

MINUTES

UAF Faculty Senate Meeting #216

Monday, September 12, 2016 1:00 - 3:00 PM - Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom

I Call to Order - Orion Lawlor

A. Roll Call

Faculty Senate Members Present:	Members Presentcontinued
ABRAMOWICZ, Ken (18)	QUICK, Kate (18)
AGUILAR-ISLAS, Ana (18)	TILBURY, Jennifer (17)
ANAHITA, Sine (18)	TOPKOK, Sean (18)
ARNDT, Kathy (17)	TUTTLE, Siri (17)
BACSUJLAKY, Mara (18)– Art Nash	WILDFEUER, Sandra (18)
BARNES, Bill (18)	ZHANG, Mingchu (18)
BENOWITZ, Jeff (18)	
BOLTON, Bob (18)	Members absent:
BRET-HARTE, Donie (17)	AGGARWAL, Srijan (18)
CARROLL, Jennie (17)	COLLINS, Eric (17)

B. Approval of Minutes for Meeting #215

The minutes for meeting #215 (May 2016) were approved as submitted.

C. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as submitted.

II Status of Chancellor's Office Actions

A. Motions approved May 2, 2016:

1. Motion to approve the 2015-2016 degree candidates
2. Motion to approve Unit Criteria for the Natural Sciences
3. Motion to approve new Graduate Certificate in Resilience and Adaptation
4. Motion to extend deadline for submission of Communication Plans
5. Motion to approve new Minor in Sustainable Agriculture
6. Motion to approve revisions to the Grade Appeals Policy

B. Motions pending: None

III A. President's Remarks - Orion Lawlor [Timestamp: 06:12 on recording.]

After welcoming everyone, Orion spoke about the work done on the Strategic Pathways teams during the summer. Faculty Alliance members served on those committees. He served on the Engineering team which had an interesting and productive experience with the process. The team came out of it realizing how much opportunity there was for collaboration between UAF and UAA in engineering.

There was a wide variety in what people experienced on the teams. Other teams, in some cases, felt they were given a charge which assumed their conclusions.

If anyone has suggestions or comments on the Strategic Pathways process, and, in particular, if there is some resolution that Faculty Senate could pass that would improve that process immensely, Orion would be interested to hear it. The only weapon Faculty Senate has is Reason, so if we can explain what we don't like about the process and present ways it could be improved, there's a serious chance those suggestions could be adopted. Only registering one's dislike of the process will not change anything.

Sine A. noted that Athletics held news conferences after Phase One; no one else did. Athletics controlled the conversation. If news conferences could be done at each phase for each program, then perhaps academics could get more attention than athletics.

B. President-Elect's Remarks - Chris Fallen [Timestamp: 08:50 on the recording.]

Chris welcomed everyone and noted the presence of former Mayer Luke Hopkins and a candidate for state senate among the public visitors.

He noted the goal of improving communication by moving to editable Google Docs with the agenda, as well as dealing with the governance office budget reductions. Communicating via Google Docs (via the Comments feature) also allows for direct communication among senators, rather than requiring Jayne to function in the middle.

Chris reminded the members of their core mission as written in the Faculty Senate Constitution. Keeping a sharper focus on the core mission of the Senate is another way of being able to do more with fewer resources. He read the following portion from the preamble, and encouraged senators to read through the rest of the articles of the document:

Under Board of Regents' Policy, the University of Alaska Fairbanks Faculty Senate is formed so that the faculty may carry out its professional responsibility as the legislative body of the University of Alaska Fairbanks in matters of instruction, research/creative activity, and service.

He also reminded members to read the charges for their respective committees in the Faculty Senate Bylaws. The charge of the Administrative Committee, for example, is to prepare the senate agenda and materials for the efficient operation of the senate.

IV A. Interim Chancellor's Remarks - Dana Thomas [Timestamp: 11:22 on recording.]

Chancellor Thomas welcomed everyone, thanking them for their service on the Senate. He noted he has returned to UAF because it's a pivotal year in its history with regard to Strategic Pathways and the budget situation. He recapped his long history with UA and UAF as a past student, faculty member for 28 years, department chair for Mathematics and Statistics, vice provost and accreditation liaison officer, and UA vice president for academic affairs and research, before retiring in 2014. President Johnsen asked him to return to UAF as interim chancellor, and he was happy to accept the role.

