

University of Alaska Southeast

Faculty Senate Minutes

November 5, 2021, 3:00 – 5:00

President – A. Dewees	X	Juneau Campus – B. Blitz	X
Past President – D. Noon*	X	Ketchikan Campus – C. Ianuzzi for 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, R. Gilcrist, L. Hoferkamp

(Note: \*SSD means, "see shared drive".)

- I. Call to Order (TC 2:35)
- II. Brief introductions of Faculty Senators and guests
- III. Approval of Agenda \*SSD – (TC 3:00) *M. Buzby moved to approve the agenda. B. Blitz seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*
- IV. Approval of October 1 Meeting Minutes \*SSD – (TC 3:30) *N. Voelckers moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. K. LaBounty seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

V. New Business

a. Curriculum proposals (Curriculum Committee report (\*SSD)) – (TC 5:15)

- AKL S108 \*Beginning Haida II.
- ~~AKL~~ ANS S499 Indigenous Studies Capstone.
- Indigenous Studies, B.A.
- ENVI S120 \*Cultures and Environments.
- HUM S120 \*Alaska: A Sense of Place and Beyond
- ENVI S360 Alaska: A Contested Geography.
- ENV S380 Natural Disasters.
- ODS S390 Selected Topics in Outdoor Studies.
- ENGL S361 Intermediate Creative Writing: Selected Topics in Genres and Forms.
- MATH S211 Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers I.
- MATH S212 Mathematics for Elementary School Teachers II.
- Chemistry, Minor.

D. Cox provided additional information regarding the twelve proposals in his report and led a discussion of the courses and programs. The designator for the Indigenous Studies Capstone course was edited to ANS. That course number will also need to be changed as 499 is reserved for thesis courses. After discussion, *K. LaBounty moved to accept the twelve proposals for first Faculty Senate (FS) reading. J. Ward seconded. The proposals passed first FS reading.*

b. Temperature check: how are faculty doing? What assistance do we need? – (TC 19:10)

**c.** Motion for a special recognition for advisors. They worked many, many hours to reach students this month. (Google doc: WORKING DOCUMENT) – (TC 22:00)

A. Dewees referred senators to the Google Doc with the following suggested language. *“Faculty recognize and thank advisors in Juneau, Ketchikan, and Sitka for their work advising and assisting students. The challenges of this moment are many, and advisors have processed close to 500 Early Alerts this semester. This work is integral to student success and we appreciate their knowledge, experience, and dedication.”* It would be sent to the Regional Advising Committee, which reaches all of the advisors. She also passed along the information that when submitting an Early Alert, it is best to only select one box, and then note any additional concerns in the text. Each tick box generates a separate alert, so this will help reduce the workload for the advisors. *B. Blitz moved that FS send the recognition to the advising group. K. LaBounty seconded. There were no objections to the motion.*

**d.** Plan for responding to the "Faculty role in student retention" memo—due 11/19 – (TC 26:00)

A. Dewees shared draft response language based on the discussion at the last meeting via a Google Doc. H. Batchelder gave an update from the retention task force. They are reviewing the results of the survey that was sent out. They met on the eighth and will meet again on the tenth. It was noted that there is a need for a Ketchikan representative and a Juneau Arts & Sciences representative on the task force, and H. Batchelder welcomed others to join. The Google Doc (\*SSD see link in shared drive) has A. Dewees’s paragraph. *M. Buzby moved to approve the process of combining A. Dewees’s working document with the work of the faculty retention task force for submission to the chancellor. B. Blitz seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

**e.** Confirmation of Sitka (Trafton), Ketchikan (Florian), and Juneau representatives [pending elections] to DEICS Committee. – (TC 33:25)

A. Dewees announced that the two elected Juneau representatives to the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Cultural Safety are M. Dolese and L. Twitchell. *M. Buzby moved to confirm the four faculty representatives, with the expectation that they decide amongst themselves who will be the co-chair of the committee. B. Blitz seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

