

## Faculty Senate Minutes

November 7, 3-5 PM

Location: Egan Library 211

|                             |   |                                 |   |
|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|
| Ali Ziegler, President      | X | Julie Schram, Natural Sciences  | X |
| Brian Blitz, Past President | X | Melissa Dolese, Social Sciences | X |
| David Cox, President-Elect  |   | Kaia Henrickson, Library        | X |
| Mike Boyer, Business        | X | Jay Szczepanski, Juneau         | X |
| Luke Gibes, Career Ed       | X | Terissia Bell, Sitka            | X |
| Kevin Spink, Education      | X | Colleen Ianuzzi, Ketchikan      | X |
| Xiaofei Song, Humanities    | X | Scott Billingsley, Provost      | X |

*The parentheses represent (person who made motion/person who seconded)*

- I. Call to order
- II. Roll call
- III. Approval of agenda (Kaia/Melissa)
- IV. Approval of [October meeting minutes](#) (Kaia/Terissia)
- V. Announcements/Questions/Guests:
  - A. Alison Staudinger - Welcoming Gateways update *We are no longer working with the Gardner Institute, and that money will now go toward Welcoming Gateways which is a community of practice project that will be led by Alison. There was an email sent out November 11 with more information and she will be Holding information office hours in her office, Soboleff 225--or [zoom](#) on **November 18th from 9-10am, or 4-5pm.** The kickoff is planned for early December.*
- VI. [Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Report:](#)
  - A. Initial approval for the following Category A Proposals: (Kevin/Jay) unanimously approved. There was discussion about the titles of some of the NWCA courses (for example, is the "1" necessary in 220) and whether there should be so many art GERs because of potential enrollment issues. The Outer Coast courses were also discussed and the MOA should be updated with a transfer chart.
    1. Alaska Native Studies, Minor. (Brown). Making changes to the degree in light of deactivated ANTH courses, substitution of ANS courses, and incorporation of NWCA designated courses.
    2. Data Science, Minor. (Buzby). New interdisciplinary minor to incorporate existing courses.
    3. Welding, Advanced, O.E. (Gibes). New OE for formal recognition of advanced welding skills.

4. MATH S113. \*Mathematics in Society. (Buzby). Updating course name to match UAF, adding topics, grading criteria, and syllabus.
  5. NWCA S201. \*Northwest Coast Native Art History & Culture. (Zacher). Changing course designator to NWCA line from ART was a prior GER, part of the realignment.
  6. NWCA S220. \*Beginning Northwest Coast Indigenous Design I. (Zacher). Changing course designator to NWCA line from ART was a prior GER, part of the realignment.
  7. NWCA S230. \*Beginning Northwest Coast Carving I. (Zacher). Changing course designator to NWCA line from ART and requesting to be a GER under Arts.
  8. NWCA S240. \*Beginning Northwest Coast Woolen Weaving. (Zacher). Changing course designator to NWCA line from ART and requesting to be a GER under Arts.
  9. NWCA S250. \*Beginning Northwest Coast Basketry I. (Zacher). Changing course designator to NWCA line from ART and requesting to be a GER under Arts.
  10. NWCA S260. \*Beginning Regalia Making I. (Zacher). New course in the NWCA program, requesting to be a GER in Arts requirement.
  11. NWCA S270. \*Indigenous Performing Arts. (Zacher). Changing course designator to NWCA line from ART was a prior GER, part of the realignment.
  12. OCEI S201. \*Topics in Environmental Science. (Hood). New Outer Coast course in two-year curriculum.
  13. OCEN S201. \*Topics in Literature. (Sczcepanski). New Outer Coast course in two-year curriculum.
  14. PSY S345. Evolutionary Psychology. (Dolese). New course examining human behavior and psychological processes from an evolutionary vantage point.
  15. STAT S210. Introduction to Data Science. (Buzby). New course teaching foundational skills in data science.
- B. Update: HS S106. \*Human Behavior in Healthcare. (Samuel). Requesting to be made a GER under Social Science. **10/23 update - this has been removed from consideration.**
- C. Category A Proposals for Final Senate Review (Terissia/Jay) **unanimously approved. Before she approves, Ali will add the word "at" to the last line of the catalog description of the Chemistry Minor.**
1. Chemistry, Minor (Behnke). *Passed final reading without amendments or conditions.*
  2. Education Pathways, B.A. (Alvey). *Passed final reading as amended course name, contact information, course description and conditions: ED S302 prerequisites be revised (they are working on), EDSE S482 replaced ED S482.*

