

University of Alaska Southeast
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes

March 5, 2021

3:00 – 5:00

President – D. Noon	X
Past President – H. Batchelder	X
President Elect – A. Dewees	X
Education – G. Sampson	X
Business & Public Administration – M. Boyer	X
Career Education – J. Fantasia	X
Humanities – K. Krein	X

Juneau Campus – F. Wagner	
Ketchikan Campus – R. Landis	X
Library – J. Ward	X
Natural Sciences – S. Nagorski	X
Sitka Campus – J. Martin	X
Social Sciences – D. Monteith	X
Interim Provost – M. Haavig	X

Guests: C. Bennett, C. Brown, D. Cox, R. Gilcrist, J. Lamb, M. Pope, J. Yauney

- I. **Call to Order** (TC 1:50) – The meeting was called to order at 3:02 PM.
- II. **Introductions** (TC 2:15)
- III. **Announcements** (TC 5:20)
 - a. **Faculty Excellence Awards:** The nomination period will open imminently, and the deadline for receiving nominations is April 7. There may be an additional category pending later items in the agenda. An email with instructions will be sent out shortly.
 - b. **There will be a COVID Town Hall on March 17.** Vaccine eligibility and availability have been increasing in Juneau so consider signing up if you have not yet done so.

C. Brown noted that the UNAC Elections deadline is coming up on March 15. There are two Representative Assembly positions and the Organizational VP for Juneau, so consider running or encourage others to run.
- IV. **Approval of Agenda** (TC 9:16) – The final version with links can be found in the shared drive. *S. Nagorski moved to approve the agenda. D. Monteith seconded. The motion passed without objection.*
- V. **Approval of February Meeting Minutes** (TC 10:05) – *J. Ward moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. J. Fantasia seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*
- VI. **Presentation – Post Covid Workplace Project** (TC 11:25) – M. Pope of UA Statewide HR and J. Yauney, Acting UAS Senior HR Business partner gave an overview of this project (handout on shared drive). M. Pope is leading this statewide team looking at what the post-pandemic workplace will look like. This includes trying to take advantage of the positive outcomes employees have experienced this past year while creating a policy and procedure framework for consistency and equity. D. Noon is among those on the project team. M. Pope noted that the focus is on laying a foundation for each unit to make good decisions moving forward. The committee will not be looking at anything instructional, nor will they be making any decisions about space utilization or the timeline for transitioning through the post pandemic operational phases. In addition to the project team, they are tapping into a team of technical experts that can provide guidance on areas such as risk management, IT and other key areas of concern. They are also recruiting members to be part of a monitoring team to provide feedback and ensure all stakeholders are represented. They hope to identify at least one and up to two UAS faculty members to serve on the transition monitoring team. She estimates that the work would not exceed five hours per week. If you are interested in serving, please let D. Noon know.

VII. President's Report (TC 24:59) – D. Noon noted that he has been chairing the handbook committee and the edits will be considered for action later in the agenda. Many people have helped with updating the various content areas.

He has been participating in the Post Covid Workplace project that was just described, and participates in the UAS COVID response incident team meetings.

Faculty Alliance (FA) continues to look for ways to address the loss of Alaska Native faculty. Other current FA concerns include the ongoing administrative structure reviews, the bill in the legislature regarding creating a faculty seat on the Board of Regents (BOR), and the lack of a voting student regent on the BOR. K. Spencer of UAS is one of the candidates to fill the student vacancy and has strong support from faculty who have worked with her. The FA retreat is scheduled for next week. P. Pitney, P. Layer, and M. Williams will be part of the retreat. M. Pope will also present on the Post Covid Workplace Project. H. Batchelder shared concerns that some tenured faculty have with regard to potential job loss.

D. Noon noted that it is time to identify next year's senate representatives including campus senators.

VIII. Provost's Report (TC 32:23) – The Interim Provost's report is in the shared drive. M. Haavig highlighted the following.

- The Power and Privilege Symposium has been suspended for this year. Please see the memo about this in the shared drive.
- Chancellor Carey has announced that commencement will be virtual this year and all graduation fees are being refunded.
- UAS is going to begin participating in the graduate program (WRPG) of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE), which will allow graduate students from participating locations to pay in-state tuition rates.
- The Academic and Student Affairs committee and the BOR took action on requests regarding Post Baccalaureate programs and Accelerated Masters programs. They approved reducing the minimum number of credits for the certificates to twelve but only reduced the maximum number to forty-five (rather than thirty). They did not delegate authority over those certificates to the chancellors. The changes to the Accelerated Masters programs went through, and up to twelve upper level credits (rather than nine) can be applied to master's degrees.
- The Dual Enrollment Workgroup continues to meet monthly. A report regarding student success was prepared recently and can be found in the shared drive. Please look at the report and feel free to share it with your colleagues.
- The structure of teacher preparation programs in the system is changing. The current model developed under the Strategic Pathways framework is not working and several workgroups have been meeting on various aspects of the future structure. P. Pitney will provide a report to the BOR in June after soliciting input from program faculty and administrators. UAS may retain some shared functions such as data management.
- UAS still hopes to have a more normal fall with regard to course offerings and student services.

