

Faculty Senate Minutes

December 5, 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/vote)

- I. Call to order (3:01)
- II. Roll call
- III. Approval of agenda (Kaia/Terissia/unanimous)
- IV. Approval of [November meeting minutes](#) (Terissia/Kaia/unanimous)
- V. Announcements/Questions/Guests:
 - A. Pete Sommers - CPOS update Resources are available (for example Degreeworks) to check that students are only using financial aid for courses that make progress toward degree completion. Ideally this will start in Fall 25, but there are still several unanswered questions about some of the details.
 - B. Carin Silkaitis - Accreditation update See Provost's report.
 - C. [Winter Closure reminder](#) Faculty must use FTO on Dec 29,30, and 31.
- VI. Undergraduate Curriculum Committee Report (all info included below)
 - A. First readings for Category A (Kaia/Terissia/unanimous) It was unclear why some of these items are on the list, so the appropriate items will be moved to the February meeting.
 1. EDSE S492 Seminar is being refocused on behavioral management to meet the needs of PK-12 classrooms
 2. PSY S345 Evolutionary Psychology is a new course looking at the discussion of human behavior and psychological processes.
 3. Health Information and EHR Foundations, O.E. a new occupational endorsement that is an entry level endorsement for building/maintaining electronic data for patients
 4. Health Information Management, O.E. new occupational endorsements for digital healthcare

5. Health Information Management Billing Specialist, O.E. new occupational endorsement for creation and support of medical billing

VII. Old Business

- A. The Compact (Kevin/Kaia/unanimous) Motion: An Ad hoc committee will be formed to draft a resolution to oppose the Compact.
Committee members: Ali, Kaia, Kevin.
 1. What do we want to do?
 2. [Copy of UAF's resolution](#)
- B. Ambassador Bookstore There are still issues with the Bookstore, the Provost is still trying to gather information to address the situation.
- C. Faculty Handbook Committee (Blitz, Ziegler, Cox, Henrickson, Martin) Next meeting is Dec 9th.
- D. [Resolution to distribute pay over 12 month period - "9 over 12"](#) The Faculty Alliance wrote a resolution that gives faculty the option to distribute pay over 12 months.
- E. NWCCU process for accelerated bachelor degrees. [V714: Commission Opens Process for Accelerated Bachelor's Degrees - NWCCU](#). The provost went to the NWCCU meeting in November and attended a workshop on accelerated bachelor degrees.

VIII. New Business

- A. Banner issues? Finding courses is difficult in UA-Online. In particular, it has difficulties with special topics courses. Also, students don't seem to be able to search by instructor.
- B. [Review Senator responsibilities](#) Please review the Faculty Handbook so that you are familiar with the responsibilities of being a Faculty Senator.
- C. [Ed2Go](#) There was an agreement between UAS Sitka and Ed2Go which was signed over the summer that points students to courses at Ed2Go which is a for-profit institution. The intent of the agreement is to give students the option of learning background knowledge (for example, using excel) for courses in the HIM programs. However, there is a concern that we may have courses at UAS which could serve that purpose. Terissia, Scott, and Jeremy will meet about this and get back to the Faculty Senate. One option is to keep the agreement and the other is to abandon the agreement and try to help students within UAS.

IX. FS President's Report:

- A. [Faculty Alliance Chair Report](#)
- B. [2026 FIF Awardees | Academics, Students & Research](#).
- C. Faculty Involvement in Recruitment and Retention If you have any thoughts on this topic then please share them with Ali.
- D. Reminder about MFA Starting December 18th, phone calls will no longer be an option as a notification method. If you don't have a phone that does texts, then contact the ITS helpdesk.

X. Provost Report Make sure you have a back up plan for the weather.

- A. Program proposal update BoR will not entertain any new degrees at the February meeting, because they want to see program portfolios.

- B. Dual enrollment coordinator - Jess Dean started on Nov 17 and is working with JDHS to improve the enrollment of dual enrollment students.
 - C. Dean of Career Education update The search closes Jan 5, Amy Samuel is the chair of the search committee. In January Carlee will step down from being Interim Dean of Career Education and Scott will take her place.
 - D. NWCCU update A preliminary EIE (Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness) report was given to NWCCU for feedback. Everything is on track for our April site visit.
 - E. UA Online update This was discussed in VIII A.
 - F. Spring Startup - Thursday January 8, 2026 Typically this is on Wednesday.
- XI. Committee Reports
- A. [CELT report](#)
 1. Request to Senate from CELT - what kinds of training opportunities and CELT offerings do you want to see (or not see) at Convocation / Spring Start-up?
 2. UAS access to the Blackboard phone help line ends on Dec. 10th.
 - B. Research and Creative Activity - The RCAC has awarded 6 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! We look forward to a great symposium celebrating undergraduate research in the spring semester!
 - C. Sustainability Committee - Earth Day planning and upcoming campuswide survey. Need for updates to the sustainability website; committee will review and revise content. Recycling challenges on campus, especially cardboard waste and unclear data ownership. Exploration of reusable to-go container systems (e.g., OZZI) and related dishwashing needs. Dining and housing updates relevant to sustainability planning.
- XII. Adjournment. No later than 5PM. (Kaia/Mike 5:00pm)