

**University of Alaska Southeast
Faculty Senate Meeting**

Minutes

April 2, 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	
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, K. Spencer

- I. **Call to Order** (TC 2:45) – The meeting was called to order at 3:01 PM.
- II. **Introductions** (TC 3:00)
- III. **Announcements** (TC 5:40)
 - a. **The deadline for Faculty Excellence Awards is April 7.** There is an additional category this year for Open Educational Practices.
 - b. **The Tidal Echoes** launch is at 5:00 today.
 - c. There are still **funds available for professional development** through the provost’s website. Activities need to be completed prior to June 30 for new applications.
- IV. **Approval of Agenda** (TC 7:15) – *J. Ward moved to approve the agenda. D. Monteith seconded. The motion passed without objection.*
- V. **Approval of March Meeting Minutes** (TC 11:21) – *D. Monteith moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. S. Nagorski seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*
- VI. **President’s Report** (TC 15:00) – D. Noon has been attending the UAS COVID Response Team meetings as well as the meetings of the two statewide COVID planning committees chaired by M. Pope. So far, the discussions have not involved any instructional issues. The statewide meetings have focused on concerns such as data security with employees working from home. S. Nagorski noted that B. Blitz has expressed willingness to serve on one of the statewide committees if needed.

Several items later on today’s agenda are items that **Faculty Alliance** has been discussing. A Faculty Senate President-Elect is still needed, as is a Juneau Campus Senator. The **Adjunct Review and Approval** process will be discussed later in the meeting.
- VII. **Provost’s Report** (TC 20:10) – The Interim Provost’s report is in the shared drive. M. Haavig highlighted the following.
 - J. Wilson is seeking a faculty co-chair for the committee reviewing the future of the Power and Privilege Symposium.
 - The Administrative Review Committee has completed their work on the project and have delivered their report to the chancellor.
 - The Dual Enrollment Workgroup has one more meeting this year and will likely not meet over the summer. The current faculty on the committee represent all three

schools and all three campuses, and the hope is that that level of representation should continue. G. Wright will be on sabbatical next year, so at least one current membership slot is open for next year.

- The GPA admission standard changes discussed earlier in the year have been revised after discussion with advisors. While transfer students will still need a 2.0 for admission, the plan is to require High School students to have a 2.5 GPA (rather than 2.0) for admission.

VIII. IT Report (TC 24:20) – C. Bennett’s written update can be found on the shared drive. Please share with your departments as it has important information for faculty.

- A phone system upgrade is planned for mid-month, and may result in brief outages.
- The current Blackboard Learn environment may be updated to provide greater responsiveness on mobile devices. IT staff continue to discuss the possibility and consult with the developer to ensure that it will function well for UAS if it is deployed.
- A needs assessment process for a new Video Hosting Platform is being discussed. There are many potential platforms to choose from and feedback is welcome. Kaltura is currently being used by UAF and UAA. One option is Panopto, but Zoom and other technologies are also being looked at.

IX. CELT Report – No report this month.

X. Committee Reports

d. Standing Committees

- i. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) (TC 29:25)** – D. Cox’s written report is on the shared drive. The following Category A proposals passed initial Senate review and UGCC 2nd reading and are recommended by the committee for final Senate approval:

New Program

- **Indigenous Language Teaching Certificate.** Category A. New program. (Twitchell)

Courses Changes

- **ODS S243 Outdoor Studies and Leadership.** Category A. Update course description, credits, prerequisites, course content by topic, grading criteria, and SLOs. (Wagner)
- **PHIL S301 *Ethics.** Category A. GER. Update prerequisites. (Krein)

D. Monteith moved to approve the three listed Category A proposals for second Faculty Senate reading. K. Krein seconded. The motion passed with no objections. M. Haavig will prepare the forms to bring the new program to Academic Council.

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

XI. Old Business

- a. **UAS Faculty Handbook Revisions (TC 33:10)** – The changes to the bylaws were approved at the last meeting, but the remaining edits have not yet been reviewed by faculty. D. Noon shared a summary of the substantive changes in a March 3 email, and that document has been added to the shared drive. There is also a link to the handbook revision folder. *Please discuss with faculty and be prepared to finalize and approve the handbook at the May meeting.* The revised handbook will go into effect July 1.
- b. **Open Educational Resources (OER): No Cost/Low Cost Course Designator (TC 44:15)** – Senators discussed the feedback received from their units on adding such a designator to the course listings. Many felt that the issues around low cost designations were complicated, and that discussion today should focus on whether to adopt a no cost designator. *J. Ward moved to take a vote on whether to adopt a no cost course designator. D. Monteith seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion failed.*
- c. **Adjunct Approval Process and Form (TC 57:31)** – D. Noon referred senators to two documents in the drive and gave an overview of the recent committee work to address faculty concerns and to improve the review process. A. Dewees provided leadership to the faculty group that reviewed the form, and noted that the three schools decided they each needed a different form. She assisted with the edits to the Arts and Sciences (A&S) version of the form that is on the shared drive, and led a review of those changes. She highlighted the instructions that have been added to the A&S form and how the process relates to existing policies and accreditation standards. The signature lines have been updated to ensure that departments are approving the faculty in their units.

H. Batchelder led a review of the form from the College of Education (AK COE), which is also on the drive. It was noted that the process helped faculty in the school better understand how adjunct approval should work in higher education, and noted that the form differs in part since the school is structured differently than A&S.

D. Monteith suggested holding off action on the forms until the next meeting so that all faculty can review them. A few edits were suggested to the forms, including adding ownership and revision date information in the footers. It was noted that the Career Education form is not yet in the shared drive, and that deans and directors will need to be in the loop at some point.

D. Noon summarized that faculty need to review the forms and be prepared to take action at the next meeting.

XII. New Business

- a. **Alaska Native Studies Council (ANSC) resolution from Faculty Alliance (TC 1:24:30)** – D. Noon referred to the resolution document on the shared drive and gave an overview of Faculty Alliance's efforts related to equity. After discussion, D. Noon requested email votes to endorse, not endorse, or to abstain from each unit prior to the next Alliance meeting on April 9.
- b. **UNAC letter on UAF athletics program (TC 1:31:30) – (4:30)** A document from United Academics requesting information related to decisions about UAF athletics was shared. C. Brown explained that UNAC is inviting Faculty Alliance to jointly send the shared document on Monday. It is related to concerns that resources are being used to fund athletics without much public information. Senators raised concerns about the timeline as Faculty Senate has not had much time to review the issues and Faculty Alliance does not meet until April 9. *D. Monteith moved that the UAS Faculty Senate ask Faculty Alliance to take the lead on responding in a timely manner. J. Ward seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote.*

XIII. Juneau Business

XIV. Adjournment (TC 1:44:30) – *The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent.*

XV. Faculty Discussion