

# ALASKA COLLEGE OF EDUCATION STEERING COMMITTEE

Friday, October 27, 2017  
8:30 – 10:30 AM

## MEETING NOTES

### **Members present:**

#### UAS

Chancellor Rick Caulfield (chair)  
Provost Karen Carey  
Dr. Katy Spangler  
Dr. Vigil Fredenberg  
Ernestine Hayes

#### UAF

Provost Susan Henrichs  
Interim Dean Steve Atwater  
Dr. Amy Vinlove  
Dr. Sean Topkok  
Diane Kardash

#### UAA

Dr. Cathy Coulter  
Dr. Jonathan Bartels

**Members absent:** Interim Chancellor Sam Gingerich, Diane Kardash, Paul Ongtooguk

Meeting notes taken by Keni Campbell, Chancellor's Executive Assistant

### **1. Welcome/review of agenda**

Chair Rick Caulfield welcomed members and the agenda was reviewed.

### **2. Reminder about recording of meeting**

Chancellor Caulfield reminded the committee that the meeting will be recorded and a live stream link high school been shared non-members to listen in, as disseminated by the Steering Committee members to interested people. Livestream link is <http://www.kaltura.com/tiny/g381e> and this is also added to the website. It is also being recorded by videoconferencing services.

### **3. Review of previous meeting notes, October 13, 2017**

S. Atwater commented regarding possibly striking reference to the data analyst position. The meeting notes will be finalized and posted to the web.

### **4. Discussion: Plans for recruitment of AKCOE Executive Dean**

Chair Caulfield thanked everyone for providing input on the recruitment posting for the new Executive Dean position. Additional comments due by Monday, October 30 at 12:00 PM so that the job can be posted. This will be a national search, with advertising in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*. Chair Caulfield asked the committee to share any ideas for other venues for advertising the position. This recruitment will remain open until filled, and the first review date is Monday, November 27. Realistically, interviews will likely be set up for January for semi-finalists. President Johnsen approved bringing up to five people to Alaska for in-person interviews. This group, then renamed the Teacher Education Council, will serve as a screening team.

Katy noted that the faculty she has polled have been adamant about inclusion of faculty or administrator experience in the required section of the recruitment, and not in the preferred.

Chair Caulfield noted that there will be ample opportunity to consider how to strike the right balance with those who apply. He wants to cast a wide net and see who applies. In the end, everyone will have an opportunity to interview the semifinalists and provide input. It was noted that John Pugh did not have this qualification yet was an excellent dean, and ultimately chancellor. The Executive Dean will be a UAS employee who reports solely to the chancellor. As chair, he invites input and reassured the steering committee that he is not ignoring this suggestion, but simply casting a wider net. This committee has an opportunity for input but not the final authority. As UAS Chancellor, Chair Caulfield will make the final choice. He expects there will be a robust discussion once candidates come forward.

## **5. Discussion: Accreditation, substantial change, and approval from NWCCU**

J. Bartels asked for clarification regarding how the new plan relates to accreditation and substantial change. C. Coulter asked what the purpose is for putting the education programs under other divisions and stepping away from a substantive change in relation to the wider goal of the President's charge to increase the number of teachers trained in the state of Alaska.

Chair Caulfield said he and President Johnsen have had conversations with the president of the NWCCU regarding this topic. The thought is that it does not rise to the level of substantial change as thought before, but rather a more routine process involving renaming the education schools at each MAU and their being subsumed into other existing colleges at each university. This will require approval of the Board of Regents, as they have authority regarding naming schools and colleges. S. Henrichs noted it is also her understanding that this approach is satisfactory with NWCCU, and UAF is going to proceed with that plan. She expects at the March BOR meeting each MAU will present its changes for approval, then each will write to the commission separately, describing the approved changes. Ultimately it is the decision of NWCCU whether this is considered a substantive change, but it is also her understanding that this sort of reorganization would not rise to that level. However, there are caveats to that regarding fiscal and administrative control over UAF programs. K. Carey noted that the changes at UAA and UAF will be similar to the process UAS just went through with the School of Management being absorbed into the School of Arts and Sciences, and all programs remaining intact. The commission viewed that as a minor change as it did not affect faculty or students and there were no fiscal implications. President Johnsen outlined the new charge in his October 3, 2017 memo to Chancellors Caulfield, White, and Gingerich:

<http://www.uas.alaska.edu/chancellor/pdf/alaska-college-of-education-documents/Presidents%20AKCOE%20Charge.pdf>

Chair Caulfield noted that the Board is looking for greater coordination of effort, which is reflected by the work of this committee, as well as the faculty meetings, alignment and coordination where it makes sense, but also looking for innovative opportunities to coordinate even more in the future. In addition to the working groups for Elementary, Secondary, and Graduate programs, Chair Caulfield is trying to gather a Research faculty group to discuss what can be more coordinated, encouraging transparency and collaboration between the three universities. C. Coulter said there have been good conversations happening in good faith but she thinks that it will be counterproductive to collapse the other two entities, and believes there will be less autonomy at UAF and UAA.

