

University of Alaska Southeast
Faculty Senate Meeting Notes
 October 1, 2021, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

President – A. Dewees	x	Juneau Campus – B. Blitz	x
Past President – D. Noon*	x	Ketchikan Campus – A. Ziegler	x
President Elect – J. Ward**	x	Library – J. Ward**	x
Business & Public Administration – M. Boyer	x	Natural Sciences – M. Buzby	x
Career Education – N. Voelckers	x	Sitka Campus – K. LaBounty	x
Education – H. Batchelder	x	Social Sciences – D. Noon*	x
Humanities – X'unei Lance Twitchell	x	Interim Provost – M. Haavig	x

Guests: D. Cox, S. Feero, R. Gilcrist, J. Lofthus, J. Markis

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Brief introductions of Faculty Senators and guests**
- III. Approval of Agenda** – See Shared Drive (*SSD) – *M. Buzby moved to approve the agenda. B. Blitz seconded. The motion passed without objection.*
- IV. Approval of September 3 Meeting Minutes** (*SSD) – *B. Blitz moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. H. Batchelder seconded. The motion passed without objection.*
- V. New Business**

a. Category A proposals (Curriculum Committee report *SSD) – (TC 0:00)

- **HUMS S181 Peer Support Professional Training.** New course. (Feero)
- **STAT S107 *Survey of Statistics.** Deactivate General Education Requirement (GER) course. (Blitz)
- **Alaskan Mariculture, O.E.** New program. (Markis)
- **Elementary Education, B.A.** Major program edits. (Lofthus)

The initiating faculty were present to provide information and answer questions about the proposals. After discussion, *J. Ward moved to accept the four Category A proposals for initial Faculty Senate review. K. LaBounty seconded. The proposals passed initial review.*

b. Vote on whether to pursue a common calendar proposal to start the term later. – (TC 8:54) – M. Buzby provided background information about the considerations in constructing the common calendar and the constituencies impacted. It was noted that the common calendar committee answers to Faculty Alliance. The request to start the academic year was made by Ketchikan faculty. *D. Noon moved to request that UAS pursue moving the start date later through Faculty Alliance. M. Buzby seconded. The motion passed on a roll call vote.*

c. Chancellor's office proposal for student retention task force. *SSD (Recruit faculty from all three campuses - proposed deadline is in November.) – (TC 22:25) – Senators reviewed and discussed the memo from the chancellor requesting a faculty task force to assist with retention. After discussion, *H. Batchelder moved to convene a student retention task force. L. Twitchell seconded. The motion passed.*

d. Faculty Senate President offers that Senate may choose to go into executive session to discuss a potential commendation, land acknowledgments, and AAUP principles on academic freedom and tenure. – (TC 43:20) *L. Twitchell moved to go into executive session. D. Noon seconded. The motion passed with no objections. (End of part 1 of tape recording).*

e. Any new business resulting from executive session – (Tape 2, TC 01:20) A. Dewees noted that actions decided during the executive session were in regard to taking a commendation and memo back to constituents, with a plan to vote on them by October 8.

Language for a draft memo to P. Pitney was reviewed and edited by senators via Zoom chat. [“The UAS Faculty Senate urges the inclusion of a land acknowledgement in the foundational documents of University of Alaska operations. We reject the idea that the land acknowledgement as written is political or inappropriate, and find that statement as anti-Indigenous rhetoric that is dangerous to the University of Alaska.”] *B. Blitz moved to approve the memo. K. LaBounty seconded. The motion passed. A. Dewees will follow up.*

f. Confirm Faculty Senate committee representatives: Master Plan Advisory Committee (MPAC) (Dewees), COVID 19 Task Force (Dewees), confirm volunteer reviewer pool for the Faculty Initiative Fund (FIF) (Meister, Straley, Dewees, Dolese) – (TC 05:10) A. Dewees noted the current representation to these groups. The potential for L. Hoferkamp to participate in MPAC was discussed. A. Dewees will follow up. FIF reviewers need to be ready to go when the proposals are submitted.

VI. Discussion items & volunteer opportunities

a. MPAC – First round of stakeholder meetings is complete, but faculty may send individual emails to Sam Kito. Next round of meetings is in November. How can we best ensure faculty input into the Master Plan? – (TC 8:15) It was clarified that the plan is being prepared and is not yet available for review. A. Dewees requested that she be copied on emails to S. Kito. Senators requested more clarity or guidelines about what type of input is being solicited. A. Dewees will follow up.

