

University of Alaska Southeast
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes

February 5, 2021 3:00 – 5:00

President – D. Noon	X	Juneau Campus – F. Wagner	X
Past President – H. Batchelder	X	Ketchikan Campus – R. Landis	X
President Elect – A. Dewees	X	Library – J. Ward	X
Education – G. Sampson	X	Natural Sciences – S. Nagorski	X
Business & Public Administration – M. Boyer	X	Sitka Campus – J. Martin	X
Career Education – J. Fantasia	X	Social Sciences – D. Monteith	X
Humanities – K. Krein	X	Vice Provost – M. Haavig	X

Guests: C. Brown, D. Cox, R. Gilcrist, K. Spencer

- I. Call to Order (TC 3:00)** – The meeting was called to order at 3:02 PM.
- II. Introductions (TC 3:15)**
- III. Announcements (TC 5:45)**
 - D. Noon highlighted the retention project that K. Handley and L. Klein are coordinating. Reach out to them if you are interested in participating.
 - C. Brown announced that the United Academics (UNAC) representative assembly is accepting nominations through March 15, and encouraged faculty to consider nominating themselves or a colleague. Because of the loss of Cyndee West, the Contract Manager position is open and applications are encouraged. The position will be located in either Anchorage or Fairbanks, and C. Brown is chairing the search. Please see C. Brown’s recent email for more information and links.
 - J. Brown announced that the library currently has limited open hours for UAS affiliates, and swipe access is required. If you have research projects for your students, you can invite a librarian to give a talk on accessing resources.
 - There is a CELT workshop upcoming on Difficult Discussions.
- IV. Approval of Agenda (TC 10:10)** – *K. Krein moved to approve the agenda. J. Fantasia seconded. The motion passed without objection.*
- V. Approval of December Meeting Minutes (TC 10:55)** – M. Haavig noted that the Dual Enrollment document is helpful, but it would be good to get a regular update from J. Markis. *D. Monteith moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. R. Landis seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*
- VI. President’s Report (TC 14:05)** – D. Noon noted the tremendous loss due to the passing of Cyndee West.
 - D. Noon continues to represent Faculty Senate at the Juneau Community Advisory meetings and the campus COVID meetings. Faculty Alliance (FA) has met a few times since the December meeting. Consultant D. Bishko is working with statewide on the administrative review project and will be presenting to the Board of Regents (BOR) later this month. Addressing the loss of Alaska Native faculty remains a high priority at FA. Changes in the administrative support for governance groups at statewide is being discussed and there may be action items on that in the future. D. Anderson was reappointed as a regent by the governor, and G. O’Neil was replaced by R. Seekins.

Concerns about the lack of diversity on the BOR will be discussed later in the meeting. Currently there is not a student regent, as C. Garrett was never confirmed. A slate of new student regent candidates will be presented to the governor. H. Batchelder reported that D. Bishko met with J. Potter and will meet with the faculty on the statewide administrative review team (I. Hartman of UAA, D. Misra of UAF, and K. Krein of UAS). D. Noon noted that enrollment remains of highest priority with UAS leadership and President Pitney. The update process for the faculty handbook is underway. A. Dewees encouraged faculty input to the administrative reviews and the handbook. K. Spencer reported that she is one of the candidates for the student regent position and that placing a student leader into that vacancy as an interim is being discussed.

VII. Provost's Report (TC 29:30) – The Interim Vice Provost's report is in the shared drive. M. Haavig highlighted the following

- The BOR Academic and Student Affairs committee meets on February 18 in advance of the full BOR meetings. Possible restructuring of the Schools of Education will be discussed.
- UAS is still planning on fall 2021 being more normal with regard to face-to-face classes, housing, and student services. The COVID team will monitor vaccination rates and public health guidance and will adjust fall plans if needed.
- With regard to the expedited review of our academic structure, reports from administrative leaders are due today. The committee will meet on February 16 and plan to have recommendations to the chancellor by February 26. Faculty on the committee are H. Batchelder, M. Jackson, K. Krein, L. Twitchell, and A. Ziegler if you wish to share any input.
- The eLearning subcommittee of Academic Council is reviewing SW solutions to online exam proctoring and will be making a recommendation by March 5. K. Matura, G. Wechter, and M. Chapman are working on that project.
- The Dean of Arts and Sciences recruitment was posted today.
- The former store space by the Lakeside Grill will likely become a Student Union type space. K. Spenser noted that Student Government and the Student Activities Board are working on soliciting student feedback about the project.