**f.** UAS Faculty Senate Resolution Rescinding Meritorious Service Award (we will workshop this in Senate, see Google doc: WORKING DOCUMENT) – (TC 35:31)

Senators discussed how to move forward on potentially rescinding an award from the late 1980’s due to grave ethics concerns about the recipient, now deceased. The process for making such awards was discussed along with questions about who has the authority to change the process and to rescind awards. After discussion, *senators will discuss the situation with their faculty and gather more information about the process.*

**g.** Endorsement of Faculty Alliance resolution asking for the Faculty Alliance Chair to be an ex officio member of the Board of Regents (BOR) (\*SSD) – (TC 47:50)

A. Dewees, H. Batchelder, M. Buzby, and J. Ward provided background information regarding the current low level of faculty input to BOR meetings. There is a resolution in the shared drive from Faculty Alliance (FA) requesting that the FA Chair become an

ex officio member of the BOR. The resolution outlines the value of increasing the participation of faculty in governance. *B. Blitz moved to endorse the resolution. L. Twitchell seconded. There were no objections.* Suggestions were made to strengthen the resolution, and FS leadership will bring those suggestions to FA.

(TC 1:00:12) A request to add an additional discussion item was approved. L. Twitchell outlined two proposed changes at UAS. One is regarding a change to the upcoming holiday student event, which will be called a Community Feast and will be held outdoors. Information about this will be disseminated by email soon. Additionally, it is proposed that the holiday be renamed as Fall Closure/Break in future UAS calendars. There are similar efforts being coordinated by Staff Council. Senators were asked to discuss the potential name change [*“Faculty Senate endorses a change in name to Fall Break (from Thanksgiving Closure)”*] with their faculty, and be prepared to vote on it at the December meeting.

## VI. Old Business

### a. President's office reply to email about land acknowledgments (\*SSD) – (TC 1:07:39)

Senators discussed whether there was any value in replying to P. Pitney's correspondence dated October 18, and decided not to take further action at this time.

### b. Statement in support of tenure and academic freedom (see FSP report \*SSD) – (TC 1:12:40)

A. Dewees noted that the communication to P. Pitney of October 26 was sent from FA, which is stronger than having it come just from UAS. More details can be found in the president's report on the shared drive.

## VII. Discussion Items & volunteer opportunities

### a. CELT has requested feedback on the following items (See CELT report on the shared drive) – (TC 1:15:13)

- i. If you will need accessible videos for Spring 2022, get requests into John or Kimberly as soon as possible; and before the money for the 3PlayMedia program runs out.
- ii. CELT needs your help to improve the website: What would faculty like improved and what would you like to see on the new homepage?
- iii. How do we increase attendance at QM trainings?

K. Campbell sent an email today regarding access to Read&Write assistive technology software for text to speech applications. R. Gilcrist requested feedback to ensure the [CELT website](#) is useful to faculty. Funds for captioning videos with 3PlayMedia will likely run out in Spring 2022, so if you have any videos that you use regularly, please submit them while there is still support available.

b. The Dean of Students has resources for faculty and students. We are seeing more Care Team type cases, higher risk cases, & want faculty to know about resources, and what would be helpful to faculty right now in terms of training, including classroom management. (See PowerPoint in a folder on the shared drive.) Also seeking one faculty member for the Care Team. The Provost's Office sent out an email with easy links to

supports. (\*see PowerPoint in shared drive--what would be the best way to get this information to faculty?) – (TC 1:22:12)

J. Wilson wants to make sure faculty know what resources are available to help students during this high stress time, and created a useful PowerPoint (\*SSD) that is in the shared drive. There is a need for a faculty member for the Care Team. Please see the October 26 email from M. Haavig (\*SSD) about the types of support available. Faculty discussed ways to spread the word, such as including it as part of new faculty mentoring.

**c.** MPAC--first round of stakeholder meetings is complete, the website is up [uas.alaska.edu/pub/masterplan](https://uas.alaska.edu/pub/masterplan). There is an engagement meeting 11/22 from 9-11 a.m. How can we best ensure faculty input into the Master Plan? – (TC 1:26:41)

Please see the president's report for further information. There are concerns about whether faculty are giving adequate input. Please attend the next meeting if possible.

**d.** UAS Strategic Plan Feedback form (feedback due mid-November): <https://forms.gle/pq9P6dZdNwNYoPLS9> – (TC 1:29:15)

Please see K. Campbell's emails about the Strategic Plan Town Hall with a PowerPoint presentation and links to the feedback form. Feedback is due by November 17. Encourage your faculty to give feedback, as this plan will guide how decisions are made.

**e.** "No" and "Low cost" designations for courses, visible to students (\*see Provost's report). – (TC 1:33:06)

M. Haavig provided further information about this. While it was not approved last spring by FS, UAS may want to revisit this. She clarified that it is only about low or no cost textbooks at this time. A flag can be set in Banner to designate such courses, and UAA and UAF are increasing the number of courses with no or low cost texts. J. Lamb continues to spearhead UAS efforts. Please discuss reconsidering UAS action on this with your faculty.

**f.** BOR policy revisions \*SSD – Accreditation – (TC 1:38:56)

M. Haavig emailed the most recent version of this right before meeting. Revisions were made from the previous version (shared drive) after review by General Counsel. The Academic and Student Affairs Committee reviewed it yesterday. It includes additional reporting on specialized accreditation to satisfy the BOR. There is limited time to respond, so please share with faculty.

**g.** Goals and Measurements document (see FSP report) – (TC 1:38:45)

**h.** COVID impact and vaccine requirement (see FSP report) – (TC 1:43:39)

The requirement does not currently apply to any UAS programs.

**i.** Report from Faculty Alliance Chair (\*SSD) – (TC 1:44:05)

**j.** Statement on compensation from UAHR (see FSP report \*SSD) – (TC 1:44:10)

**k.** Please send me fun updates about what faculty are doing related to teaching, research & creative activity & service – I report to Juneau community site council and to the extended cabinet. – (TC 1:44:18)

In addition to sending newsworthy items to A. Dewees, please also share them with K. Jordan for social media exposure.

**VII. (2) Q&A Faculty Senate President’s Report \*SSD – (A. Dewees)**

**VIII. Q&A Interim Provost’s Report \*SSD – (M. Haavig) – (TC 1:21:45)**

In addition to the Provost’s report, the shared drive also has an update on the faculty professional development funds available through the provost’s office.

**IX. IT Report \*SSD – (C. Bennett)**

C. Bennett’s written report can be found on the shared drive.

**X. CELT Report \*SSD – (R. Gilcrist) (See VII a.)**

**XI. Committee Reports**

**a. Standing Committees**

**i.** Undergraduate Curriculum \*SSD (D. Cox) – (See V. a. above)

**ii.** Graduate Curriculum (L. Richardson) – (No report)

**iii.** Research and Creative Activities (K. Meister) - The RCAC meeting met on October 11. Points of interest for the faculty senate is mainly that the URECA application was opened and the deadline for this year's cycle is November 22. It was further discussed within the RCAC committee that it would be nice for faculty to get a bit more clarity regarding F&A costs and indirect cost recovery and the discussion will be continued in the next meetings.) – (TC 1:45:04)

**iv.** Sustainability (H. Pearson) – (No report)

**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.** The Faculty Initiative Fund deadline is extended until 10/8. Reviewers are Drs. Meister & Dolese. Reviews will be completed 11/8 with funds disbursed 12/1.

**b.** The Provost search committee review date is 11/15. Faculty on committee: Chair Piotrowski and Faculty Krein, Batchelder, Ziegler, Smith, & Feero. Fourteen applications received by 10/20. – (TC 1:45:49)

**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 1:46:39)**

*J. Ward moved to adjourn the meeting. M. Boyer seconded. The meeting adjourned without objection,*

**XIV. Faculty Conversation**