

University of Alaska Southeast
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

October 2, 2020, 3:00 – 5:00

Via Zoom

President – D. Noon	X	Juneau Campus – F. Wagner	X
Past President – H. Batchelder		Ketchikan Campus – R. Landis	X
President Elect – A. Dewees	X	Library – J. Ward	X
Education – H. Batchelder for G. Sampson	X	Natural Sciences – S. Nagorski	X
Business & Public Administration – M. Boyer	X	Sitka Campus – J. Martin	X
Career Education – J. Fantasia	X	Social Sciences – D. Monteith	X
Humanities – K. Krein	X	Vice Provost – M. Haavig	X

Guests: C. Bennett, D. Cox, R. Gilcrist

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Introductions (TC 3:00)**
- III. Announcements (TC 6:10)**
 - a. Summer Proposed Course Offerings are due by October 23.
 - b. The Power and Privilege Symposium will be held November 10. Session proposals can be submitted via [this link](#).)
 - c. An information session about the Willamette University College of Law will be held October 14. Please see the document on the shared drive about this proposed partnership to provide a pathway for UAS students into their program.
 - d. Please also see the ‘Plan to Recruit and Train Alaska Native and Indigenous Faculty’ document in the shared drive. The university has experienced a disproportionate loss of these faculty members, and the plan suggests ways to rebuild and expand our faculty ranks.
- IV. Approval of Agenda (TC 8:19) – D. Monteith moved to approve the meeting agenda. S. Nagorski seconded. The motion passed with no objections.**
- V. Approval of September Minutes (TC 8:45) – D. Monteith moved to approve the minutes. J. Martin seconded. The motion passed with no objections.**
- VI. President’s Report (TC 9:32) – D. Noon will post his written report in the shared drive after the meeting. He highlighted the following from the September 25 Faculty Alliance (FA) meeting.**
 - The loss of Alaska Native and Indigenous faculty described in the plan on the shared drive was discussed. H. Batchelder noted that specific requests would be coming from the Alaska Native Studies Council to both FA and Faculty Senate (FS).
 - Discussed at length was the process for developing a statewide teacher education program. There are differences in opinion among program faculty on how to present ideas and suggestions. Interim President Pitney wants a moderated discussion with faculty, while some faculty want to be able to meet without administration present. The facilitated meeting that Pitney wants may happen as early as the thirteenth of this month. FA has concerns about shared governance principles not be followed. H. Batchelder noted that the FA leaders are scheduled to meet with Pitney next week.
 - A number of issues related to the union were discussed. Concerns about financial transparency remain. There are also concerns about whether good faith efforts are

being made to reposition faculty who are not being retained in their programs. FA endorses the formation of a forum of support for faculty members who have been noticed or repositioned. There is interest in hiring a professional negotiator for the renewal of the Collective Bargaining Agreement. Faculty are encouraged to give input through members of the Representative Assembly.

- The Common Calendar Committee has begun working on Academic Year 2023. H. Batchelder noted that J. Hamilton has agreed to serve as Interim Chair of the Common Calendar Committee, and it is possible that M. Buzby will resume leadership of that group upon her return from sabbatical.
- FA has a retreat coming up on October 23-24.

VII. Provost's Report (TC 15:35) – M. Haavig's written report can be found on the shared drive. She highlighted the need for some UAS faculty to participate in the Canvas Learning Management System pilot project this spring and asked senators to bring this to their faculty. She explained that the eCampus at UAF planned a pilot of this alternative to Blackboard for the current semester and opened it up to participation by UAA and UAS. However, the COVID-19 pandemic disrupted those plans. Nonetheless, UAF conducted a small pilot this semester. Canvas is used by the Juneau School District and some units in the UA system. *If UAS faculty would like to participate in the pilot next semester, please let M. Haavig know by October 16.* Once the participants are identified, we can plan how to proceed. There are some concerns with whether the pilot should be live or not. Please see her written report for additional information.

VIII. IT Report (TC 18:40) – C. Bennett gave updates on the statewide project to upgrade the power systems in the IT Center in the UAF Butrovich building. One server was deemed to be in too poor of condition to handle the upgrade, and they are moving the systems it houses to other servers before making the change. The shutdowns originally planned for this month will not occur until that process is complete.

The project to migrate Blackboard to a cloud based solution is still being planned and may be a "cut over" rather than a migration.

Zoom did not begin a universal requirement for passcodes or waiting rooms as planned, but UA had already implemented that requirement.

