

# Faculty Senate Minutes

March 1, 2024, 3:00-5:00 PM

Location: Egan Library 211

And via Zoom

Glenn Wright, President	x	Charmaine Lewis, Natural Sciences	x
Jennifer Ward, Past President	x	Melissa Dolese, Social Sciences	x
Brian Blitz, President-Elect	x	Jonas Lamb, Library	x
Mike Boyer, Business & Pub. Admin.	x	X'unei Lance Twitchell, Juneau	x
Neil Voelckers, Career Education	x	Angie Bowers, Sitka	
Beth Hartley, Education	x	Kasia Polanska, Ketchikan	x
Andrea Dewees, Humanities	x	Maren Haavig, Provost	x

Recorder: Anita Parrish

Guests: C. McKenna, Paulette Schirmer

- I. **Call to order** – (TC 2:35)
- II. **Roll call** – (TC 2:40)
- III. **Approval of agenda** – (TC 3:04) *J. Lamb moved to approve the agenda. C. Lewis and M. Dolese seconded. The motion passed without objection.*
- IV. **Approval of February minutes** – (TC 5:10) *N. Voelckers moved to approve the prior meeting minutes. A. Dewees seconded. The motion passed without objection.*
- V. **Old business**

**A. UGCC Category A proposals for Faculty Senate (FS) readings**

1. **OCAR 101 (Outer Coast)** (First Reading)
2. **OCAR 102 (Outer Coast)** (First Reading)
3. **Business Foundations, O.E.** (Second Reading)
4. **BA 180 Fundamentals for Human Resources** (Second Reading)

(TC 6:25) – *M. Dolese moved to approve the two Outer Coast courses for first FS review. N. Voelckers seconded. The two courses were approved for first FS reading.*

*M. Boyer moved to approve the next two listed proposals for second FS review. M. Dolese seconded. The two proposals were approved for second FS reading*

**B. Faculty administrative reviews**

(TC 10:35) – *J. Ward and G. Wright led a discussion about the progress made by the committee. The draft instrument they have prepared includes twelve standard questions*

and two additional open ended questions. *Please share this [linked report](#) with your units for feedback.* Faculty feedback is requested by March 22. Provost Haavig has received some feedback from the deans and directors. The committee will meet once more to review the feedback and make final edits for the survey to be administered this year.

Further discussion noted that the cost of the product is very low, it is being administered by HR, and that administrators have received reviews from their supervisors before, but they did not include any faculty feedback.

## VI. New Business

### A. Proposed General Education Learning Outcomes (GELO) changes

(TC 21:11) – C. McKenna reviewed the contents of [a memo](#) from the Provost’s Assessment Committee (PAC). Based on their most recent review process, the PAC has suggested changes to the GELO for “Critical Thinking” for adoption by FS. The revised wording is more appropriate for 200-level courses. G. Wright noted that the timing is compatible with getting the revised version into the Faculty Handbook. GELOs are in the handbook in the General Education Requirements section. There was general agreement that voting on the change as a handbook revision was acceptable.

### B. Proposed Faculty Handbook Changes

1. [Alaska Native Knowledge Graduation Requirement \[ANKGR\]](#) – editing courses linked to the ANKGR.
2. [Resolve ambiguity in case there are no FS President-Elect candidates.](#)
3. [Intent of Faculty Senate review of Category A proposals and clarification of process.](#)
4. [Move location of FS President’s summer workload.](#)
5. [Remove PSY tenure and promotion research appendix.](#)
6. [Revise and update language on grading process and procedures.](#)
7. [Assorted minor housekeeping changes to Handbook.](#)

(TC 29:00) – G. Wright led a review of the proposals the handbook committee have discussed. A formal vote on the proposed handbook changes will occur in upcoming meetings, *so please share the proposed changes with your faculty.* [Note: this review serves as a first reading of the listed items.]

- With regard to the first item, L. Twitchell noted that the Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Alaska Native Education (CACANE) met and approved text for adding a process for removing courses from the ANKGR list. He added the following suggested text into the meeting agenda.

*“Editing courses on the ANKGR list may alter their eligibility, which would result in removal from the list. CACANE will be notified of proposed changes to any course(s) on the ANKGR list after a first reading by the Undergraduate Curriculum Committee, and will review the proposed changes. Once notified of*

*proposed changes, CACANE co-chairs will review the proposed changes to determine if a full review by CACANE is necessary to recommend suggested adjustments to the proposed changes or the removal from the ANKGR list.*

*If it is determined that a course no longer meets the ANKGR requirements, namely that the course is not taught through an Indigenous framework and centered upon Indigenous primary source content, then it will be removed from the list by a vote of CACANE. If CACANE votes to remove a course from the list, then the Registrar will be notified immediately about the removal. Courses taken within the same academic year of removal or prior will still be eligible, but courses taken after the removal are ineligible to meet the ANKGR.”*

- G. Wright reviewed the second proposed change which would allow the previous year’s senate to meet and take action if necessary in the event that no nominations are received for a Faculty Senate President-Elect.
- The intent of the third proposed change is to clarify that the first FS reading of proposals is primarily informational. The majority of the work is then done in the UGCC, followed by final approval by FS.

