

MINUTES
UAF FACULTY SENATE MEETING #170
Monday, November 8, 2010
1:00 p.m. – 3: 10 p.m.
Wood Center Ballroom

I Call to Order – Jonathan Dehn

Faculty Senate President Jonathan Dehn called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

A. Roll Call for 2010-11 Faculty Senate

Members Present:

ALLEN, Jane
ANGER, Andy
ARENDT, Anthony
BAEK, Jungho
BAKER, Carrie
BARBOZA, Perry
BROCIOUS, Heidi (Stephan Golux)
CAHILL, Cathy
DAVIS, Mike
DEHN, Jonathan
DEHN, Lara
GANGULI, Rajive - audio
HANSEN, Roger
HIMELBLOOM, Brian - audio
HOCK, Regine
HUETTMANN, Falk
JENSEN, Karen
JOLIE, July
JONES, Debra – audio
KADEN, Ute - audio
KERR, Marianne - audio
LARDON, Cecile
LAWLOR, Orion
MCINTYRE, Julie (Bret-Harte, Donie)
METZGER, Andrew
NEWBERRY, Rainer
PALTER, Morris
RENES, Sue
REYNOLDS, Jennifer
ROBERTS, Larry - audio

Members Present (cont'd):

THOMAS, Amber
VALENTINE, Dave
WEBER, Jane
WILSON, Timothy

Members Absent:
BARTLETT, Christa
DONG, Lily
FOWELL, Sarah (Fall Leave)
MCEACHERN, Diane
ZHANG, Xiong

Others Present:

Linda Hapsmith
Mike Sfraga
Carla Browning (audio)
Denise Wartes
Ralph Gabrielli
Theresa John
Jenny Bell-Jones
Mike Koskey
Pat Pitney

GUEST SPEAKER:
Peter Lewis, Superintendent
FNSB School District

Non-voting/Administrative

Members Present:

Brian Rogers
Susan Henrichs
Mike Earnest (Registrar)
Anita Hughes (Assoc. Registrar)
Eric Madsen
Doug Goering
Maria Russell (audio)
Jordan Titus
Josef Glowa
Latrice Laughlin
Cindy Hardy

B. Approval of Minutes to Meeting #169

The minutes were approved as distributed.

C. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as distributed.

II Status of Chancellor's Office Actions

A. Motions Approved:

1. Motion to Approve an Updated Procedure for the Program Review Process

B. Motions Pending: None

III Public Comments/Questions

No public comments were made.

IV A. President's Comments – Jonathan Dehn

The UAF Governance Coordinating Committee elected Nikki Carvajal of ASUAF as chair. The System Governance Coordinating Committee (which also includes the Alumni Association) has elected Joe Hayes as chair, with Nikki Carvajal serving as co-chair.

Work by Faculty Alliance on the condensed version of the Academic Master Plan is progressing. They've taken the accreditation themes for each major academic unit and incorporated them as overarching goals in the AMP, parsing detail from the original plan under the themes as objectives and action items. The original AMP will still be used as an operating document by the System Academic Council. The December meeting of BOR will hear a brief on the draft of the condensed AMP with an eye to voting on it at their February meeting. Between those meetings, Jon will seek the review of the Faculty Senate via email.

Jon asked Jordan Titus to provide news of the ORP hearing that took place recently, when her comments are shared later in today's meeting.

B. President-Elect's Comments – Cathy Cahill

Cathy reported on the Tuition Taskforce that is looking at tuition rates for FY13. The matter is complicated by the fact that CBA's are in negotiation, so they're working with some unknown costs which will affect the budget. The hole is estimated at \$26 million for FY13; but if the state provides a 3% increase in funding, the hole will be \$15 million. Statewide has listened to the students' request that tuition be raised no more than 7%. While originally it was agreed that graduate tuition rates would not go up, UAA and UAS want such increases to be considered along with increasing out-of-state tuition rates. This heavily impacts UAF students more than the other two units.

Cathy mentioned the new Chancellor's Cornerstone award. Flyers are at the back table.

Cecile L. asked about how to give input to the taskforce, and Cathy said that input can be shared with her. Orion L. shared observations by the Research Advisory Committee on how difficult it is to

prepare a five-year research grant, for example, with the rising tuition costs that are retroactively applied. The end result is doing less research because of the costs.

