

SENATE FACULTY MEETING MINUTES

FRIDAY November 7, 2008

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1. **Call to Order** and Roll Call (3:00pm)

Senators: John Radzilowski (for Priscilla Shulte), David Noon, Kevin Maier (for Jeremy Kane), Matt Heavner, Rick Wolk, Tony Martin, Caroline Hassler. Leslie Gordon, Jill Dumesnil, Mary Claire Tarlow, Rick McDonald, Chip McMillan

Guests: Nina Chordas, Rosemary Walling, Stephanie Ashley, Mark Speece, Karen Mitchell, Jim Everett, Maria Moya, Cathy Connor, Brian Blitz

2. **Agenda Adopted**

3. October 3, 2008 **minutes approved**

4. **Update from Interim Provost** – James Everett

Statewide- The 2nd version of the academic master plan charge has been received from Dan Julius. President Dumesnil said two Alliance members have seen it so far. While UAA and UAF already have MAU academic master plans, UAS has a strategic plan. This is an opportunity for UAS to develop its teaching and learning plan.

Administrative Fellows Program: This is an initiative funded by the Statewide Academic Vice President. MAUs will identify individuals to work with the Academic VP on statewide issues, including distance education, governance, and training. Such a role will include occasional visits to Fairbanks. The Provost will make a recommendation and asks interested individuals to contact Maria Moya. Workloads will be addressed by faculty, provost and dean. Maria Moya will send out information.

Accreditation: Robbie Stell and Mary Lou Madden will lead the creation of the UAS report. The critical issue is to evaluate how our actions impact students. We are the last institution to be evaluated under the older standards. Quantifiable measurements will be required. Current schedule: February draft of self study accreditation report followed by a month of comments by the campus community. A revised document will be re-distributed for final comments. The final report is anticipated to be completed by end of July. In October 2009 the accreditation visitation will happen. Increasingly, disciplinary experts are visitors.

Teaching and Learning Grant Fund- The Provost stated he had presented this to several departments.

Transition planning for Arts and Sciences Dean- This will be a three step process. 1) Provost is Interim Dean for shortest period possible. 2) He hopes to appoint an Acting Dean by January. 3) Search for permanent Dean: The Provost will appoint a screening committee that reviews applicants identified by private search firm.

5. Input from Assembly members

Matt asked about faculty input to interim appointment. Jim said he did not have that process down.

Cathy asked about who would write Dean's evaluation of faculty. Jim said Statewide will make a recommendation for how to proceed.

Brian asked who would advocate for the faculty without a Dean. Provost said that was a difficult question. There is no one at this time other than himself.

6. Report from President – Jill Dumesnil

6.1 Board of Regents – met 10/31 and approved UA FY10 Budget

Press release is on portfolio site. The University will ask for an increase, much of which is for deferred maintenance and renovation and also for K-12 outreach.

6.2 Faculty Alliance – met 10/29

The Alliance spent time with President Hamilton and with John Monehan, who is spearheading the study on Distance Education. The Alliance requested specific clarification on the Academic Master Plan charge; a new draft has been prepared. The plan is supposed to be completed by June. Alliance also passed a motion regarding the dismissal of the UAS Dean of Arts and Sciences.

6.3 Faculty Assembly Meeting(s)

6.3a Scholarship of Teaching and Learning

In the Assembly meeting, Chancellor Pugh mischaracterized the teaching and learning matrix. It is simply a template for evaluating the teaching part of faculty workload and specifically mentions other areas of faculty workload, namely research and service.

Some faculty expressed concern about how the Chancellor and Provost are portraying our future. Jill thought that some of that was connected with the upcoming accreditation process and some from a concern of how a budget crunch might affect UAS. Another member noted that low enrollment, and therefore tuition is feared to cause cutbacks in the current year. Another member expressed concern about the Chancellor's goal for 1,000 full time residential students. Further concern was expressed about general faculty morale.

7. Old Business

7.1 GER Discussion/Proposal – Rick Wolk

Proposal for BA151 to be included as a general GER. A motion was made to move this to curriculum committee. Approved with two abstentions (Heavener and Maier)

8. New Business

8.1 Graduate Curriculum Proposals – Kathy DiLorenzo/Rick Wolk

8.1a Graduate Certificate in Business - Senate action is not required, but input was solicited. None was given and the proposal will move to Graduate Committee.

8.2 Other New Business

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.

9. Next Regular Faculty Senate Meeting: December 5, 2008

10. Adjournment 5:20pm