

ALASKA COLLEGE OF EDUCATION STEERING COMMITTEE

Friday, December 8, 2017
8:30 – 10:30 AM

MEETING NOTES

Members present:

Chancellor Rick Caulfield (chair)	Provost Susan Henrichs	Interim Provost Duane Hrcir
Provost Karen Carey	Interim Dean Steve Atwater	Dr. Jonathan Bartels
Dr. Katy Spangler	Dr. Amy Vinlove	Dr. Cathy Coulter
Dr. Vigil Fredenberg	Dr. Sean Topkok	Prof. Paul Ongtooguk
Prof. Ernestine Hayes	Prof. Diane Kardash	

Meeting notes taken by Keni Campbell, Chancellor's Executive Assistant

1. Welcome/review of agenda

Chair Rick Caulfield welcomed members and the agenda was reviewed.

2. Reminder about recording of meeting

Chair Caulfield reminded the committee that the meeting will be recorded and a live stream link has been shared so that non-members may listen in. The meeting is being live-streamed and also being recorded by video conferencing services.

He noted that once review of applicants begins, those meetings will not be public to respect confidentiality.

3. Review of previous meeting notes, October 27, 2017

There were no changes to the meeting notes.

4. Transition to "UA Teacher Education Council" and anticipating Spring 2018 meetings

Chair Caulfield noted that beginning January 1 this committee will transition to the UA Teacher Education Council. President Johnsen has been drafting a charge to all of his councils, including this one. When received, Chair Caulfield will forward that draft onto the committee for review. The Executive Dean of the Alaska College of Education will chair the committee after that position is filled.

UAS faculty member Dr. Virgil Fredenberg will be replaced by Dr. Lisa Richardson beginning January 1. This is his last meeting.

Keni Campbell has contacted all three deans and provided funding code information for compensation of faculty representatives for Spring 2018. Faculty will need to work with their deans to make those arrangements.

5. Review of UA FY19 Operating Budget request for teacher preparation

In the budget request, President Johnsen identified goals and measures for teacher preparation.

Goal #1: Increase Degree Attainment - Education references include:

- a. UAS Partnerships with K12 - AKCOE: Expand “Educators Rising” and leverage school district partnerships.

Goal #2: Provide Alaska’s Skilled Workforce - Education references include:

- a. Increase percentage of UA-trained new educators hired from 30% to 90% which represents an ambitious commitment to Alaska's schools and kids:

UAF Marketing & Recruiting:

Education recruiter and travel

Faculty focused on preparing teachers for rural schools

UAS Marketing & Recruiting:

AKCOE: Sustain statewide marketing of Teacher Education, year 2 of 5

AKCOE: Incentivize UA collaboration - expand MAT, STEM, and high demand programs.

UAS Alaska College of Education:

AKCOE: UA-wide education data analyst position

UAF Partnerships with K-12:

Expand RAHI education track; collaborate with Educators Rising

UAS Financial Aid:

AKCOE: PITAAS - Grow Alaska Native & multicultural educators

statewide

Goal #4: Contribute to Alaska’s Economic Development - Education references include:

- b. Increase STEM graduates by 50% which responds to projected growth in STEM jobs in Alaska

UAA Partnerships with K-12: Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP). Broadly speaking, some ANSEP students may choose to become teachers, indirectly contributing to the overall efforts.

This budget reflects the Board of Regents making teacher education a strategic priority. Chair Caulfield asked the committee to share this information with their colleagues. He noted that at the UA Foundation directors’ meeting yesterday, President Johnsen emphasized these there as well. There was discussion about the lack of UAA representation in the education category budget requests. It was clarified that these goals were sent in by each university. UAS and UAF had included several requests with regards to teacher education, while UAA had not. Chair Caulfield noted that this request reflects the current process of submissions by each university over the past six months. He encouraged committee members to speak with their respective chancellors regarding the goals. His hope would be that the FY20 request will include a more comprehensive and integrated array of proposals, with broad recommendations coming from the UA Teacher Education Council. This is not to say that each one will be accepted at each university, but in the midst of formalizing this Council, through alignment and coordination, that next year this group will be in a better position to approach teacher education marketing, programmatic needs, and not specifically to one program at anyplace, but more comprehensively. It is a bit disjointed at this time due to the transition to a new structure.

