

University of Alaska Southeast
Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes

May 7, 2021

3:00 – 5:40

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

Guests: C. Bennett, C. Brown, D. Cox, K. Hendrickson

- I. **Call to Order** (TC 4:30) – The meeting was called to order at 3:04 PM.
- II. **Introductions** (TC 5:59)
- III. **Announcements** – (See Faculty Discussion at item XV)
- IV. **Approval of Agenda** (TC 8:20) – *A. Dewees moved to approve the agenda. J. Fantasia seconded. The motion passed without objection.*
- V. **Approval of April Meeting Minutes** (TC 9:15) – The section on changing the minimum GPA admission requirement for high school students was discussed, and will be reviewed later in the meeting. *J. Ward moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. H. Batchelder seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*
- VI. **President’s Report** (TC 15:20) – D. Noon reported on the work of the statewide post-Covid workplace project. The focus has not been on faculty related items, but rather on things such as data security and compliance with employment requirements. The UAS Covid team continues to meet and plan for operations as more students, staff, and faculty return to campus. Concerns about issues related to vaccines and masks should be directed to M. Ciri. H. Batchelder reported that Faculty Alliance (FA) continues to explore a College of Alaska Native Languages. P. Pitney is encouraging faculty collaboration and plans additional funding for faculty initiatives. J. Mayer of UAF will take over the leadership of FA next week.

Appreciation was expressed for the leadership of D. Noon as Senate President and H. Batchelder as FA President. It was noted that this is the last meeting for retiring faculty member R. Landis, who has a long history of faculty service at UAS. He announced that A. Ziegler will be the Ketchikan representative next year. Professor Landis has been awarded emeritus status based on his distinguished service.

D. Noon noted that a President Elect and Juneau Senator at Large are needed for next year.
- VII. **Provost’s Report** (TC 22:40) – The Interim Provost’s report is in the shared drive. M. Haavig highlighted the following.
 - **Furloughs** will happen again for senior leaders throughout the system due to budget needs.
 - **Teacher preparation** programs in the system will be organized as the Alaska College of Education Consortium. At UAS, this will result in a name change. Education programs will be known as the UAS School of Education. The newly named school will be led by a director rather than a dean.

- M. Haavig and K. Handley have been meeting with D. Bishko and M. Rizk on **UA Goals and Measures**. UAS continues to advocate for having the measures align with the needs of accreditation. President Pitney will discuss this with the Board of Regents (BOR) in June. (See New Business for additional information.)

VIII. IT Report (TC 27:00) – C. Bennett reported that there is a lot going on and details about the most important items should be in your inbox. The interface for signing into Google and Blackboard will be changing soon although it is mostly a cosmetic change. Multi Factor Authentication (MFA) will be required for some staff in the next few weeks. Students and faculty will not be required to use MFA until later in the calendar year. This will help improve security. There are a number of upgrades and outages scheduled after the faculty contract period ends. Please review your Google Drive and Zoom Cloud Storage. We are approaching 80% of our Zoom storage. Please contact C. Bennett if you need help with deleting files.

IX. CELT Report (TC 39:40) – K. Henrickson’s report can be found on the shared drive. Many responses to the recent CELT survey have been received and it is still open if you have not responded yet. Convocation programs and possible fall sessions are being planned based on the feedback. Possible fall programs include Alaska Native Dialogues on Racial Equity (ANDORE) training in conjunction with the STEPS grant. A finalist for the Instructional Designer position gave a presentation yesterday, and hopefully that position will be filled soon.

X. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

i. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) (TC 44:35) – D. Cox’s written report is on the shared drive. The following Category A proposals passed initial Senate review and first and second readings by the UGCC. They are recommended by the committee for final Senate approval. The report also contains a number of Category B and Category C items that are provided for informational purposes only.

New and Changed Programs (Category A)

- **Designated Emphasis, B.L.A.** Many minor program edits, including updating credit references, removing the Alaska Native Studies requirement, removing references to upper division writing courses, and revising language about the GERs. (Deweese)
- **Environmental Resources, B.S.** Result of program review, edit program description, course designator changes, new Core section, and adding interdisciplinary and field courses (Amundson).
- **Environmental Science, B.S.** Result of program review, edit program description, course designator changes, new Core section, eliminating concentration areas, edit course options. (Amundson)
- **Environmental Studies, B.A.** Result of program review, edit program description, course designator changes, new Core section, and adding interdisciplinary and field courses, and removing Cultural Geography emphasis area. (Maier)
- **Independent Design, B.L.A.** Many minor program edits, including updating credit references, removing the Alaska Native Studies requirement, removing references to upper division writing courses, and revising language about the GERs. (Deweese)
- **Information Systems, Minor.** New program. (McKenna)
- **Interdisciplinary Studies, B.L.A.** Many minor program edits, including updating credit references, removing the Alaska Native Studies requirement, removing

references to upper division writing courses, and revising language about the GERs. (Deweese)

D. Monteith moved to accept the seven programs for final Faculty Senate Review. K. LaBounty seconded. The program proposals passed Faculty Senate final review.

