houses.

SW

Staff – Dory- Topics of interest will be covered later on the agenda.

Systemwide Reports

Shaping Alaska's Future/SDI Update – Chas St. George

Attended Staff Alliance and Faculty Alliance last week – shared with them about the feedback deadline on Nov. 18. Dr. Thomas proposed the next draft will be one everyone can work on.

Legislative and Budget Report – Michelle Rizk

BOR approved the budget on Nov. 6. The highlight is the staff increase. The unions are still under negotiation. Operating budget totals 3.3 million dollars. Some of the funding is not for brand new programs, but for programs that had federal funds that went away. The budget includes a 2.1% general funding increase and another .9% increase for advising

Capital budget – This is the final year of the 5 years of 100 million dollars per year for deferred maintenance. The remaining funding is for UAA and UAF engineering buildings and the UAF combined heat and power plant which totals over 300 million dollars.

December 13 is when the governor's budget is due to come out.

Health Care Update – Erika Van Flein

See guest comments

Discussion Items

Tuition Waiver Benefit

Regent Fisher's draft motion at the last BOR meeting on Nov. 6 proposed a 50% cut in the benefit. SW HR plans to send a survey out to all benefitted employees this week. The council discussed drafting a resolution. Brad will send UAF's resolution to use as a model. Joe will draft a resolution for the council to vote on by email.

Constitution Changes Continuation

Dory motioned to accept amendments in the constitution; Kevin seconded. Amendments were approved this day, November 18, 2013.

Nana Catering Issues

Dory shared the information she obtained regarding the Nana contract with UA. The three-year contract is coming up on July 1, 2014. UAS will not be renewing their contract. UAA is waiting but will probably go with Nana. It is up to UAF and SW to decide what they will do.

Smoke Free/Tobacco Free Campus Discussion

UAA says it is student driven but not student government driven. They are waiting for the students to do something. The chancellor's cabinet is for it. The faculty have not submitted anything yet.

UAF Faculty Senate passed a resolution at its November meeting opposing a systemwide enforcement. Students will know more at their next meeting.

SW SAA drafted a resolution opposing a systemwide zero tolerance.

MOTION: The council drafted a resolution stating the issue should go to the chancellor's for their decision for each university. Gwenna motioned to put forth the resolution; Dory seconded. The council unanimously voted to send the resolution to President Gamble.

Agenda Items for Next Meeting on February 24, 2013 and comments

The meeting will be held via Google Hangout

Topics include:

- Tuition Waiver Benefit Update
- Shaping Alaska's Future/SDI
- Legislative Session Update

The council discussed ways to tackle the issue about a reduction in force/staff for budgetary savings and whether to add something about this topic to the agenda.

The question was posed about the feedback on Shaping Alaska's Future/SDI, and what groups were looking at it, and wondered if this was something the System Governance Council wanted to discuss. The question was asked if SGC is an entity to its self or only reflective of the university level governance groups' issues. The statement was made for everyone to pay attention to their own groups and give SGC feedback on what issues bubble up.

Adjourn

Dory moved adjourn and Gwenna seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:33p.m.