VIII. IT Report (TC 35:10) – C. Bennett's written update can be found on the shared drive.

IX. CELT Report (TC 35:45) – R. Gilcrist's written report is on the shared drive. The migration of Blackboard to the Software as a Service (SAAS) platform went pretty well. In response to current events, a workshop on difficult conversations and managing hot moments in the classroom has been planned for Friday February 12. Emily Ferry of the Alaska Association of School Boards will help facilitate, and registration is available through the [CELT site](#). Other upcoming opportunities are listed there as well. If your department would like training on accessibility or if you have any good ideas for workshops, please contact R. Gilcrist or K. Henrickson. The search for an Instructional Designer in Juneau continues. Senators expressed appreciation for the support provided by CELT during the pandemic.

X. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

- i. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) (TC 40:10)** – Category A Courses for Faculty Senate review are listed below and are in D. Cox's written report on the shared drive. The proposals are grouped for convenience in reviewing.

Course changes (first readings)

- CHEM S105L General Chemistry I Laboratory: Update course description (Hoferkamp).
- ENVS S102 *Earth and Environment: Remove cross-listing, and deactivate GEOG section (Amundson).
- ENVS S309A Mobile GIS Technology and Applications: Remove cross-listing, deactivate GEOG section, and update prerequisite (Amundson).
- ODS S243 Outdoor Studies and Leadership: Major updates; changes to course description, credits, prerequisites, course content by topic, grading criteria, and Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) (Wagner).

S. Nagorski moved to approve the four listed proposals for initial Faculty Senate review. D. Monteith seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

Alaska Native Language courses (second readings)

- **AKL S205** Intermediate Tlingit I: Make course a General Education Requirement (GER) (Twitchell).
- **AKL S206** Intermediate Tlingit II: Make course a GER (Twitchell).
- **AKL S207** Intermediate Haida I: Make course a GER (Twitchell).
- **AKL S208** Intermediate Haida II: Make course a GER (Twitchell).
- **AKL S371** Foundations of Indigenous Language Education: New Course proposal, *originally reviewed as AKL S375* (Twitchell).
- **AKL S415** Indigenous Language Instructional Strategies: New Course (Twitchell).
- **AKL S460** Indigenous Language Field Methods: New Course (Twitchell).

D. Monteith moved to approve the seven listed proposals for second reading by Faculty Senate. K. Krein seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

Changes to GER Courses (second readings)

- **ART S105** *Beginning Drawing: Add course to Arts GERs and align with UAF, updating course description and SLOs (Zacher).
- **ART S201** *Beginning Ceramics: Add course to Arts GERs and updates to the course description and SLOs (Zacher).
- **ART S261** *History of World Art I: Update course description and SLOs (Zacher).
- **ART S262** *History of World Art II: Update course description and SLOs (Zacher).
- **COMM S237** *Interpersonal Communication: Change prerequisite (Deweese).

D. Monteith moved to approve the five proposals for second review by Faculty Senate. K. Krein seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

New Education Courses (second readings)

- **EDSE S486** Special Education in the Alaskan Context: New course proposal, *originally reviewed as EDSE S402* (Andrews).
- **EDSE S487** Supporting Student Engagement: New course proposal, *originally reviewed as EDSE S481* "Understanding and Supporting Student Engagement" (Andrews).

K. Krein moved to approve the two proposals for second review by Faculty Senate. J. Ward seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

Faculty Senate review of minor course changes. D. Cox initiated discussion regarding whether Faculty Senate wishes to continue to conduct initial and final review of all GER changes or changes in courses that involve more than one program, particularly small changes to correct errors that would otherwise be considered Category C changes. Any

changes to how proposals are reviewed would need to be updated in the Curriculum Committee Handbook as well as the Curriculum Guide in the Faculty Handbook. Pros and cons of such changes were discussed by the senators. A lack of clarity on understanding exactly what the responsibilities of senators in reviewing proposals was expressed. No action was taken at this time.

