

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

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 – S. Feero for K. LaBounty	X
Education – G. Sampson for H. Batchelder	X	Social Sciences – D. Noon*	X
Humanities – X'unei Lance Twitchell		Interim Provost – M. Haavig	X

Guests: D. Cox, R. Gilcrist

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

I. Call to Order – (TC 1:19) – A Dewees noted that the agenda is not in the shared drive. She provided a link to a Google Docs version of the agenda in the Zoom chat.

II. Brief introductions of Faculty Senators and guests – (TC 2:19) – President Dewees noted that there are two substitutes today.

III. Approval of Agenda *SSD – (TC 3:55) – A. Ziegler moved to approve the agenda. N. Voelckers seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

IV. Approval of February 4, 2022 Meeting Minutes *SSD – (TC 4:29) – B. Blitz moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. A. Ziegler seconded. The motion passed with no objections.

V. FS President's report about shared governance, President appointment, upcoming Faculty Alliance retreat, accreditation, budgeting, Covid-19, MPAC, and planning

(TC 5:33) – A. Dewees delivered her report via a PowerPoint presentation.

- Despite concerns about the process from governance groups, the Board of Regents (BOR) unanimously voted to appoint P. Pitney as president.
- The Faculty Alliance (FA) retreat is happening the weekend before March 21 and then will go to the capital. Please consider taking Faculty Time Off (FTO) if you wish to participate in advocacy.
- The mid-cycle Accreditation report has been added to the shared drive by M. Haavig.
- Budgeting - there is a lack of clarity about the BOR tuition model, particularly what percentage of tuition is returned to programs/departments/campuses.

- The Master Plan draft presentation is on March 21 – and can be found on the facilities website. P. Maunu is now the lead and she has done a good job of soliciting student input.
- There are three BOR Policy Revisions that A. Dewees will add to the shared drive. The feedback deadline is in mid-March. One is about deleting policies related to “Shaping Alaska’s Future” policies. The others are in regard to allowing honorary and meritorious service awards to be revoked.
- It is time to think about selecting and electing individuals to serve on Faculty Senate (FS) as representatives next year, and a president elect. Ideally those individuals are identified by March 15. Campus senators who are not returning need to organize elections, ideally by March 20.
- Representatives are also needed for the Common Calendar Committee and for the Master Plan Implementation Committee (MPIC), and a CELT Liaison needs to be identified. J. Brown noted that there is going to be a statewide cyber security review and a faculty member will be part of the team.
- A. Dewees reviewed the defined workload credits for senate service, which can also be found at Article IV F. of the Constitution Chapter (2a.) of the [Faculty Handbook](#) (see page 9).

VI. New Business

a. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UGCC) proposals *SSD and CourseLeaf

(TC 26:01) – D. Cox’s written report is on the shared drive. There are a series of course changes and two new programs that have been through the committee process and are ready for a second and final FS review today. There is also an informational item regarding the deactivation of the Interdisciplinary B.A. (IBA).

Course Changes:

- **AKL S108 *Beginning Haida II.** Category A. General Education Requirement (GER). Update description, add Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs), align with other AKL courses. Passed UGCC without conditions. (Twitchell)
- **ENVI S120 *Cultures and Environments.** Category A. GER. New course number, moving content from HUM S120. Edited in committee, and updated in relevant degrees. (Wagner)
- **ENVI S360 Alaska: A Contested Geography.** Category A. Update course designator (formerly GEOG/HUM S360) and remove cross-listing; update course description. Updated in relevant degrees. (Wagner)
- **ENVS S380 Natural Disasters.** Category A. Update course number and title (formerly ENVS S213 Natural Hazards); update course description and add details to CourseLeaf. Passed UGCC with conditions, and updated in relevant degrees. (Nagorski)
- **HUM S120 *Alaska: A Sense of Place and Beyond.** Category A. GER. Revert course to previous version, moving current content to ENVI S120. Passed UGCC with conditions. (Wagner)

- **MATH S251 *Calculus I.** Category A. Proposed new GER. Passed UGCC without conditions. (Blitz)
- **MATH S252 *Calculus II.** Category A. Proposed new GER. Passed UGCC without conditions. (Blitz)
- **ODS S390 Selected Topics in Outdoor Studies.** Category A. New course. Passed UGCC with conditions. (Wagner)
- **STAT S200 *Elementary Statistics.** Category A. Move recommended course from prerequisite to description. Passed UGCC without conditions. (Blitz)