K. Spangler noted that the most concerning thing would be recovery of faculty positions that have been systematically deleted, and what the plan for that will be. S. Henrichs commented that all three universities have had dramatic budget reductions. Overall the UA budget has decreased significantly and allocations have been made at the statewide level which the three universities have not had much control over, combined with reduced enrollment. In terms of specific goals set by the President and the Board of Regents, these are very ambitious, including not only a dramatic increase in the production of teachers, but in enrollment overall. If enrollment grows as a result of these efforts, tuition revenue will increase, which can potentially help us invest in strategies and number of faculty.

D. Hrcir noted that at UAA, enrollments are actually growing in Education. As new revenues are realized they will look at their staffing levels. K. Carey noted that UAS has three tenure-track faculty recruitments happening right now - one in education leadership, one in special education, and one in ed tech. These positions have been vacant for several years, but are now being renewed for fall 2018.

S. Topkok expressed concern about references in the budget request and in the External Advisory Council notes to the MAT program. He notes that while the MAT program at UAS is exemplary, this could send a poor message to other stakeholders, who may misinterpret it as discouraging students to enter into the master's degree programs at UAA or UAF. He worries that this could be seen as marginalizing to these stakeholders in the EAC.

Chair Caulfield noted he hears the concerns expressed, but at this time just wants to make sure the committee is familiar with the budget document, noting that the council members as leaders in their collective areas have an opportunity to coordinate, align, and encourage investment in this area in the future.

S. Atwater asked about the budget request for PITAAS, requesting clarification on the status of PITAAS, as there has been conflicting information. Chair Caulfield noted that PITAAS has been present as a program for about 20 years. It has been a partnership with Sealaska Heritage Foundation (SHI)--the lead Alaska Native Organization submitting the grant proposal. It has had good success overall in supporting Alaska Native students seeking to become teachers, principals, and superintendents. It began years ago in Southeast Alaska but has now expanded to include students in other areas of the state. The most recent ANEP proposal was not successful given the competition. However, the intention is to continue PITAAS by redirecting funds to make sure it continues as a program. As noted, there is a FY19 UA funding request to support that.

The Chair expressed hope that the UA Teacher Education Council could work toward a coordinated UA-wide PITAAS-like effort, with engagement from Native entities and faculty/staff across the state. The goal would be to provide a more consistent UA outreach and partnership effort with the focus on increasing Native teachers, principals, and superintendents.

A. Vinlove asked about the level of active engagement for the school districts, and scholarships - whether there was documentation including ISER data on number of grads, etc. V. Fredenberg suggested inviting Ronald Cadiente to present to the new council on the work of PITAAS and its

effectiveness. Chair Caulfield added it would be good to include a discussion and presentation on all efforts for Alaska Native teacher education, rural, and multicultural.

6. Updates about UA Education administrative changes: anticipated March 2018 BOR meeting

President Johnsen and the three chancellors have been discussing timing for when administrative changes will be brought forward to the BOR, to include the name change of the UAS School of Education to the Alaska College of Education, and how UAA and UAF will incorporate their programs into other colleges at their respective schools. The plan is to present the proposed changes to the BOR at their March 2018 meeting. This will be addressed in the Academic Council meeting next week. D. Hrcir said he does not think a decision will be announced at that AC meeting, but it is an opportunity for more discussion. S. Henricks noted that the education faculty at UAF had an opportunity to vote on which college they would prefer to join, and they had opted for the College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics. Consultation with governance groups is in process; they have been invited to comment. The Academic Council will not be making the decision, but rather register support or opposition. She wants to give an appropriate interval of time to allow governance groups to comment before asking formal input from the Academic Council, and anticipates the governance groups will get back to her in January. C. Coulter asked what the School of Education there would become with this change, and S. Henricks said that had not yet been determined. She has a meeting with faculty next week and it will be part of the discussion.