IX. IT Report (TC 40:12) – C. Bennett's written update can be found on the shared drive.

- UAS has been helping with developmental work in the system on a security product that uses multi-factor authentication.

- Another current project is ensuring that we do not exhaust our Zoom license capacity by managing the types of accounts people are assigned and decommissioning unused accounts.
 - M. Hopson is leading another effort that is looking at how to better manage accounts for those with more than one role such as being an employee and a student.
 - An additional generator will be coming on line for the Fairbanks data center to help with operations in case of power failures. Some short-term outages will happen as that system is brought on line. Cloud based services will not be affected.
 - D. Grimes recently sent the annual request about software to be included in the build for next year.
- X. CELT Report (TC 50:55)** – R. Gilcrist’s written report is on the shared drive. The CELT team continues to meet a couple of times a month. The next CELT program is on March 15 at 11:00 on Culturally Responsive Teaching Techniques. Another is tentatively planned through the Magna program on April 9 on Teaching Underprepared Students.
- She noted that CELT is a great resource for accessibility needs. CELT is soliciting ideas for presentations for fall convocation, so please think about topics that might be helpful.
 - The Instructional Designer position is still open in Juneau.
 - Zoom releases frequent updates and it is a good idea to check weekly in your settings to see if anything new can be downloaded and installed.

XI. Committee Reports

c. Standing Committees

- i. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) (TC 56:25)** – D. Cox’s written report is on the shared drive. It includes a number of Category B proposals that have passed this year. Category A courses and programs for final Faculty Senate review from the report are listed below. All have passed initial Faculty Senate review and first and second readings by the committee. The proposals are grouped for convenience in reviewing.

AKL Courses and Program:

- **AKL S209 *Intermediate Tsimshian I.** Category A. New General Education Requirement (GER) course. (Twitchell)
- **AKL S210 *Intermediate Tsimshian II.** Category A. New GER course. (Twitchell)
- **AKL S309 Advanced Tsimshian I.** Category A. New course. (Twitchell)
- **AKL S310 Advanced Tsimshian II.** Category A. New course (Twitchell)
- **AKL S410 Indigenous Language Curriculum Design & Instruction.** Category A. Change title, description, and Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs). (Twitchell)
- **AKL S471 Indigenous Language Teacher Apprenticeship.** Category A. New course; *originally reviewed as AKL S475 Indigenous Language Teacher Mentorship.* (Twitchell)
- **AKL S490 Practicum in Indigenous Language Education.** Category A. New course. (Twitchell)
- **Indigenous Language Speaking Certificate.** Category A. New program. (Twitchell)

Program on the Environment:

- **ENVI S313 Sustainable Resource Management.** Category A. Formerly GEOG S313. Change course designator; update prerequisites, abbreviated title, description, and SLOs. (Amundson)
- **ENVI S350 Interdisciplinary Perspectives on Climate Change.** Category A. Formerly GEOG S350. Change course designator. (Amundson)
- **ENVS S102 *Earth and Environment. Category A.** Formerly cross-listed as GEOG S102. Remove cross- listing. (Amundson)
- **ENVS S309 Mobile GIS Technology and Applications.** Category A. Formerly cross-listed with GEOG S309. Remove cross listing; update course description and SLOs. (Amundson)
- **ENVS S309A Mobile GIS Technology and Applications.** Category A. Formerly cross-listed as GEOG S309A. Remove cross listing; update description. (Amundson)
- **ENVS S338 Introduction to GIS.** Category A. Formerly cross-listed with GEOG S338. Remove cross listing; update course title and SLOs. (Amundson)
- **ENVS S410 Advanced Geographic Information Systems. Category A.** Formerly cross-listed with GEOG S410; remove cross listing. (Amundson)

GER Updates:

- **ART S181 *Beginning Northwest Coast Indigenous Design.** Category A. Proposed Arts GER; update course description, delivery mode, and SLOs. *Originally reviewed as "Beginning Northwest Coast Design." (Zacher)*
- **CHEM S105 *General Chemistry I.** Category A. Update course description and prerequisite. (Hoferkamp)
- **CHEM S105L General Chemistry I Laboratory.** Category A. Edit course description and prerequisite. (Hoferkamp)
- **GEOL S104 *Physical Geology.** Category A. Update course description. (Nagorski)
- **HUM S120 *Cultures and Environments.** Category A. Update course title, description, delivery method, and SLOs. (Deweese)

S. Nagorski moved to approve all of the listed Category A proposals for second Faculty Senate reading. K. Krein seconded. The motion passes with no objections.