D. Cox answered questions about the HUM S120 proposal. *B. Blitz moved to approve the nine listed courses for second FS reading. M. Buzby seconded. The proposals passed second FS reading.*

Program Changes

- **Alaskan Mariculture, O.E.** Category A. New program using existing courses. Passed UGCC with conditions. (Markis)
- **Chemistry, Minor.** Category A. New minor. Passed UGCC with conditions and edited in committee. (Hoferkamp)
- **Information Item – Deactivation of the Interdisciplinary B.A. (IBA)** – Deactivate program. (Explanation: After being on hiatus before enrolling any students, a review the following year, and discussions by faculty and administration, official action has been taken on the IBA. Please see the IBA Memo sent to Chancellor Carey to deactivate the program in the FS shared drive. The deactivation will head to the BOR for approval, following the curriculum process of a program review, and a formal letter from the Provost detailing the process and reason for the deactivation.

D. Cox clarified that action is only needed on the two new programs. The IBA item is informational in nature. *M. Buzby moved to approve the two program proposals for final FS reading. B. Blitz seconded. The two proposals passed second FS reading. A. Dewees noted that no concerns have been raised with regard to the deactivation of the IBA.*

b. In our January meeting, Faculty Senate discussed the process for approval of the joint Marine Policy Program. Does Faculty Senate approve this process for the joint Marine Policy Program proposal with UAF (draws on the Faculty Handbook):
“Faculty Senate will consider this joint Marine Policy Program proposal at a Senate meeting once 1) there is a complete curriculum draft for the degree (one that has met UAF’s Graduate Academic Advisory Committee’s requirements for a motion to approve to UAF Faculty Senate), 2) approval from the applicable UAS program, and 3) approval from the UAS graduate committee. It is recommended to the faculty proposing this degree that the *complete* proposal be available to UAS Senators no later than the April 1st meeting.

(TC 36:15) – A. Dewees led a discussion on the issues with the joint program approval process. The suggested approval process language is as follows: *“Faculty Senate will consider this joint Marine Policy Program proposal at a Senate meeting once 1) there is a complete curriculum draft for the degree (one that has met UAF’s Graduate Academic*

Advisory Committee's requirements for a motion to approve to UAF Faculty Senate), 2) approval from the applicable UAS program, and 3) approval from the UAS graduate committee. It is recommended to the faculty proposing this degree that the complete proposal be available to UAS Senators no later than the April 1st meeting." J. Ward moved to approve the approval process language. A. Ziegler seconded. The motion passed on a Zoom chat vote.

c. FS President nominations are now open – (TC 43:05)

d. COVID changes (CDC); how do we get faculty input? What do we want to continue?

(TC 43:15) – Senators discussed recent changes and current status throughout the region. M. Ciri has worked to keep the campus community well informed on Covid related issues. A. Dewees is considering putting together a survey for faculty input on what mitigations should continue to be used. Senators discussed the problems faced by faculty offering short courses and also by students and colleagues who have different opinions on Covid mitigation efforts. Masking requirements currently differ in various settings and will change in the days and weeks ahead. After further discussion, *M. Buzby moved to approve the creation of a faculty survey on this topic by A. Dewees, J. Ward, and D. Noon. B. Blitz seconded. The motion passed with no objections.*

e. Admissions request for English-language proficiency test expansion (International students)

(TC 1:03:00) – A. Dewees has been in communication with L. Klein in regard to a request to expand the tools to a Duolingo test. She will follow up by adding some documentation into the drive. UAA and UAF are making such an option available as a last resort for international students who cannot get to a testing site or who do not have appropriate language testing tools available to them. Duolingo has some known deficiencies such as a lack of proctoring. It may be limited in the language domains it tests as well. A. Dewees will follow up on this topic.

f. Faculty Handbook proposed changes are now ready for faculty review. Reminder that FS approved removing language about core competencies from the handbook. Notable are proposed changes to Appendix H, Chapters 9, and language for open access.