Jennifer R. asked about the UAA/UAS situation, and Cathy explained that their students receive fewer waivers than UAF students. Susan H. commented that one-quarter of UAF graduate students have tuition waived, with another quarter of grad students paid out of grants, and half are paying tuition themselves (but most of those are part-time students). UAA has fewer graduate students, of which almost none have waivers or grants paying for their tuition. Their graduate students are primarily working on professional degrees (e.g., MBA's, M.Ed.'s) and paying out of pocket. Jon asked about charging differential rates at the campuses, and the Chancellor commented that it's been BOR policy to charge the same for graduate and upper division undergraduate areas of study; however, charging a differential rate either by campus or by program is something to be considered. The discussion needs to start taking place regarding this possibility.

V A. Remarks by Chancellor Brian Rogers

The general obligation bond issue including the Life Sciences Building was approved by voters, and the Chancellor extended thanks to all who supported the bond. Thirty-eight out of 40 districts in the state voted overwhelmingly in support of K-12 and higher education.

Two other projects supported in this bond include the SNRAS greenhouse, and the utilidor. The greenhouse is out to bid. The Life Sciences' schematic design was approved by the Facilities Committee of the BOR right after the election and will be reviewed tomorrow by the full Board. The RFP may be out as soon as this week. Steel will be ordered in the spring, and the plan is to have the building closed in by next fall. The building will be open for use some time in 2013-14. The greenhouse will be ready by next winter. The Alaska Center for Energy and Power's first lab building will go up next summer. Federally-funded changes to the Arctic Health Research Building for CANHR will also be going on during the summer.

Planning is underway for new and existing facilities; but, the BOR is not requesting any funding for new buildings in its current capital budget (only major and deferred maintenance and renovation projects) for next year. The operating budget also goes before the BOR tomorrow. President Gamble expects flat funding, which also depends upon the structure of the legislature, in part. There aren't strong interior leadership positions in the legislature this year. Rural Alaska support will be important.

Regarding tuition increases, the Chancellor hopes that the Faculty Senate will be poised for action once the tuition committee's recommendations are made known. He's concerned about the impacts of high tuition costs for graduate students. If tuition is raised too high along with the out-of-state surcharge, it will impact research and sponsored activities, as well as the fact that we risk driving students away from UAF. He hopes the senate will take a strong position with the administration's backing.

President Gamble is making campus visits with the goal of walking through every building the university owns by the end of the year. There are a series of visits scheduled at UAF during December (research facilities), January (instructional facilities), and during spring semester. Cecile L. suggested the president take a wheelchair with him, or someone in a wheelchair. Gruening access in particular was noted as a problem. The Chancellor noted he is familiar with the problems of accessibility there and said it's not a fixable building. A new replacement building for instruction is needed.

Andrew M. asked who's doing the planning of the engineering facilities at UAA and UAF. Chancellor Rogers answered that it's being done by System Administration (Kit Duke is the chief facilities officer). They've hired an independent consulting firm to look at data about the numbers of students that will utilize the facilities in both locations. CEM Dean Doug G. has been participating in the process. Draft reports are posted at the UA Facilities web site: <http://www.alaska.edu/facilities/>

Book adoption notices have gone out to all faculty. The university needs to be in compliance with federal rules on publishing book prices for students; so, faculty need to make their adoptions in a timely manner. Also, faculty may post "no book" if that's appropriate to a course.

B. Remarks by Provost Susan Henrichs

Community campus directors had a recent meeting. President Gamble attended, and Susan noted that he is not interested in separating any community campus out from the university – to quell any rumors of that. However, he would like to see more distinction with the mission of the community campuses and some clearer delineation in BOR policy and strategic planning documents.

Another topic of discussion was the Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) funding from the state which has been used to sustain many of the UAF-CRCD programs. The funding source has lately been shrinking and becoming somewhat less reliable. Fred Villa at Statewide (who's in charge of the program) wants to shift away from using that money for long-term support of programs, and use it instead for initial program startup or other short-term projects. It could perhaps be used for modest facility renovations and equipment replacement. To qualify for funds, the program should be a high demand job area degree program. Faculty in these program areas should start thinking about how funds could be used along these lines. There are two opportunities in the new year to apply for the money (unexpended funds – a one-time ask scenario; and, a request for funds from new-year money). She sends announcements of those opportunities out to the deans and encourages them to send them on to the departments.

Susan announced that Mike Earnest will talk about late-grade submissions during this meeting. There's been some slippage in the submission of grades and faculty were reminded of the importance to get them submitted for their students who are dealing with financial aid, as well as foreign students and their visa status

VI Governance Reports

A. Staff Council – Maria Russell

Maria participated by audio. She mentioned staff across the state who are working on FY12 staff compensation. She gave an update on Staff Appreciation Day, and mentioned the Chancellor's Cornerstone award. The process to nominate staff for that award is now online: <http://www.uaf.edu/chancellor/awards/>

B. ASUAF – Nicole Carvajal

Nicole was not able to be present.