There is a statewide 'Security Matters' campaign underway with helpful information to avoid phishing attempts and to be more protected. Look for emails about webinars and other resources to help keep your information secure.

IX. CELT Report (TC 22:00) – R. Gilcrist's written report is on the shared drive. With funding from the STEPS grant, UAS has purchased an annual subscription to the Magna Commons and Twenty Minute Mentor series. The subscription will allow faculty to view the webinars on demand. The Instructional Designers have been busy helping faculty adapt to online and hybrid teaching. CELT has many workshops and opportunities scheduled this month. The full schedule can be found on the [CELT website](#).

X. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committees

i. Undergraduate Curriculum (UGCC) (TC 24:12) – D. Cox referred to his written report on the shared drive.

1. Category A Courses for initial FS review in Course Leaf. D. Cox noted that if the proposals listed below are approved today, they would move back to the UGCC for a first and a second reading. If they pass through that process successfully, they will come back to FS for a final review.

- **ART S105 Beginning Drawing:** Add course to Arts General Education Requirements (GERs) and align with UAF, update course description and Student Learning Outcomes (SLOs) (Zacher).
- **ART S181 Beginning Northwest Coast Design:** Add course to Arts GERs and update the course description and SLOs (Zacher).
- **ART S201 Beginning Ceramics:** Add course to Arts GERs and update the course description and SLOs (Zacher).
- **ED S122 Introduction to Education:** Proposed course for Social Science GERs, update SLOs, course content, and grading criteria (Deal).
- **EDSE S402 Special Education in the Alaskan Context:** New course proposal (Andrews).
- **EDSE S481 Understanding and Supporting Student Engagement:** New course proposal (Andrews).
- **Interdisciplinary Studies, B.L.A.:** Multiple clarifying updates, note the intent for these changes to be applied across the B.L.A. (Deweese).

Action was taken on the six course proposals as a group. *D. Monteith moved to approve the six course proposals. J. Ward second.* Upon further discussion, it was noted that ED S122 is proposed as a Social Science GER, but Social Science faculty have not been part of the review process. *D. Monteith amended his motion to exclude ED S122 at this time. J. Ward seconded. ART S105, ART S181, ART S201, EDSE S402, and EDSE S481 passed initial review by Faculty Senate.*

K. Krein moved to approve the proposal for the Interdisciplinary BLA degree program. F. Wagner seconded. K. Krein noted that the biggest change takes the requirement for Alaska Native Knowledge requirement out of the degree program since it is now a graduation requirement. Other changes remove classes that are no longer offered or have had designator changes. *The proposal passed initial Faculty Senate review.*

D. Cox noted that a number of proposals due to the Environmental Sciences and Geography program reviews and alignment would be on the agenda next month.

- ii. Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC) (TC 49:45) – H. Batchelder noted that the current FS bylaws require that members of the GCC be drawn from the tenure track faculty ranks. Term Education faculty member S. Andrews is willing to serve this year, but she cannot unless an exception is made. Due to low faculty numbers, having her serve would help the department. *D. Monteith move to allow S. Andrews to serve on the committee for this academic year. R. Landis second. The motion passed with no objections.*
- iii. Research and Creative Activities – Draft minutes from the September 17 meeting are on the shared drive.
- iv. Sustainability (TC 1:45:45) – S. Nagorski extended a welcome for faculty in Sitka or Ketchikan to join the Sustainability Committee, or to designate a point of contact. They are working on [their website](#) and want to capture what is happening at all three campuses. The committee meets once a month.

b. Other/Shared Governance

- i. Title IX – No report.

XI. Old Business

- a. **Six Year Sequence Plan Committee** (TC 57:20) – As discussed at the last meeting, Director Schulte asked M. Trafton, A. Piotrowski, and W. Urquhart to review the

sequence update process, and those faculty members requested senate input on whether to form an ad hoc FS committee. Senators reported in on the feedback they have received about forming such a committee.

- Humanities supports the idea and believe a committee to help coordinate between departments and campuses would be helpful. If there is not a lot of support for it though, they will not push for it.
- Business and Public Administration see some value in it for distance courses and GERs, but do not have a great need for it. They thought advisors and faculty might be good on the committee if one is formed.
- Education does not object, but does not see a great need.
- Career Education does not have much need for it, but has no objections.
- Natural Sciences I did not see much value in it, but will support if others want it. They would prefer it be a short-term commitment if a committee is formed.
- Social Science also sees some benefit but do not have a great need. They are concerned about the additional workload, but see the value of having faculty oversee the process.
- Library faculty are not enthusiastic about forming another committee.