The President's memo indicated that education programs should be led by an associate dean or a director, and would be a division within the college it is to be housed. S. Henricks noted that this is not consistent with how UAF is organized - they do not normally have divisions. The title of director is usually reserved for faculty, so it is somewhat out of sync with normal practice there.

7. Updates about AKCOE External Advisory Council meeting, November 1, 2017

The draft meeting notes from the second meeting of the EAC were shared with the Steering Committee. The meeting was chaired by President Johnsen. V. Fredenberg noted that when the council was first created, no education faculty members were included on the committee. He thinks that faculty representatives should be involved. A. Vinlove agreed. She didn't see any notice that the meeting was occurring. She asked that a committee member be able to serve on that committee in order to ensure accurate information is shared. Chair Caulfield said these are good points, and he will convey these thoughts to President Johnsen, who established the committee.

Caulfield noted that this is an advisory committee that is only now just getting its legs, and there is still an opportunity to influence participation and structure. Moving forward, he will ask for faculty presence when the meeting is taking place. V. Fredenberg noted that these council members are quite respected in their areas and would think they would appreciate having education faculty at their meeting so that they know their message is getting to the right audience. Chair Caulfield thinks having the UA Teacher Education Council and the advisory council meet once a year, face-to-face, would be worthwhile.

J. Bartels noted that he is thinking about CAEP accreditation; UAA has held off on forming an external group as they didn't want the perception of undermining, but it is needed for the CAEP accreditation. D. Hrcir said that the UAA site visit is this spring, and he anticipates it will be

successful. The external group needs to be formed, and does not see why each campus couldn't have an advising committee, with this overarching committee. These things will be worked thorough.

8. Update on initial teacher education marketing campaign

Chair Caulfield noted there was an earlier discussion about investment in the current fiscal year in marketing teacher education, and he had hoped to have more information to bring back to the committee. There is general UA marketing being broadcast now, and asked if the committee members had been hearing it - they had, both radio and television. This is the first phase of the President's broader message. \$100,000 has been set aside specifically for marketing teacher education programs for the UA system.

Robbie Graham in the President's office is coordinating this effort, and tells Chair Caulfield that they are moving forward on this. A subcommittee of this steering committee (E. Hayes, K. Spangler, S. Atwater, and Chair Caulfield) had a conversation about what an initial campaign would look like. Robbie Graham said there are plans for 6 weeks of marketing to include public television and radio, as well as some spots on cable statewide, and in movie theaters during the holiday season. The campaign will be rather generic for UA teacher Education, why Alaska needs more teachers, principals, administrators. There is a FY19 budget request for marketing as well; not just this short term plan. The goal is for sustained marketing long-term.

9. Hiring of AKCOE Data Analyst - underway

A new position for an AKCOE data analyst is included in the FY19 budget request. The President's office is helping with that funding, and recruitment is moving forward. This position will be focused specifically on teacher education, and will involve coordination with institutional research at each university. It is an important need here at UAS but will also provide support to the UA Teacher Education Council. There will be more discussion about roles and responsibilities, and types of data needed. J. Bartels asked whether this person would help with the accreditation push, data collection, etc. Chair Caulfield said that the work at each university would involved their own institutional research staff, but anticipates this position would work closely with them, providing overarching coordination of data - things that affect all three universities. C. Coulter noted that a lot of data collection involves stakeholders, administrators, interviews. It would make sense for it to come from one source instead of three, to be more streamlined. P. Ongtooguk noted it would be nice if, at a minimum, all three universities used the same software. Chair Caulfield noted that the lead IR people will work with this new person, and roles would be aligned over time. The intent is to add value, not duplicate efforts.