During the review of this section, the handbook committee noted that schools without departments had deans/directors having a role in the curriculum process normally done by a faculty member. A second proposed change in this section would move that level of review to Program Coordinators.

- The fourth proposal moves existing handbook language about summer workload credit for the FS president to a more appropriate section. The current location is difficult to find and previous FS presidents have not been aware of it. The credit is not automatic and can be negotiated if warranted by the amount of work needed during the summer. Discussion ensued regarding workload credit for various committees and service activities.
- The fifth change reviewed was the removal of an appendix item for research criteria for promotion and tenure in Psychology as it is inconsistent with related fields in the Social Sciences department.
- The sixth proposal regarding grading deadlines was drafted earlier today, and some rewording of the proposal was made during the meeting to better address the underlying problem.
- The seventh proposal includes many housekeeping items, but a few more substantial changes. G. Wright reviewed the items from the linked document.

With regard to the section on academic integrity, the language was updated to reflect more current course delivery methods.

Senators discussed the lack of consistency in the terminology in the document about student course ratings. After discussion, the term *Student Course Ratings* will be the preferred term.

The section regarding search committees and a few other outdated sections have been updated to reflect current practices and technology.

- (TC 1:30:37) M. Dolese noted that the title for the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, & Cultural Safety (DEICS) committee is not correct in the handbook. Credit values for faculty service were further discussed.

### **C. FS President Elect nominations**

(TC 1:24:28) – G. Wright solicited nominations for the President-Elect position, and nominated K. Polanska, who declined. *Please let G. Wright know if you have any suggestions.*

### **D. [UAF resolution to add academic integrity language to BOR policy](#)**

(TC 1:25:38) – J. Ward gave an overview of the resolution. The UAF Faculty Senate hopes to pass this item and would like the UAS and UAA senates to take similar action. If all three senates support adding such language to Board of Regents (BOR) policy, Faculty Alliance (FA) can move it forward. The next BOR meeting is in May, so action can be taken on this item next month. *Please discuss this with your units.*

## **VII. President's Report**

### **A. FS Departmental representatives. Academic units elect between March 1 and 10. Campus senators by March 20**

(TC 1:29:03) – President Wright reminded senators of the deadlines for campus senators and leadership. *Please make sure this need is discussed with your units.*

### **B. [Honors Program proposal](#)**

(TC 1:32:37) – G. Wright introduced his Honors program proposal. He provided background on the previous program at UAS and current programming at UAF. He has been in discussions with Dean Silkaitis about it and is interested in gauging the level of faculty support for moving this concept forward. Due to the challenges of our size and the heavy workloads of UAS faculty, the proposal would utilize components of the UAF program. *He welcomes feedback on whether this seems worth pursuing in the future.*

### **C. Director of Admissions**

(TC 1:30:12) – The new Director of Admissions is Brenna Heintz.

## **VIII. [Provost's Report](#) – (TC 1:45:46) Provost Haavig highlighted the following from her written report.**

- J. Ward, T. Bell, and K. Smith have been selected as Faculty Accreditation Fellows. They bring varied faculty perspectives and will assist with the tasks related to the components of the Standard 2 accreditation review this summer and fall.
- The Equity in Retention Academy has been postponed until fall since participants from the Gardner Institute's sense making activity are not able to participate this spring. *Please let G. Wright or M. Haavig know if you are interested in participating in the academy or other retention projects.*
- The EAB workgroup has been refocused on better utilizing the available tools. Early Alert is just one of the EAB tools used by advisors and faculty. Processes and communications could be set up to be automated such as registration reminders. The group meets once a month on first Fridays at 11:00 in the morning. Currently there are no faculty members on the workgroup, and it would be helpful to have a faculty representative.
  - Discussion ensued regarding the Strategic Enrollment Task Force and the Retention Subcommittee of that group. R. Alexander has served on both, and a replacement is needed. *J. Lamb is willing to serve on both of those groups.*
- New federal rules are going into effect for academic programs that lead to professional licensure or certification. At UAS this will affect programs in the School of Education. There is a significant amount of work that needs to be done to ensure we are in compliance with the new rules. The rules pertain to students who go to school in one state but intend to be licensed in another state.
- Dr. Bill Urquhart has been announced as the new Campus Director for Ketchikan. A search effort to replace his Social Sciences faculty line is beginning.

## **IX. Committee Reports**

### **A. Faculty Alliance (FA) Report**

(TC 1:59:35) – J. Ward attended the February BOR meeting. They approved the 'Roadmap to Empower Alaska' document. There was a presentation by the Arctic Leadership Initiative and a review of priority strategies. Those priorities include addressing deferred maintenance and securing R1 research status for UAF.

FA held their retreat this week in Juneau and met with members of the legislature. Alliance members advocated for issues related to education and the university. The overall climate was friendly, but the legislative session is just getting underway.

- X. Adjournment** – (TC 2:01:38) *L. Twitchell moved to adjourn the meeting. J. Lamb seconded. The motion passed without objection.*