D. Cox led a review of the informational Category B items. He also noted that the committee representatives for next year are being determined at this time.

- ii. Graduate Curriculum Committee – No report.
 - iii. Research and Creative Activities (RCA) Committee – No report.
 - iv. Sustainability Committee (TC x) – No report.
- d. Other/Shared Governance
- i. Title IX – No report.

XII. Old Business

- a. **Open Educational Resources (OER) Faculty Excellence Award** (TC 1:09:10) – D. Noon noted that this idea has been discussed previously and was generally supported, but funding questions had been raised. He has done some follow up and learned that the cash awards are treated like a merit bonus, and hence come from the home department of the faculty (Note from A. Parrish: personnel budget lines are completely separate from non-personnel budget lines in our financial systems, so funding such awards would not impact supply or travel budgets of departments.) Information about this potential new award category is in the shared drive. J. Lamb led a discussion regarding how such a new award

could be implemented. *D. Cox (temporary proxy for J. Ward) moved that senate should include a new category in the Faculty Excellence Awards program for OERs. S. Nagorski seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

Also in the shared drive is a presentation regarding **No and Low Cost Course Markings**. (TC 1:25:50) J. Lamb led a discussion regarding implementing a practice of denoting courses in the schedule that have no or low material costs. Fairbanks is also working on implementing this. M. Haavig noted that our system allows for such an attribute to be added to course listings. Concerns about the threshold for distinguishing low cost sections were discussed, as were the variable costs of some resources. D. Monteith suggested separating the two concepts and phasing in a no cost designation. D. Noon asked senators to discuss this issue with their faculty and be prepared to take action at the April meeting.

- b. Adjunct Approval Process/Form** (TC 1:39:30) – D. Noon noted that while there was a faculty workgroup revising the form for use by all UAS units last year, there was never a formal process for senate to review the work. K. Krein, H. Batchelder, R. Landis, and M. Trafton served on the team that revised it. One concern raised is regarding the change from the previous Arts & Sciences specific form that allowed chairs to approve or disapprove an adjunct. Discussion focused on the need for qualified faculty to review adjuncts to teach courses. *A. Dewees agreed to pull together a process to review the form with input from different units, and bring the form back to the April meeting for review.*
- c. Direct Appointment Letter to Pat Pitney** (TC 2:03:09) – D. Noon would like to send this communication to Interim President Pitney shortly. Please submit any final edits by the end of spring break.
- d. Letter to Governor Dunleavy regarding UA Regent appointments** (TC 2:05:35) – D. Noon is requesting feedback on this draft communication to the governor noting concerns in the lack of diversity in recent appointments to the BOR. Hopefully Faculty Alliance and the other Faculty Senates will consider voicing concerns as well.

XIII. New Business

- a. UAS Faculty Handbook Revisions and Bylaws** (TC 2:10:00) – Please see the email sent by D. Noon regarding pending changes to the handbook and bylaws. The handbook changes will be acted on at the next meeting. *D. Monteith moved to approve the recommended bylaw changes. K. Krein seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*
- b. Future of Power & Privilege Symposium** (TC 2:14:45) – As noted earlier, there is a memo in the shared drive regarding the decision to table the fall 2021 Juneau event and to create a team to assess how to proceed in the future. Dean of Students Wilson is looking for a faculty co-chair to lead an effort to develop a sustainable model for future events. Please take this to your faculty and let M. Haavig, D. Noon, or J. Wilson know if there are faculty willing to take on that role. Ketchikan or Sitka may elect to hold or not hold events this fall. There will still be a non-teaching day on the faculty calendar. The need to keep the web and marketing team up to date on event changes was noted.
- c. Post-Covid Transition Team (Statewide)** (TC 2:21:44) – Reminder that M. Pope is hoping to get one or two UAS faculty members to serve on the monitoring team for the Post-Covid Transition Project. If you or a colleague have interest, please let D. Noon know before March 19.

XIV. Juneau Business

- XV. Adjournment** (TC 2:22:40) – *K. Krein moved to adjourn the meeting. R. Landis seconded. The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent.*

XVI. Faculty Discussion