10. Planning and anticipated budgets for Spring 2018 face-to-face meetings

The committee reviewed the existing faculty groups and the planned meeting dates. A new group was proposed for research. There should be CAEPR representation. In the last meeting notes, there was some information laid out about that. Chair Caulfield said that for budgeting purposes, we will need to know when, where, and how many faculty for each of the following groups:

Elementary: The elementary group is meeting on February 2, piggy-backed onto the Cargill Foundation Grant meeting. All of the elementary and secondary full time faculty are invited to attend that grant meeting, about 30.

Special Education: S. Atwater agreed to check with the special ed statewide conference, but they have not yet landed on a specific date. He will update when he knows.

Secondary: J. Bartels has been canvassing his colleagues for a date for the secondary group.

Graduate: C. Coulter is working on the graduate group time and date.

Research: Chair Caulfield recollected that they were working on identifying which faculty members would be interested in that conversation. S. Atwater identified 7 people at UAF. J. Bartels said about 10-12 for UAA. V. Fredenberg thought 1-2 at UAS, but suggested checking with Lisa Richardson since she will be replacing him on this committee. Chair Caulfield asked if anyone on the committee would be interested in coordinating the research faculty group. Chair Caulfield will talk to Lisa Richardson about this [she subsequently agreed to help coordinate]. C. Coulter said she would be happy to partner with her on both. The greatest number of people would be located in Anchorage, so this may be the best location for the meeting.

E. Hayes noted that on April 14-15, Juneau is hosting the Alaska Native Studies Conference, with pre conference activities beginning on April 13. C. Coulter noted that the American Educational Research Association meeting starts April 13 which also has pre conference activities, including indigenous issues, on April 12, in New York.

11. Discussion: Plans for recruitment of Executive Dean, AKCOE

Chair Caulfield gave a reminder about confidentiality. Nothing confidential will be discussed today, but in future discussions about the recruitment there will be no recording or public access. Recruitment is now open for this position, and there are a number of applicants. He had encouraged anyone interested in learning more about the position to call or email him; he has had about 6 conversations with people who wanted to know more. The role of this council will be as a screening group for candidates and making recommendations to UA leadership about finalists.

Caulfield shared a timeline for each stage of the recruitment process. The preliminary phase is simply yes/no whether someone meets the minimum four requirements. The intermediate phase goes into deeper scoring, taking into consideration the preferences as well as the requirements. Those who pass onto the next level will be interviewed via audio conference. After that 3-4 suitable candidates will likely be invited for in-person interviews and public presentations of various kinds. Chair Caulfield is mindful of scheduling challenges, and thinks that a small group of 4 in the first two phases would be prudent. After that, a judgement will be made about who to invite for phone interviews. All committee members would be involved with that.

The goal is to be in a position to make an offer by March. There are 15 candidates currently, and he would like at least one faculty representative from each university to assist with the preliminary and intermediate screening. E. Hayes noted that a rep from Alaska Native Studies would be good to include in the early stages. She said if the other two representatives on this committee were not able to serve, she would be willing to do so. Chair Caulfield noted that consistency is very important, and will require all committing the time and being available.

There was a short discussion about possible conflicts of interest. Chair Caulfield noted that he would consult with HR and get back to the group. S. Henrichs noted that conflicts of interest typically involve those of a financial nature - if people are in business together - or if there is any

reason when a person feels they cannot be impartial, for whatever reason. Chair Caulfield again stressed the critical importance of confidentiality.

12. Wrap-up and review of future Steering Committee meeting schedule

The steering committee's next meeting is on January 12, 2018 from 8:30 to 10:30 AM, at which time they will be known as the UA Teacher Education Council.

It was noted that the February 2 meeting will need to be adjusted due to the elementary faculty group meeting.