b. BOR policy revisions *SSD. The newest is Title IX. – (TC 10:30) A. Dewees noted that there are items in the shared drive related to the remote work revisions discussed in previous meetings, and outlined the process by which faculty leadership receives this information. The Title IX revision document was reviewed and discussed. There are concerns about how this potentially changes some protections for students. E. Wall is the faculty representative to the UAS Title IX committee. Some of the changes in the Title IX documents relate to changes in federal laws. There is a short timeline for input from faculty and A. Dewees welcomes suggestions on how to ensure that faculty have adequate notice and input on policy revisions.

c. There is some talk around the state about LMS (learning management systems (Canvas and Blackboard). Should we refer this conversation to the regional TLTR committee and CELT? – (TC 18:45) The topic of the current BlackBoard contract entering its final year, and what will replace it is being discussed at Faculty Alliance. P. Pitney has indicated that she will not require all MAUs to use the same system. Currently UAA uses BlackBoard while UAF uses a mix of BlackBoard and Canvas. The version of BlackBoard that UAS uses will need to be updated to Ultra if we continue to use it. R. Gilcrist provided reflection that the Canvas trial was not robust and that there does not seem to be a desire to replace the current platform among UAS faculty. R. Gilcrist is on the TLTR as well as CELT, and those groups are monitoring the LMS discussion. There are financial implications if UAS were to select a system that was not widely used in the system.

d. Review curriculum process (and, as part of this, whether Category A proposals need to come to Senate). – (TC 24:15) This topic is being discussed by FS leadership and the provost. The initial review by FS can slow down the process. Suggestions for which types of proposals might warrant this review were made. It was suggested that this be given further consideration in the spring and D. Cox be part of the discussion.

e. Goals and Measurements document volunteers (Meister--research) (Dewees--student success) https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ocRcT_GFvrU6LEOrHYYLWJckCeRTg89H/view –

(TC 26:40) – The timeline for feedback is early October (6th or 8th) but the exact date is unclear. Additional input, especially for the Student Success measures, are welcome.

f. UAF Faculty Senate and Staff Council have both called for a vaccine requirement for on campus activities. – (TC 28:00) UAF Chancellor White has formally requested this and P. Pitney is considering it. Senators discussed the challenges of teaching and safety in the current environment. Also discussed was whether UAS constituencies should make a similar request. Pitney has indicated that she will respond to the UAF request within two weeks, so UAS faculty, staff, and students could be contacted to see if they would like Chancellor Carey to make a similar request. *Please follow up with your faculty and A. Dewees will follow up with staff and student leadership.*

g. Re-envisioning Chancellors Committee on Cultural Safety and Equity as a Faculty Senate Committee (in part to respond to the Alaska Native Success Initiative [ANSI]) [H. Batchelder] – (TC 35:25) – H. Batchelder provided background information on this request, and how there is currently no mechanism to respond to incidents. K. Carey and R. Cadiente Brown are also discussing the need to clarify the charge and constitution of the committee. Involving students in the committee and in the Power & Privilege Symposium committee was suggested.

h. Faculty Senate Ad hoc committee to look at T&P in the faculty handbook (following ANSI recommendations). [H. Batchelder] – (TC 40:40) – The ANSI groups at each MAU have requested this. Faculty are needed to serve on a group reviewing pertinent sections of the UAS handbook to look for bias. H. Batchelder is willing to serve. Additional faculty volunteers are needed. R. Cadiente Brown will be presenting on ANSI at the November 12 Evening at Egan. .

- VII. Q&A Faculty Senate President’s Report *SSD – A. Dewees,**
- VIII. Q&A Interim Provost’s Report *SSD –M. Haavig**
- IX. IT Report *SSD – C. Bennett**
- X. CELT Report *SSD –R. Gilcrist**
- XI. Committee Reports**
 - a. Standing Committees**
 - i. Undergraduate Curriculum *SSD – (D. Cox)**
 - ii. Graduate Curriculum – (L. Richardson)**
 - iii. Research and Creative Activities – (K. Meister)**
 - iv. Sustainability – (H. Pearson)**
 - b. Other/Shared Governance**
 - i. Title IX Advisory Committee: meeting in October**
 - ii. The search for UA President is likely coming spring ‘22; might be time to start a list of faculty to serve in this role**
 - iii. BOR policy revisions**
- XII. Announcements**
 - a. Faculty Initiative Fund deadline is extended until 10/8. Reviewer pool from UAS: Drs. Meister, Straley, Dolese & Dewees. Reviews will be completed 11/8 with funds disbursed 12/1.**
 - b. Provost search committee is finalizing docs, ad should be up by Senate meeting, and review date is 11/15. Faculty on committee: Chair Piotrowski and Faculty Krein, Batchelder, Ziegler, Smith, & Feero.**

c. Facilities requests that we use the form on their page for maintenance issues.

XIII. Final thoughts (does this agenda organization work?) and Adjourn – (TC 44:05) J. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting. N. Voelckers seconded. The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

XIV. Conversation about bargaining