C. UNAC – Jordan Titus

The collective bargaining process continues. Committee vacancies were mentioned, including a seat for a UAF member on the representative assembly, a seat on the Joint Health Care committee (which includes membership from all the unions and administration), and a seat on the Elections committee for a UAF member. Interested persons should contact Jordan.

Jordan also gave an update on the ORP hearing. The judge denied the State's motion to dismiss the case and the University's motion for summary judgment. What is clear from this action is the University's appeals committee does not have the status to review or decide upon constitutional issues. This demonstrates that constitutional issues are, in fact, part of the basis of this lawsuit.

Cecile L. asked if the next date for the lawsuit is in some time in 2012. Jordan said the next hearing is in February 2011.

Jane W. gave a brief report as a representative for UAFT. She mentioned that the Joint Health Care Committee membership includes representatives from all three MAU's, the unions, administration and staff. They met recently for two days in October to look at the health care plans and work toward keeping costs down. Jane mentioned there are, however, significant rising costs to be dealt with.

Jon asked where one volunteers for the committee seats that were mentioned. Jane recommended talking to the appropriate union. Jon reminded everyone to talk to their constituents and encourage them consider serving where needed.

VII Guest Speaker

A. Peter Lewis, Superintendent of Schools, FNSB School District

Superintendent Lewis is now four months into the job and noted the similar issues he faces with deferred maintenance and teachers submitting data. He's also been visiting school district facilities (21 of 35 so far), as President Gamble similarly is doing in the university system.

He asked his schools for a list of integration projects with UAF, and received a list that was 13 pages long from the secondary schools. While they also have funding shortages, they want to build bridges with UAF and say yes to new and innovative projects with a perspective not just as a K-12 program, but rather as a K-20 system. 187 students from FNSBSD were sent to UAF last year, but 58 needed remedial courses, particularly in math. Ways to address that situation are being considered. He mentioned that 45-46% of the UAF freshman class is from FNSBSD. They want to see those numbers grow, so that we grow our own teachers and classified staff.

The Introduction to Education course was mentioned, which is being developed out of the School of Education in conjunction with North Pole and Ben Eielson secondary schools. The importance of thinking outside the box was noted, and working to meet students' needs for 21st century skills. Helping each other and working together as educational institutions was emphasized, to help our students, our community and our shared future.

Cecile L. noted that there seems to be a disconnect between the teachers at K-12 and the faculty at UAF as to what constitutes student readiness. Cecile has concerns about the students she is seeing. She suggested more exchange of information and dialog between parties. Mr. Lewis agreed that they need to sit down and talk about improving readiness and raising the bar.

Dave V. commented regarding how we might go about making UAF attractive for the best students coming out of the school district so they choose to go to UAF rather than outside the state. Mr. Lewis noted that the best and brightest will compete with anyone, but he wants all students to realize their abilities to compete and have options for the future. He mentioned the article in the newspaper about ACT and SAT scores being good – their students can compete; but, also what is needed is to get more students into the game by addressing the achievement gap, breaking down barriers of poverty and finding ways to reach those whose culture has not included college goals.

Susan H. expressed her concern about math preparation issues and the great need among students for developmental math. Past discussions have pointed to making math a requirement every year in high school, rather than only through the sophomore year.

Mr. Lewis concurred that the research also supports that conclusion, especially for student success in college. Issues need to be addressed, such as the dislike of math, “senior-it is”, and the mode of just getting them across the graduation stage. Math problems can be identified by 4th grade, so what needs to happen to carry the success forward must be discussed.

Mike E. asked about student readiness with regard to the Governor’s Alaska Performance Scholarship. Mr. Lewis noted that the district is examining all the pieces to that. The main addition will be a credit in social studies. They’re still looking at how that will fit with the current staffing and curriculum.

Orion L. asked about where one would go to share great ideas about getting students interested in math. Mr. Lewis responded they should talk to him, encouraging as much discussion as possible.