In addition: 1) Does Faculty Senate approve adding UAS' land acknowledgment to the handbook? [I can't find it right now on the website], 2) does Faculty Senate recommend to the graduate and undergraduate curriculum committees that they change the word "remedial" in descriptions about undergraduate and graduate curriculum (pages 62 & 66), 3) does Faculty Senate support adding any of the following to the section about the course syllabus (page 34): i) a suggestion to include a link to the University of Alaska's nondiscrimination statement (<https://www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination/>), ii) a statement that "instructor pronouns are welcomed," iii) a statement that "the inclusion of the UAS land acknowledgement is welcomed"

(TC 1:08:35) – There is a handbook folder on the shared drive with a ‘track-changes’ version of the document. To assist with review, J. Ward prepared a pdf version and placed it in the meeting folder on the shared drive. A. Dewees led a discussion of the major changes proposed, and asked senators to confer with their faculty and be prepared to vote on the following at the next meeting:

- Including a land acknowledgement.
- Recommending the word ‘remedial’ be replaced in the curriculum sections.
- Three suggestions for inclusion in syllabi (non-discrimination statement, instructor pronouns, land acknowledgement).

g. Faculty governance: administrator appointments with faculty rank. Should Faculty Senate issue a reminder?

(TC 1:20:20) – Upon reviewing the handbook, A. Dewees noted that faculty are to be consulted when administrators are appointed with faculty rank. There have been recent instances when this has not occurred. After discussion, it appears that administration is now aware of this, and are complying.

h. Would Faculty Senate like to communicate any perspective about expedited program reviews? [description is in BOR policy]

(TC 1:23:02) – A. Dewees noted that the reviews are described in policy and invited faculty to share any thoughts or input with her if desired. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

i. Faculty governance: would faculty governance like to communicate any perspective about committee appointments?

j. BOR revisions

(TC 1:23:45) – J. Ward placed documents with proposed BOR revisions in the meeting folder on the shared drive.

k. CACANE update and request

(TC 1:23:49) – A. Dewees has received an email with some priorities from the committee. She will add those to the shared drive shortly.

VII. Old Business

a. Follow on Disability Accommodations

(TC 1:25:21) – Senators discussed concerns about how the process is working and shared suggestions for improvement. It was noted that each accommodation is particular to each student, each class, and each semester. It may require some back and forth negotiations to ensure the needs of the student as well as the needs of instruction are met. J. Malecha can currently assist with that process. Letters in future semesters will be coming from statewide and may be more rigid. Delays in notification each semester have been noted by some faculty. Senators were encouraged to continue the

discussion in their departments. This may be a topic for Convocation as well. A. Dewees will follow up with J. Malecha.

b. Follow -up on course marking OER

(TC 1:38:15) – Senators discussed progress on Open Education Resource course marking for upcoming semesters. M. Buzby reported that Natural Sciences faculty are not in favor of ‘No Cost’ but are okay with ‘No Textbook Cost’. Questions still remain about some scenarios, such as textbooks that are purchased once but used for multiple classes. Also, some disciplines have better OER resources than others. A. Dewees noted that the marking for ‘No Cost’ is going forward, but could possibly still be refined. UAA and UAF are already moving forward, so it is important for UAS to not be left behind. M. Haavig noted that faculty should not feel pressured to use OERs if there are not good resources that work for them. A. Dewees noted that there is a bill in the legislature on OERs this session. M. Haavig encouraged faculty to monitor the legislative efforts.

c. Update about collaboration across campuses (provost and registrars will work together to catalog current practices and possibilities)

(TC 1:49:22) – M. Haavig reported that she meets with the other provosts regularly and they are aware of and supportive of faculty collaboration efforts in disciplines such as Sociology.

VIII. Discussion Items & volunteer opportunities – (TC 1:51:10)

a. Accreditation (from SSD)

IX. Q&A Interim Provost’s Report (M. Haavig)

M. Haavig’s written report can be found on the shared drive (SSD).

X. IT Report– (C. Bennett)

1. CELT Report *SSD – (R. Gilcrist) (Please note iTeach application) There is also an ANDORE Training during spring break

(TC 1:51:50) – R. Gilcrist informed senators that the Web Strategy Committee welcomes faculty feedback on the idea of adding a field for preferred pronouns to directory listings. Please discuss this idea with your faculty to see if there is support for adding such an optional field.

2. Regional TLTR report in *SSD

XI. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

i. Undergraduate Curriculum (D. Cox) – SSD

(See Item a. in New Business)

ii. Graduate Curriculum (L. Richardson) – see above about Master’s in Marine Policy

iii. Research and Creative Activities (K. Meister)

(No report)

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

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.

XII. Announcements

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

XIII. Final thoughts and Adjourn

(TC 1:58:00) – M. Buzby moved to adjourn the meeting. N. Voelckers seconded. The meeting adjourned without objection.

XIV. Faculty Conversation

(TC 1:58:45) – J. Brown noted that the United Academics Report can be found in the shared drive.