He shared some good news on the status of Alumni Drive which will go back to its normal configuration on or about September 25. He noted that UAF is now listed as a US News and World Report Tier 1 national institution for the first time. Backpackers Magazine named UAF as the number 1 institution for backpackers and outdoor activities.

Enrollment data to date is down a bit, but not as far down as UAA and UAS. It's down more in the vocational/technical/certificate/associates areas. It's flat on campus. Enrollment is up at School of Management, the College of Natural Science and Mathematics, and at the Kuskokwim Campus. We're also enrolling more UA Scholars than before.

He mentioned business items coming up with regard to UAF at the Board of Regents' meeting. These include the name change for the School of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences to the College of Fisheries and Ocean Sciences. The Board will also hear from the President and Chancellor Thomas concerning the single vs. separate accreditation.

emphasized that she wants to be accessible to faculty and listen to their concerns and viewpoints. Of course she can't say yes to every request, but does want to know what their needs and challenges are. She will be scheduling visits to some of the units and departments with greater anticipated concerns. But, individual faculty can schedule appointments with her office, and she is always available via email.

C. Senate Members' Questions / Comments (2 Min.)

No comments were made by the senate members.

V Public Comment

No public comments were made.

VI Governance Reports

A. Staff Council - Faye Gallant [Timestamp: 21:48 on the recording.]

President Gallant spoke about staff concerns regarding Strategic Pathways and single accreditation. She shared that SC Vice President Nate Bauer is chairing Staff Alliance this year. She noted that SC elections coming up and asked that faculty encourage their staff to become involved in governance. She also reported that SC will be focusing on furloughs which are being used at three units this year, particularly because there is a difference in how leave accrual works for exempt vs. non-exempt staff under furloughs.

B. ASUAF - Colby Freel ([ASUAF Report](#) linked) [Timestamp: 24:58 on the recording.]

Colby Freel, ASUAF student body president, introduced 141 0 Td [linyualuon t Tc37841 re.8har(ha)10.5()11.

general membership meeting on Sept. 21. Tony Rickard, chief negotiator, will give presentation. She also mentioned the newly re-designed union web site at: <http://unitedacademics.net/>

Chris F. asked if the negotiation team roster is available on the UNAC web site. Chris C. didn't think it was posted there yet, but recapped the membership and noted one change made since she shared about it last spring. Anna L. asked how membership will be kept informed on the negotiations. Chris C. reiterated the Sept. 21 meeting is being held so members can talk with the chief negotiator, and periodic updates will be sent out to the membership as per past practice.

UNAD - Katie Boylan [Timestamp 33:10 on the recording.]

Orion noted that Katie did submit a written report. Katie announced they have an e-Board meeting coming up in which they'll receive negotiation training. She noted a radio program that was done by Sine Anahita which provided information pertinent to adjuncts. She hosted interviews with Provost Henrichs, Kate Quick and Katie herself. It aired on Labor Day on KWRK, and offered a balanced perspective and provided awareness about adjuncts at UAF. It's been recorded online: https://soundcloud.com/sine_anahita/adjunct-instructors

UAFT - Kate Quick [Timestamp 34:40 on the recording.]

Kate reported that an e-board meeting was held last Friday

critical to change our education culture within the state. Everyone shares in the responsibility to enhance the state's education future, which can be furthered by growing our own teachers.

Anna L. asked if there are specific plans to educate our state legislators this year, in light of the

IX Guest: Laura McCollough, Dean of Students [Timestamp 1:04:16 on the recording.]

Laura McCollough, dean of students, provided a handout to the group which shares her goals. (The handout has been posted on the [FS Meetings page](#).) She invited feedback and suggestions to help her make sure she is working effectively on things of concern to the faculty. She spoke about the Behavioral Intervention Team (BIT) and its membership, and shared briefly about speaking at Terrance Cole's class on the Haven training.