Lara D. shared her concern about getting students to take ownership of their learning. Mr. Lewis responded that knowing the answer to that could make a lot of money. He commented on how kids think of “smart” as being able to do something easily; but, he views it like learning to skateboard – how kids struggle with it and persist until they master it is a mentality that’s needed in the classroom. Being “smart” needs to be redefined as something that takes effort and it’s not something that comes easily. Lara commented that this is also needed at the university level. Students need to realize it’s not easy, and it’s a privilege to make the effort to become educated. Mr. Lewis added that we need to keep expectations for students high, keeping gentle pressure consistently applied. The learning environment in our culture today is very different from a past generation or two, with students facing the digital world constantly around them. It’s a complex challenge and he encouraged the continued dialog.

BREAK

VIII Announcements

A. Registrar’s Office:

1. Printed course schedule is going away.
2. Enforcement of the grade-posting deadline.

Registrar Mike Earnest spoke to the facts regarding the discontinuation of the printed course schedule. Next fall the course schedule will be completely online (in a number of different formats). An informational bulletin will still be published in paper form, but will not contain the scheduling of courses. A survey of what is needed for the printed bulletin is being made, but it will be very similar to what is included in the front portion of the course schedule publication currently.

One of the main reasons for discontinuing publication of the course schedule is that by the time it's printed it's grossly out of date. A downloadable spreadsheet from the Registrar's Office web site will be provided with up-to-date course schedule information.

Karen J. asked what length of time the course schedules will be available online. The Library receives many inquiries regarding past course schedules, even as far back as ten years ago. Mike responded that at the end of each semester they will freeze and archive the schedule. They'll make it available online and then it would eventually be stored in OnBase. It'll be a more accurate picture of what actually took place than the printed schedules.

Donie B. noted that's difficult to browse the online catalog without knowing exactly what one is looking for. Mike said the online Course Finder is a work in progress, and they're seeking to make some upgrades. The downloadable spreadsheet version can be sorted and filtered more easily.

Jane W asked if instructions will be sent out and Mike said the printed registration bulletin will have complete instructions for faculty, staff and students.

Andy A. shared why he doesn't think the change is a good marketing move. From an advising standpoint, the printed schedule is also used and highlighted for the students and they can take it with them to think about. At UAF-CTC they discussed doing away with a printed course schedule and decided not to go that route because it goes out to a large audience and serves a good marketing purpose.

Dave V. asked if a PDF will be available that they could print. Mike responded that since the schedule won't be printed, a PDF format will not be available. That format is still a snapshot in time, and their goal is to provide real time information to everyone. They will work with the most current version online. The spreadsheet can be printed, and suggestions for improving it are welcome.

Sustainability is also a key reason for the change. Last year, 13 tons of wood were used to print the schedule, producing 35,000 pounds of CO₂. It produced 9,700 pounds of solid waste, and used 81,000 gallons of water.

Lara D. asked about cutting printed production in half. Mike noted the information is still out of date as soon as it's printed. Typically, by the time the schedule is printed, about a thousand changes have already occurred. Lara asked why the matter was not brought before the senate. Mike replied that because the task is a procedural matter, it's an administrative decision, not a policy matter applicable to the senate.

Jane W. said if they try this a while and it doesn't work out, will they move back to paper? Mike said no; but a PDF might be a possibility. Juneau prints a class list on a weekly basis with no detail. UAA has a PDF of their schedule which is put online which saves paper, but does not meet the goal of providing the most up-to-date information to students.

Jennifer R. commented that Mike is making a value judgment about what is most important part of the service to the students. Faculty are saying that advising and browsing is an important service to the students. Perhaps having the most up-to-date schedule is not the feature most important to students. Mike commented they would work on the ability-to-browse-the-schedule issue.

Cecile L. said she supports his decision; but it takes time to get used to the change. She feels we can learn to use this new system, noting that students are very tech savvy. Amber T. expressed her agreement with Cecile. One of her concerns on the advising issue is having something searchable in

front of her and a student, such as two laptops. More terminals needed in Wood Center for students who don't have the technology.

Lara D. commented that she is unhappy that faculty were not consulted, once again, on an issue that affects all of them as advisors to their students.

Jane Allen asked if the CRCD course schedule will remain on paper. Susan H. mentioned that Summer Sessions, UAF-CTC and CRCD schedules will still be on paper.

Mike E. went on to announce the enforcement of grade submission deadlines: The deadline this semester is December 22 at noon, which will have grace period until midnight of December 24th. In January they will work with the Provost and Deans to gather in any missing grades.

IX New Business

A. Motion to Amend the Faculty Senate Constitution, submitted by the Administrative Committee (Attachment 170/1)

Jon D. brought the motion to the floor. Jane W. made a motion to postpone the vote on this motion until the next face-to-face meeting in February. Mike D. seconded the motion to postpone the vote. An oral vote was recorded, and the results were: 1 abstention; 9 "yes" (to postpone); and 20 "no" votes.