D. Noon summarized that while there is value in having an FS committee to oversee this task, at this time it would be difficult to find faculty with room on their workload to take this on.

- b. Dual Enrollment Work Group** (TC 1:06:45) – Please see the draft Dual Enrollment Work Group Charter on the shared drive and a related email. It is proposed that this group build on the recommendations of the FS Task Force from last year. The recommended constitution of the group is three faculty members representing each campus and school as well as staff and administrators that understand the array of areas that dual enrollment encompasses. One of the faculty members will co-chair the group along with M. Haavig. *Please take this to your faculty to see if they may be interested in serving.*

XII. New Business

- a. Administrative Review Committee** (TC 1:11:05) – Interim Chancellor Carey needs two faculty members to serve on this committee. The committee will review our current administrative structure and look for ways to streamline for potential budget savings. Please see the background document on the shared drive. The committee expects to have their first meeting by October 16. The first deliverable is due November 2. In addition to the two faculty members, it will include staff representatives, a Chancellor’s Advisory Committee on Alaska Native Education (CACANE) representative, and administrative representatives.
- b. UAS Mission Statement revision** (TC 1:15:55) – D. Noon noted that the current mission is difficult to measure and Interim Chancellor Carey would like to get it revised so that it not only represents what we do but also allows us to track and demonstrate our accomplishments for accreditation. There is a document on the shared drive with the current mission, a suggested revision from Executive Cabinet, and several other proposed missions for consideration. M. Haavig noted that the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) has also changed their standards and we need to be able to address those with our mission and goals.

D. Noon, K. Krein, and M. Haavig led a discussion of the various proposals. Senators are asked to discuss the proposals with their faculty and consider which one they would like to see adopted. Ranking the choices was suggested and comments and ideas for improvement are welcome. It was noted that the revision proposed by Executive Cabinet omits research from the statement, which is difficult to measure.

If faculty want to include research in the mission, they need to suggest metrics for tracking it. J. Ward noted that she maintains the master list of faculty publications.

Please discuss this and provide input as the Chancellor Carey would like to get this completed in a timely manner.

- c. **Revisions to Course Completion Contract** (TC 1:34:50) – IT has requested changes to the form that would give them notice of students who may need to have their course access extended to allow them to complete their work. Please see the suggested revisions to the contract. *As no objections were noted, the form will be updated to help our students.*
 - d. **Changes to election bylaws** (TC 1:36:03) – D. Noon placed an item in the shared drive that has both the UAS and UAA criteria for selecting a president-elect. The last few years, UAS has had only one person express interest in taking on the responsibility, and the requirement to have two candidates has created unnecessary work and stress. Please bring this topic to your faculty to see if there are objections to removing the requirement of a minimum of two candidates for future elections.
 - **Accelerated Master’s Initiative** (TC 1:38:14) – D. Noon referred to an item recently added to the shared drive. LuAnn Piccard, Engineering faculty from UAA, is looking for an endorsement of a proposed change to BOR policy. The proposal would allow the decision for students to count up to nine upper division credits in both an undergraduate and graduate program to be made at each MAU as opposed to needing BOR approval. *Please share the proposal with your faculty to see if there is any objection to supporting this.*
 - e. **Decolonizing the UAS course catalogue** (TC 1:40:35) – L. Twitchell recently brought attention to outdated catalog course descriptions. D. Noon noted that many courses have not had their descriptions reviewed in quite some time and may have outdated and biased language. He asked faculty to review and submit curriculum change proposals as needed in their subject areas.
 - f. **Handbook review** (TC 1:42:40) – If we can get the handbook committee started early it will help us get the bylaws changed in time for the next election. Note: The composition of the committee is defined in the handbook as follows:
 - i. Faculty members of the committee will be the Executive Council and a representative of UNAC.
 - ii. In the event the committee generated in above does not include at least one representative from each of the UAS campuses, one representative from each of the unrepresented UAS campuses will be appointed.
 - iii. Ex-officio members will be the Provost and the Provost’s Assistant.
 - g. **Canvas Pilot** – Discussed at item VII. See M. Haavig’s written report in the shared drive for details.
- XIII. Juneau Business** (TC 1:45:45) – See Sustainability at item X. iv.
- XIV. Adjourn** (TC 1:47:30) – K. Krein moved to adjourn the meeting. S. Nagorski seconded. The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.
- XV. Faculty Discussion**