X Discussion Items

A. [Faculty Alliance Reports](#) – (linked to Senate web site where documents are posted)

Orion commented about the reports provided by Faculty Alliance. Faculty Alliance has teleconferences every two weeks, and Orion and Chris are available to take feedback and comments from the Faculty Senate back to those meetings.

B. Q&A with Dana Thomas [Timestamp 1:30:10 on the recording.]

Chancellor Thomas spoke about the Haven training requirement and fee imposed on students if it's not completed. He provided some background of the decisions behind the fee which has increased the response rate from 12% up to about 80+%. He also talked about the suggestion that came from the Coalition of Student Leaders, which Colby mentioned in his comments, to have a required General Education course. This has implications because BOR Policy requires General Education requirements to be the same across the system. However, this would not reach the students in two-year programs, or graduate students, for example. Having heard from the students, Chancellor Thomas and campus leadership would like input from the Faculty Senate about what they think is the right direction.

Sine A. reiterated concerns that she had written about in a Daily News-Miner letter to the editor. The training is not of sufficient quality and includes a very intrusive questionnaire which further traumatizes students who have been previously victimized. The director and associate director of Student Health & Counseling have met with leadership to communicate their concerns about re-traumatizing victims by further imposing a fine on them if they refuse to take the training. This potentially leaves them unable to enroll in a future semester, on top of that.

Chancellor Thomas mentioned that because UAF is leading the nation in moving forward with Title IX as President Johnsen had noted, an increase in the reporting of cases is actually expected as students see the process starting to work and gain confidence in it. He asked for faculty help in finding a good path through the process of improving education in this area.

Jak M. commented that a carrot is needed, not a stick. She also asked about the possibility of creating the training in-house rather than utilizing a for-profit company which then has access to students' private information. She suggested asking departments to step up and create something.

Ken A. commented about the potential to create ill-will among the students on this matter. This ill-will could also affect the credibility of the results.

Siri T. asked how the success of this training would be judged. She inquired about having more than just one training

Core Review - Andy Seitz, Convener
Curriculum Review - Rainer Newberry, Chair
Student Academic Development and Achievement
- Sandra Wildfeuer, Chair ([Minutes of 04/20/2016](#) linked)
Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement
- Franz Meyer, Chair ([Minutes of 05/03/2016](#) linked)
Graduate Academic and Advisory - Donie Bret-Harte, Chair
Sean Topkok, Co-Chair ([Minutes of 04/20/2016](#) linked)
Research Advisory Committee - Jamie Clark, Gordon Williams
- Co-Chairs
Information Technology Committee - Rorik Peterson, Convener
C. Research Report - Vice Chancellor for Research Larry Hinzman
([VCR Report](#) linked.)

XIII Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 PM.

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If you participate via telephone without a nationwide calling plan, toll charges
apply:

Dial: +1 408 638 0968 (US Toll) or +1 646 558 8656 (US Toll)
Meeting ID: 820 735 444

Adcom Discussion Item: Single Accreditation Resolution

Submitted by Faculty Senate President Orion Lawlor

Text of the resolution:

After much discussion and several motions, the resolution was approved as follows:

FINAL VERSION:

Regarding the recent Thomas report analyzing single accreditation [1], we agree that "Single accreditation is neither necessary nor sufficient to achieve cost savings, enhance the student experience, or improve state higher education performance measures."

We agree that the transition to single accreditation would be extremely complex and time-consuming, and the disruption due to this transition would not help the university serve its mission.

We agree that under separate accreditation, faculty at each institution can currently tailor their courses and curriculum to better meet the diverse needs of their students, rather than needing to obtain statewide approval for each new course. This sort of specialization is key to attracting potential students, who may be difficult to reach with a single "one size fits all" solution.

We support the recommendation to develop efficient organizational structures to facilitate cooperation among campuses.

We recommend the Board of Regents use the report to inform the legislature of the negative consequences of single accreditation. The Faculty Senate does not support single accreditation.

[1] Dr. Dana Thomas, "An Assessment of Single Accreditation versus Three Separate Accreditations for the University of Alaska's Three Universities," July 26, 2016.

The following was passed, as amended, at Faculty Senate Meeting #216 on Sept. 12, 2016:

RESOLUTION:

Regarding the recent Thomas report analyzing single accreditation