Proposed Changes to BOR Policy and Regulation Relative to Post-Baccalaureate Certificates. – M. Haavig explained that the proposal has gone through both the UAA and UAF Faculty Senates. In addition to reducing the number of credits, it also delegates authority to approve these down to the chancellors. Currently UAS does not have any of these certificates. She also noted that the Graduate Curriculum Committee and the UGCC have reviewed and supported making these changes. The proposed changes are in the shared drive in a track changes document. H. Batchelder affirmed that Faculty Alliance is aware of the proposal. *K. Krein moved to endorse the changes to BOR policy regarding Post-Baccalaureate Certificates. F. Wagner seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

- ii. Graduate Curriculum Committee – No report.
- iii. Research and Creative Activities (RCA) Committee – No report.
- iv. **Sustainability Committee** (TC 1:16:30) – D. Noon shared information from H. Pearson. The group is working on improving the visibility of their efforts on their [website](#). They are focused on campus energy efficiency for cost savings, developing an MOU with Sustainable Juneau, and coordinating with the revitalized student sustainability club.

b. Other/Shared Governance

- i. Title IX – No report.

XI. Old Business

- **Professional Development Funds Update** (TC 1:18:15) – D. Noon gave an update on funds available through the provost's office. There is \$9000 still available in the Wilson Fund, and \$19,125.16 is still available in the CBA Article 15.9 Fund. This is unchanged since the previous month.

XII. New Business

- a. **[Faculty Regent Bill](#) in the AK Legislature** (TC 1:19:12) – D. Noon reported that Representative Wool has filed a bill that would amend the state constitution to allow for a faculty regent. As with other regents, the governor would be provided with a list from which he could make an appointment, and the regent would have a set term similar to the other regents. Legislative staff have suggested keeping criteria for selection separate to help prevent the bill from being bogged down. Issues such as whether the faculty member would need to be tenured could be crafted as separate recommendations if there is progress on the legislation. A letter from Faculty Alliance supporting a faculty regent is in the shared drive. C. Brown also shared a letter from United Academics that was delivered to the legislature in support. D. Noon asked if the UAS Faculty Senate would like to express support for a faculty regent to Faculty Alliance. *D. Monteith moved that the UAS Faculty Senate endorse the addition of a faculty regent to the BOR. K. Krein seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*
- b. **Faculty Senate Bylaw changes** (TC 1:33:45) – D. Noon noted the challenges the current bylaws present with regard to nominating a Faculty Senate President-Elect. He also noted that currently there is no provision for the senate to conduct any business in the summer. *D. Monteith proposed the changes listed below be reviewed with faculty, and*

senators be prepared to vote on them at the next meeting. R. Landis seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

Revise Chapter 2b: Bylaws for Faculty Governance

Section 2. ELECTIONS

C. Election of Officers

Strike item (2)

(2) It is the obligation of Faculty Senators from each academic faculty unit or campus to provide at least one nominee for that academic faculty unit or campus. Should this fail to produce a nomination, by default the current Faculty Senator from that unit or campus will automatically be nominated for President-Elect.

Amend item (4)

(4) Should the nomination process produce fewer than two candidates for President-Elect **not produce any nominees**, the following steps (numbers 5 through 9) become null and void. The current President-Elect, upon becoming President, will make the nomination and election of a President-Elect the first item of business at the Faculty Assembly meeting held during convocation of the current academic year. No further business may be conducted by the Faculty Assembly or the Faculty Senate until at least **two one** nominations **have has** been confirmed by the nominees and a schedule for elections has been agreed upon by members of the Faculty Assembly attending the Fall Convocation meeting (quorum not required).

Section 4. Terms of Office

Insert the following after Item A.

B. If special circumstances warrant conducting Faculty Senate business after the conclusion of the Spring term contract, the Faculty Senate President may convene a meeting with the previous year's Senators.

- c. **Post Baccalaureate Certificate – BOR policy change proposal** – (See UGCC item.)
 - d. **Regent Diversity** (TC 1:45:25) – D. Noon noted the loss of a female Alaska Native regent and sought feedback about communicating concerns about diversity. After discussion, President Noon agreed to draft a communication that can be reviewed at the next senate meeting.
- XIII.** Juneau Business
- XIV.** **Adjournment** (TC 1:54:22) – K. Krein moved to adjourn the meeting. J. Ward seconded. The meeting adjourned with unanimous consent.
- XV.** **Faculty Discussion** (TC 1:50:05) – Faculty asked for an update on the draft email discussed at the last meeting to P. Pitney regarding direct appointments. D. Noon will resend the link to the document so senators can provide feedback.