SENATE FACULTY MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY MAY 4, 2009

1. Call to Order and Roll Call (3:00pm)

President Jill Dumesnil, President-elect Jonathan Anderson
Senators: Rick Wolk, Priscilla Schulte, Chip McMillan, Leslie Gordon, Matt Heavner, Mary Claire Tarlow, Rick McDonald, Jeremy Kane

Guests: John Pugh, Mark Speece

2. The Agenda was approved

3. The April 3 minutes were approved
   The April 10th minutes were approved with a title change from April 9 to April 10

4. Report from the Chancellor: Chancellor Pugh addressed the Reconciliation Committee letter (included in supplemental documents) and his response (included in supplemental documents). He thanked the Reconciliation committee for its work and said he would work to address the recommendations. He noted that school budget decisions are not his, but the Deans. He commented about an executive performance appraisal system, noting that UAA and UAF have procedures and that UAS would institute one next year. He noted his confusion/concern with the recommendation that we come to consensus on an institutional identity. He said that good communication is challenging and will take hard work and time. He agreed that we should have a leadership retreat before convocation and suggested the 20th or 21st.

   The Chancellor talked about the fact that there are serious conversations going on about UAS being absorbed into UAF. The Chancellor noted the decline in the last decade in our share of students from 14% to 7% and that this puts us at a disadvantage given the realities of Program Based Budgeting (PBB).

   In response to a question the Chancellor stated that James Everett will be Acting Dean of Arts and Sciences through the summer. Robbie Stell will take over as Interim Provost May 11 and Dr. Everett will resume his position as Vice Provost for Student Success. In that role he will supervise the Learning Center and several academic programs in student services (e.g. TRIO). Dr. Stell will make the decision on the status of the Arts and Sciences Dean in the Fall.

   Senator Tarlow commented on the need for ethical communication. Time is needed.

   President-elect Anderson noted a widespread lack of understanding of the phrase “Teaching and Learning” and how that lack of understanding led to fear and mistrust.

   Several expressed hope that Convocation would involve useful discussions.

5. Report from President – Jill Dumesnil

President Dumesnil listed the Faculty Senate for the Academic Year 09-10
   President: Jonathan Anderson
   President-elect: Sherry Tamone
President Dumesnil noted the new President assumes office at the first Senate meeting of the Academic Year. She also noted that Vice Chancellor Carol Griffin looks forward to meeting with the Senate next year to discuss Mark Speece’s memos (included in supplemental documents). Finally, she recommended that the Senate meet twice a month next year – once for general business and once for substantive discussions.

6. Jonathan Anderson reported the Academic Planning committee had met twice, had reviewed the academic plans of UAA and UAF and the draft statewide Academic Plan. He noted there is no definite template for an Academic plan and that this process gives us an opportunity to really think about who we are and what we want to be as a university. A discussion site has been set up on the Faculty Senate page and all faculty are encouraged to participate in brainstorming about the characteristics of this plan.

7. The Senate unanimously voted to accept the recommendations from the Reconciliation committee, but noted that this should only be a start.

Rick Wolk said the School of Management encouraged UAS to 1) bring in an outside facilitator, 2) Create a 360 degree evaluation process for senior administrators, 3) make sure budget decisions are linked to overall strategy and 4) ensure faculty are a part of the entire university budget planning process.

8. The Senate unanimously expressed its appreciation to President Dumesnil for her leadership during this difficult year.

9. Senate adjourned at approximately 5:20 pm