3. Health Sciences, A.A.S. (Samuel). *Passed final reading without amendments or conditions.*
4. Release of Information, O.E. (Bell). *Passed final reading as amended: updated course catalog 2026-2027 and effective term Fall 2026, added HIM S117 as a required course.*
5. HS S100. Understanding Dementia (Samuel). *Passed final reading as amended to catalog description.*

VII. Old Business

- A. Ambassador Bookstore *Concerns about the bookstore were passed on to Jon Lasinski.*
- B. Faculty Handbook Committee (Blitz, Ziegler, Cox, Henrickson, Martin) *Has met once this fall and will meet again in December.*
- C. [Resolution to distribute pay over 12 month period - "9 over 12"](#) The Alliance chairs met with President Pitney and Interim Chief Human Resources Officer Nickole Conley. They will hear back about concerns and difficulties of paying faculty over 12 months later this month.
- D. NWCCU process for accelerated bachelor degrees. [V714: Commission Opens Process for Accelerated Bachelor's Degrees - NWCCU](#). No Update.

VIII. New Business

- A. The Compact
  1. What do we want to do? *Senators should share the UAF resolution with their people to determine if the UAS Faculty Senate should write a similar resolution.*
  2. [Copy of UAF's resolution](#)

IX. FS President's Report:

- A. Faculty Alliance Retreat Report Ali, David, and Brian went to Anchorage on October 25<sup>th</sup>. We met with Board of Regents members Scott Jepson (Chair) and Steve Colligan for a couple of hours as well as planned for the legislative visit on Feb 25-26.
- B. [Faculty Alliance Chair Report](#) Kaia inquired about the Student Fraud working group but Ali and Brian did not know about it.
- C. FIF awards will be announced by 11/17

- X. Provost Report - no written report Scott sent out a thank you to all the faculty and staff who participated in the "open house" on the Juneau campus October 25<sup>th</sup>. The dual enrollment coordinator will be hired soon. The Career Education Dean search is underway and the search for Vice Chancellor for Alaska Native Programs will be posted soon. Accreditation is going well and we are preparing for the site visit in April. The "Advising Pod" is meeting this semester and the chair is Bill Urquhart. The "Procedure and Policy Pod" will be working on the 6-year course sequence and the PCO process. Encourage your students to register.

XI. Committee Reports

- A. [CELT report](#)
  1. Anthology has filed for bankruptcy, but we are not losing Blackboard.

2. The deadline for compliance with the new ADA federal accessibility guidelines is April 2026. The guidelines apply to LMS and other online course content, as well as website content. Please see the full report for details and help resources.
  3. Please fill out CELT's Educational Technology Survey before November 10th. You can win prizes!
- B. Research and Creative Activity - The RCAC is currently reviewing URECA (Undergraduate Research and Creative Activities) proposals that have been submitted by undergraduates across UAS's programs. Thanks to the faculty mentors who have supported student researchers through the proposal process! Awards will be announced shortly.
- C. Sustainability Committee - We briefly discussed the proposed second crossing from Douglas, followed by updates from the sustainability committee regarding club officer needs and Earth Day planning. We then addressed waste management initiatives and electric vehicle charging stations on UAS campuses.
- XII. Adjournment. No later than 5PM. (Mike/Kaia) (4:05)

AY 25- 26 Calendar

| Day (1st Friday, 3 to 5 pm unless otherwise noted) | Tentative Agenda Items |
|--|------------------------|
| September 5, 2025                                  |                        |
| October 3, 2025                                    |                        |
| November 7, 2025                                   |                        |
| December 5, 2025                                   |                        |
| February 6, 2026                                   |                        |
| March 6, 2026                                      |                        |
| April 3, 2026                                      |                        |
| May 1, 2026  |                        |