

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 16, 2008

TO: John Pugh, Chancellor

FROM: Jill Dumesnil, Faculty Senate President

SUBJECT: Senate Motions of November 14, 2008

At the regularly scheduled Faculty Senate meeting of November 7, there was a general discussion of MAU climate and faculty morale. A subcommittee was appointed to draft a Senate position statement. A special Faculty Senate meeting was called to receive the subcommittee report Friday November 14th at 3:00pm. At that meeting last Friday, the Senate passed three motions pertaining to issues involving shared governance at UAS.

The first motion states our disappointment with the current diminished role of faculty in governance and asserts our intention to restore the faculty role in shared governance at UAS as is our responsibility according to the UAS Senate Constitution. I have attached a copy of that constitution for your reference and convenience.

The Senate is optimistic that with your public support and commitment, shared governance at UAS will resume. Therefore, the second motion requests that at Monday's meeting of the Chancellor's Cabinet you publicly affirm the principles of shared governance at UAS as articulated in Board of Regents Policy P03.01.010 and UAS Constitution for Faculty Governance and to express your commitment to include faculty in all of the decisions pertaining to the Faculty Senate's responsibilities specified in the aforementioned documents.

Finally, the Senate directed me to appoint an ad hoc committee to monitor and document specific events and issues pertaining to shared governance at UAS. With your support, I am confident that this committee will soon find many positive instances in which shared governance has been restored at UAS.

The Faculty Senate looks forward to working with you in the spirit of shared governance to continue to improve experience that students are afforded at UAS.

Attachments: UAS Constitution for Faculty Governance, Board of Regents' Policy 03.01.01

MOTION RELATING TO SHARED GOVERNANCE AT UAS

MOTION: passed unanimously

We, the faculty of UAS, are committed to the health and continuing development of the University of Alaska Southeast. In order to address the numerous challenges UAS faces, it is imperative for faculty and administration to work together. The mechanism for doing so is clearly outlined in the UAS Constitution for Faculty Governance.

Because of long-term systematic exclusion of UAS faculty from any meaningful role in the affairs of the University, shared governance has been catastrophically diminished. This crisis is pushing already low faculty morale past a sustainable level for faculty and student retention. Further, because NWCCU accreditation standards clearly state the importance of shared governance, this problem must be solved before the upcoming reaccreditation visit.

Therefore UAS faculty are adamant in directing the Senate to restore the faculty role in shared governance at UAS, so that UAS operates in accordance with the UAS Constitution for Faculty Governance, especially as stipulated in Article II Section 4, Responsibilities.

Be it resolved that the UAS Faculty Senate asserts its right to participate in every decision specified as a Faculty Senate responsibility in the UAS Constitution for Faculty Governance. The UAS administration will notify the Senate in a timely manner of any meeting which includes issues related to the Faculty Senate's constitutional responsibilities.

APPROVED: _____
DATE: _____

DISAPPROVED: _____
DATE: _____

COMMENTS:



MOTION RELATING TO PUBLIC AFFIRMATION OF SHARED GOVERNANCE

MOTION: passed unanimously

The Faculty Senate asks the Chancellor at the November 17 Chancellor’s Cabinet meeting to publicly affirm the principles of shared governance at UAS as articulated in Board of Regents Policy P03.01.010 and UAS Constitution for Faculty Governance and to express his commitment to include faculty in all of the decisions pertaining to the Faculty Senate’s responsibilities specified in the aforementioned documents.

APPROVED: _____
DATE: _____

DISAPPROVED: _____
DATE: _____

COMMENTS:



MOTION RELATING TO SENATE COMMITTEE ON SHARED GOVERNANCE

MOTION: passed unanimously

The Faculty Senate directs the Senate President to appoint an ad hoc faculty committee to monitor and document specific events and issues pertaining to shared governance at UAS.

APPROVED: _____
DATE: _____

DISAPPROVED: _____
DATE: _____

COMMENTS: