

University of Alaska Southeast
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
February 4, 2022 3:00 – 5:00

President – A. Dewees	X
Past President – D. Noon*	
President Elect – J. Ward**	
Business & Public Administration – M. Boyer	X
Career Education – N. Voelckers	X
Education – H. Batchelder	X
Humanities – X'unei Lance Twitchell	X

Juneau Campus – B. Blitz	X
Ketchikan Campus – A. Ziegler	X
Library – J. Ward**	X
Natural Sciences – M. Buzby	X
Sitka Campus – K. LaBounty	X
Social Sciences – D. Noon*	X
Interim Provost – M. Haavig	X

Guests: D. Cox, R. Gilcrist, J. Lamb

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

I. Call to Order (TC 1:12)

II. Brief introductions of Faculty Senators and guests (TC 1:18)

III. Approval of Agenda *SSD (TC 1:40) – *B. Blitz moved to approve the agenda, noting that the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee is on the agenda twice. K. LaBounty seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

IV. Approval of January 7, 2022 Meeting Minutes *SSD (TC 2:59) – *N. Voelckers moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. B. Blitz seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

V. FS President's report about student recruitment/retention opportunities, shared governance and our faculty union, UNAC, meeting with the Board of Regents (BOR) Chair about proposal to remove "interim" from Interim President Pitney's title, MPAC, and potential ad hoc Senate committees & priorities. – (TC 4:16)

A. Dewees provided information and led discussions on the following topics.

- L. Klein gave a presentation recently to Chancellor's Cabinet on recruitment and retention efforts. A. Dewees shared some of the information via a PowerPoint presentation and noted that faculty are not responsible for recruitment. UAS has a contract with Hanover Research, and there are some tools available through them for data. L. Klein is the point of contact for more information. UAS also has a contract with EAB, which is more retention focused.
- The three Faculty Senate Presidents and the Chair of Faculty Alliance (FA) received a five-page memo from UA General Counsel with regard to the union and shared governance. There has not yet been a decision on whether to respond to the memo or not.
- BOR Chair Buretta met with FA to discuss her recent motion on the next BOR agenda to remove "Interim" from Pat Pitney's title. Concerns about the motion include how it differed from communications about the presidential search process and how

direct appointments lack transparency. Chair Buretta did not communicate with faculty leadership until after she added the motion to the meeting agenda. Faculty can communicate concerns about this process and the appointment to A. Dewees, J. Ward, and D. Noon.

- MPAC – The Master Plan has plans and priorities for each campus. This will be discussed more at our next meeting.
- Goals and Measures – This document continues to change. FA continues to advocate for measures of academic excellence.
- The Handbook Committee has met twice to set priorities and begin suggesting edits. Major edits will be presented at the March meeting and the final draft will be voted on at the May meeting.
- Senators and FS President-Elect for next year – The bylaws call for unit senators to be elected March 1-10. Campus Senators need to be elected by March 20. Nominations for FS President-Elect will open at the next meeting.
- President Dewees shared information about three potential Ad Hoc committees that could be formed in the spirit of shared governance. Such committees would work into the next academic year. After discussion, *J. Ward moved that senators vote on item C – to form a subcommittee to create a process for reviewing supervisors. M. Boyer seconded. The vote failed to get a majority in favor.*
 - A. Sustainability and Budget
 - B. Clarify the process for the formation of non FS committees
 - C. Creating a process for the review of supervisors

VI. New Business

a. Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committee priority poll and confirmation (Andrea Dewees)
– (TC 41:38) [See previous item on agenda.]

b. Curriculum proposals *SSD and CourseLeaf (David Cox) – (TC 41:45)

D. Cox's written report is on the shared drive. The following four Category A Course Change proposals were presented for final Senate review.

- CHEM S325 Organic Chemistry II.
- ENGL S361 Intermediate Creative Writing: Selected Topics in Genres and Forms.
- SOC S201 *Social Problems and Solutions.
- STAT S107 *Survey of Statistics.

M. Buzby moved to approve the four proposals for final Senate review. L. Twitchell seconded. The four proposals passed final Senate review.

One new program and a related new course proposal were presented for final Senate review.

- ANS S499 Indigenous Studies Capstone.
- Indigenous Studies, B.A.

J. Ward moved to approve the two proposals for final Senate review. B. Blitz seconded. The two proposals passed final Senate review.

D. Cox referred senators to a number of informational Category B and Category C items in the written report.

c. Marking of no-cost courses (OER Jonas Lamb) (TC 50:35) – J. Lamb delivered a presentation (*SSD) on a proposal to mark UAS course sections using a ‘No Cost Materials’ designation. There is support for this change at UAS, in the UA system, and throughout higher education. Specific information for faculty who wish to add such a marker in the next few semesters through the Proposed Course Offering (PCO) process was shared. Questions about differentiating the types of costs students experience were answered. The presentation included definitions, frequently asked questions, and sample scenarios to inform faculty about no and low cost materials. In addition to the presentation in the shared drive, the following link to sample scenarios was provided: <https://bit.ly/NoCostScenarios>. J. Lamb is happy to field questions from faculty and noted that the registrar will be sending out further information about this for the upcoming semesters.

d. COVID statement (*SSD) (Jennifer Ward) (TC 1:07:53) – J. Ward referred senators to the folder in the shared drive with documents related to COVID. Many are from UAF faculty. There is a draft letter for review today. If approved, it would go to senior UA leadership from FA. For discussion purposes, *L. Twitchell moved to approve having the letter sent. K. LaBounty seconded*. Senators discussed the content of the letter, particularly the final bullet item. They also discussed the process of moving the letter forward and the extent of faculty authority to enact the final bullet statement as written. After discussion, *M. Buzby moved to have the edited statement circulated to faculty and to hold a vote on it by next Friday at noon. D. Noon seconded. The motion passed*. J. Ward will make the suggested edit and A. Dewees will send this out to faculty on Monday with instructions to be prepared to vote on it by Friday.

e. Common Calendar representative needed for AY 23 (Megan Buzby) – (TC 1:24:05) M. Buzby noted that she and J. Hamilton currently served on the committee. It includes two faculty from each MAU and the registrars. They meet two times per month in early fall and approximately once per month later in the academic year as need warrants. J. Hamilton is retiring and another UAS faculty member needs to be identified. A. Dewees requested nominations. This will be followed up on at the next meeting.

f. RCAC recommends that Faculty Senate rename Faculty Award from “Faculty Award in Research” to “Faculty Award in Research and Creative Activities.” (https://uas.alaska.edu/provost/faculty_excellence.html) – (TC 1:26:19) *J. Ward moved to change the name of the award. B. Blitz seconded. A. Dewees noted that the name change will need to be enacted on the website. The motion passed on a Zoom chat vote.*

g. UAS Assessment Program Committee recommends that Senate delete the undergraduate and graduate student competencies from the academic catalog and the faculty handbook. (*SSD) – (TC 1:29:40) *B. Blitz moved to accept the recommendation of the committee. N. Voelckers seconded. – B. Blitz and M. Haavig discussed some of the history of the competencies. The document on the shared drive has additional information. It was noted that banners with the competencies should probably be removed from public display also. The motion to remove them from the two documents passed on a Zoom chat vote.*

VII. Old Business

- a. Rosemarie Alexander-Isett (Strategic Enrollment Work Group) and Brian Blitz (Chancellor's Retention Workgroup) will represent and report to Senate – (TC 1:34:01)**
- b. Feedback for TLTR: 1) Remote test proctoring overview document (get feedback to Susie Feero) and 2) local campus TLTR groups (see report in December meeting folder) – (TC 1:34:14)**
- c. Proposed Joint Master's Program is being worked on at UAF; we likely will not see it until next AY. Andrea Dewees did find out about UAF's graduate curriculum process, which we should note for future. – (TC 1:34:25)** *A. Dewees noted that the process for approving graduate curriculum committee proposals differs between UAS and UAF. Further work needs to be done by the UAF committee, and we can expect to see this proposal again next year.*
- d. Update about collaboration across campuses (provost and registrars will work together to catalog current practices and possibilities) – (TC 1:38:25)** *There is nothing new to report on this yet.*
- e. Draft Leave of Absence Regulation (feedback can still go to Dean of Students Jackie Wilson) – (TC 1:38:37)** *President Dewees noted that this will be coming to us again from the statewide group, but feedback can still be given at this time to J. Wilson.*

VIII. Discussion Items & volunteer opportunities

- a. Assignment to Faculty Senate Ad Hoc Committees – (TC 1:39:00)** – *A. Dewees and J. Ward will bring this item (see agenda item VI.a.) forward at the next meeting for a vote.*
- b. Curriculum input (outside of faculty) – (TC 1:39:50)** *D. Noon led a discussion regarding the appropriate manner of input of administration into proposed course titles and descriptions. It was reaffirmed that curricular processes are the purview of faculty. L. Twitchell raised concerns about equity among the faculty ranks.*
- c. Conversation about Disability Accommodations – (TC 1:54:40)** *A. Dewees met recently with J. Malecha, who confirmed that there has been a recent increase for accommodations. Those letters faculty receive are specific to a student and a particular course. A. Dewees shared a PowerPoint presentation. She will email it to faculty after the meeting. She noted that J. Malecha offers trainings to faculty. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.*

d. Conversation about four prototype classrooms (potentially an item for TLTR Juneau/regional)? – (TC 2:02:30) L. Twitchell, R. Gilcrist and M. Haavig provided information about this. There may be Academic Transformation funds to assist with modifying classrooms.

e. Conversation about 0-credit, 0-tuition AKL classes – (TC 2:03:30)

IX. Q&A Interim Provost's Report (M. Haavig) – (*SSD) Please see the shared drive for M. Haavig's report.

X. IT Report– (C. Bennett) – No report.

a. CELT Report *SSD – (R. Gilcrist) (Please note iTeach dates and stipend availability) – (TC 2:02:08)

b. Robin is also a member of the Website Strategy Committee (WSC) and would like to announce that the revised website layout will allow for Pronoun inclusion in the directory. I will add an item to the shared drive from WSC that shows how this will look.

c. Regional TLTR report in *SSD – (TC 2:05:08) R. Gilcrist noted that there is not a Juneau specific TLTR group at this time.

XI. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

i. Undergraduate Curriculum (D. Cox) – (*SSD) (See New Business item b.)

ii. Graduate Curriculum (L. Richardson) – (See item VII.c. regarding the Master's in Marine Policy.)

iii. Research and Creative Activities (K. Meister) – We have a large number of URECA students which is exciting – (TC 2:02:03)

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

b. Other/Shared Governance

i. MPAC

ii. UAS Strategic Plan update?

iii. Title IX Advisory Committee: They are working on programming for Sexual Assault Awareness Month and would like faculty volunteers. Title IX has a deputy who will do intakes. – (TC 2:01:55)

iv. The search for UA President is likely coming spring '22; might be time to start a list of faculty to serve in this role. WELL, FACULTY ALLIANCE WAS GROSSLY MISINFORMED ABOUT THAT...

XII. Announcements

a. The Provost candidates are here!

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

XIII. Final thoughts and Adjourn

– (TC 2:07:24) *L. Twitchell moved to adjourn the meeting. B. Blitz seconded. The meeting adjourned without objection.*

XIV. Faculty Conversation (TC 2:07:35) – J. Ward offered to stay on the Zoom to discuss the UNAC report on the shared drive.