New and Changed Courses (Category A)

- **COMM S101 *Intro to Mass Communication.** GER. Change course designator, add elements to CourseLeaf and update SLOs. (Alexander)
- **ODS S372 Mountain Studies: Philosophy, Literature, and Practice.** Major updates: course title, prerequisite, description, credits, and content by topic. (Krein)
- **ODS S373 Ocean Studies: Images of the Environment.** New course. (Wagner)
- **PHIL S206 *Symbolic Logic.** GER. Deactivate course. (Krein)

K. LaBounty moved to accept the four course proposals for final Faculty Senate Review. S. Nagorski seconded. The course proposals passed Faculty Senate final review.

ii. Graduate Curriculum Committee (TC 51:25) – There is a document in the shared drive proposing that the Superintendent Endorsement credential be changed to a Superintendent Graduate Certificate program. The primary purpose of the change is to allow students to use financial aid. D. Noon, H. Batchelder, and M. Haavig answered senators' questions about the proposals to the best of their ability. Concerns were raised about the lack of timeliness and the lack of anyone from the program or committee being on hand. The need for greater transparency of the committee was expressed. After discussion, *J. Ward moved to approve the proposal for first Faculty Senate reading. K. LaBounty seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote with one objection.* D. Noon will email senators in the coming days for a second and final vote on the proposal.

iii. Research and Creative Activities (RCA) Committee – No report.

iv. Sustainability Committee – No report.

b. Other/Shared Governance

i. Title IX – No report.

XI. Old Business

a. UAS AY 2022 Faculty Handbook Revisions (TC 1:13:50) – The revised handbook can be found in the Faculty Handbook Folder on the shared drive. A final spell check is needed. *R. Landis moved to approve the AY 22 faculty handbook revisions. J. Fantasia seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

b. Adjunct Approval Process, Instructions, and Forms (TC 1:20:05) – A. Dewees led a review of the Arts & Sciences form and the related instructions. There is also a form for Education in the shared drive. There is not yet a version to review for Career Education.

After discussion of the two forms and the instructions, A. Dewees moved to approve both forms for approval, while holding off action on the instructions. H. Batchelder seconded the motion. The motion passed with no objections. A copy edit was made to correct the name of the school.

c. Revised Admission Standards (TC 1:42:30) – (See March GPA memo, GPA data from IR, and advisor input on supporting students in shared drive.) D. Noon reviewed the summary of changes to general admission standards to baccalaureate programs for high school students this year. The standardized test requirement has been removed and the GPA standard of 3.0 has been decreased. An initial decrease to a 2.0 GPA was changed to a requirement of 2.5 based on data about student success. Information about these changes

were circulated by email and acted on at the November meeting. After discussion about the reasons for the changes and the process and communications for the year, it was clarified that the standard for the next catalog will be 2.5 and that individual programs can have more stringent GPA admission standards. (*See next.*)

(TC 2:29:50) Due to the concerns of the senators about the process, M. Haavig continued discussing the changes with the Registrar Lee and Vice-Chancellor Klein. *M. Haavig announced that the admission standard will remain at 3.0 for the AY '22 catalog, and will be revisited in the coming year.*

XII. New Business

- a. Mission and Measures** (TC 2:09:05) – D. Noon referred senators to the PowerPoint prepared primarily by D. Bishko. He and M. Rizk have been preparing it for President Pitney, and are soliciting feedback. Concerns about the purpose of the effort and the process were raised, including concerns that the feedback was not being incorporated, that the revision process was unclear, that the timeline was not conducive to faculty input, and the lack of integration with accreditation measures. A. Dewees suggested a resolution addressing the primary concerns be drafted. H. Batchelder noted that Faculty Alliance is also collecting and submitting feedback, which is due this evening. She intends to forward the feedback she has shortly. Questions remained about how the document will be used and if it will drive resource allocations. D. Bishko's lack of familiarity with higher education and the university system was noted. *M. Boyer moved that A. Dewees draft a resolution communicating the three main areas of concern. K. LaBounty seconded. The motion passed with no objections.* A. Dewees crafted a draft for review (see shared drive) with permission from the senators to continue to wordsmith the document and send it to leadership.

XIII. Juneau Business

XIV. Adjournment (TC 2:39:01) – *The meeting adjourned by unanimous consent at 5:38 p.m.*

- XV. Faculty Discussion** – (2:31:50) C. Brown inquired about the number of UAS administrators on furlough and M. Haavig responded that there will be twelve UAS people taking either ten or eight days, depending upon their position. C. Brown noted that L. Hoferkamp will fill out the remainder of the Organizational VP position until the August election. Several positions need to be filled for UNAC and faculty should review the newsletters being sent out with more detailed information. Please consider serving in one of the available roles. In addition, there is a new contract manager in place and contract negotiations will be getting underway.