The motion on the amending the Constitution was brought to the floor for a vote. An oral vote was again recorded and the results were: 22 "yes" (to amend the Constitution); 6 "no" (not to amend); and 2 abstentions. A record of the voting is posted online at the FS Meetings web page.

B. Motion to Approve the DANSRD Unit Criteria, submitted by Unit Criteria Committee (Attachment 170/2)

Perry B., Unit Criteria chair, brought the motion to the floor, noting the unique goals of DANSRD. The unit criteria include a description of the goals of the department, which provides a helpful context for the criteria that follow. He introduced Ralph Gabrielli from DANSRD who was present to help answer any questions. Jon D. asked if there were any sticking points for the committee when they reviewed the criteria. Perry noted that defining qualified peers to appraise faculty files was an issue that came up. DANSRD reviews not only come out of scholarly societies, but also come from members of user groups who are using the research and service products of DANSRD. There is a lot of explanation about who is a qualified peer to provide review.

Jordan Titus asked some questions about wording on page six and seven of the document which seemed ambiguous to her and that which might lead to problems or an appeal should a faculty be denied promotion. Ralph G. provided explanation for these areas. Perry also noted the language Jordan asked about was in a preamble section, and specifics were provided below that section which was clear.

Theresa John spoke in support of the DANSRD unit criteria, noting it would benefit the faculty with its defined criteria.

Mike D. moved the motion to a vote which was seconded. Ayes passed the motion to approve the DANSRD unit criteria. There were no nays and two abstentions.

- C. Motion to Specify the Minimum Grade for Baccalaureate Core Courses, submitted by Curricular Affairs (Attachment 170/3)

Rainer N. brought the motion to the floor, explaining that under current policy, students may pass Core courses with a D- grade.

Karen J. asked why C- rather than a C was used for the minimum grade. Cathy C. noted that C- is used for transfer students coming in to the UAF system, so it was used to be consistent with current policy.

Dave V called to question and it was seconded. A vote was taken; the motion to require C- as the minimum grade for a Core course was passed. There was one nay vote.

X Discussion Items

- A. Update on the Core Revitalization Subcommittee – Curricular Affairs

Rainer N. noted that the Curricular Affairs Committee was still working on this.

- B. Statewide's request for one-year math placement test expiration date.
– Administrative Committee (Attachment 170/4)

Cindy Hardy introduced this topic, noting its history last year, as illustrated by the agenda attachment. Cathy C. explained how last year's change aligned the deadlines at all three MAUs; but that UAA and UAS wish to change it back to a one-year expiration.

Latrice L. spoke in support changing the expiration date for math placement tests back to one year.

Linda H. commented on the confusion for students with the differing deadlines for English and math placement. Several faculty commented on the benefit to students who need to take math to have a shorter placement test expiration time of one year rather than two.

Jon D. noted the issue will come back before the senate for a vote.

XI Committee Reports

Reports were condensed to a quick comment due to the lateness of the meeting.

- A. Curricular Affairs – Rainer Newberry, Chair (Attachment 170/5)
- B. Faculty Affairs – Jennifer Reynolds, Chair
- C. Unit Criteria – Perry Barboza, Ute Kaden
- D. Committee on the Status of Women – Jane Weber, Chair (Attachment 170/6)
- E. Core Review – Latrice Laughlin, Chair (Attachment 170/7)

- F. Curriculum Review Committee – Rainer Newberry, Chair
- G. Faculty Appeals & Oversight – Charlie Sparks, Convener
- H. Faculty Development, Assessment & Improvement – Josef Glowa, Chair (Attachment 170/8)
- I. Graduate Academic & Advisory Committee –Ken Abramowicz, Chair
- J. Student Academic Development & Achievement – Cindy Hardy, Chair

Cindy noted that they're still discussing the Student Learning Commons and have a subcommittee working on it. They're also gathering data on mandatory placement with reading and writing, and invited comments from faculty.

- K. Research Advisory Committee (ad hoc) – Orion Lawlor, Roger Hansen, Co-Chairs

Orion noted that the committee is talking about the maximum tuition rate increase for graduate tuition. They're also discussing intellectual property. They'll be working with and talking to the incoming associate vice chancellor for research, Dan White.

XII Members' Comments/Questions

No comments or questions were made.

XIII Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:10 PM.