**6. Update on initial marketing campaign: Enhancing recruitment of Alaskan educators**

President Johnsen has allocated funds for marketing teacher education. A phone meeting was held with Robbie Graham, Several of us joined in a call with Robbie Graham, Associate Vice President for the Office of Public Affairs, who is coordinating a larger campaign for UA as a whole, teacher education being a part of that. Chair Caulfield, S. Atwater, E. Hayes, and K. Spangler participated. Robbie discussed this campaign at being at a very high level perspective, and asked what message would want to send to the members of the public and Alaska about becoming a professional in education in Alaska. This was a brainstorming session.

S. Atwater noted that this campaign is fast and furious, and he wished that there would be an opportunity to use a focus group. Robbie said that although for this particular campaign there is not enough time or money to make that happen, it would be good to have that in the long term plan.

E. Hayes appreciated being able to participate in the session, thinks that Robbie is a creative thinker who invites innovative ideas. The group spent time looking for a catch phrase, and discussed something that might attach itself to the Alaska Grown themes, something that will bring the university and Alaskan-educated teachers to mind when they see that quick phrase.

Chair Caulfield noted that the president is willing to put money into it, and this campaign is going to feature radio, television, social media, and movie theater ads. There is a request in the FY19 budget for more marketing funds for teacher education. He sees this as being a long-term plan, perhaps five years or more, sustained, with the ability to modify the message over time. He looks to this committee and the external advisory council as a venue for those conversations, and perhaps use of focus groups with students and others to guide these efforts.

S. Atwater commented that at a recent event for prospective freshmen, very few students came to talk to him about education vs. other career paths. Teaching is not seen as a popular draw and changing it will require a long-term initiative with multiple approaches.

**7. Transition to UA Teacher Education Council: anticipated Spring 2018 meetings**

The steering committee will transition to the UA Teacher Education Council beginning January 1, 2018. Chair Caulfield asked the committee to consider whether they want to continue on the committee into the spring. There would need to be workload arrangements for faculty. The hope is to have a data person dedicated to Education, and Chair Caulfield would like to include this person on the committee. V. Fredenberg noted that he will not be continuing on the committee. He has a very large STEM project that will fill his time, but Lisa Richardson has said she could take his place. Katy noted that she will remain on the committee. Chair Caulfield expects that all three provosts will continue.

Currently the group meets mostly every other Friday morning, adjusting where needed depending on schedules. January screening of executive dean candidates will affect timing of meetings, but generally every other Friday morning works for the group. Spring Start-Up is January 9, and the first day of instruction is January 16. Chair Caulfield said as a starting point, the group will start spring meetings on Friday, January 12, then following with every 2 weeks as much as possible. His staff will lay out the dates for spring based on this, and have that information available at the December 8 meeting.

**8. Planning and anticipated budgets for Spring 2018 faculty face-to-face meetings**

Committee members have consulted with various faculty constituent groups on timing

Group	Possible Date Range	Location	Number in Group	Committee Member
Special Ed	February 5-7	Anchorage	7	S. Atwater
Secondary	March 19-April 13, on a Friday	Fairbanks	10	J. Bartels
Elementary	February 2 (preferred) or March 30	Anchorage	24	K. Spangler
Graduate	Late February or March	TBD	16	C. Coulter

Chair Caulfield is mindful of the charge of the groups, and would want to continue if this is still felt to be valuable. He asked the leads to get an idea of what the general sentiment was regarding where, when, if at all.

Chair Caulfield suggested a new working group for faculty involved with education research, to compare notes and collaborate. All agree that this is an integral part of the work of UA Education. The group could be self-selected. He has heard strong interest in ensuring the research mission is retained and enhanced, with an goal of alignment, transparency, and sharing information. A. Vinlove suggested looping in CAEP outreach.

Chair Caulfield asked S. Atwater to develop a list of individuals, in consultation with others, of who to include in a meeting of that sort from UAF, and asked C. Coulter to do the same at UAA, then send those lists to him. He will want an approximate number of people and their locations in order to choose a meeting location and budget for travel expenses.

**9. Wrap-up and review of future Steering Committee meeting schedule**

Next meeting is Friday, December 8, 2017 from 8:30-10:30 AM. There is no November meeting due to the Board of Regents Meeting and Thanksgiving.

Chancellor Caulfield noted that Simone Jagers-Radolf is no longer with the university and Keni Campbell will provide support to the group for now.