

UAF Faculty Senate Unit Criteria Committee

Report for Academic Year 2013-2014

Members: Chris Coffman (Chair), Leif Albertson, Torie Baker, Mark Conde, Christine Cook, Javier Fochesatto, Debu Misra, Cathy Winfree, Stephen Sparrow (ex officio)

The Unit Criteria Committee met on 9/10/13, 10/22/13, 11/5/13, 11/19/13, 12/3/13, 1/21/14, 2/18/14, 3/25/14, 4/8/14, and 4/22/14; we are also scheduled to meet on 5/6/14.

- The Unit Criteria Committee reviewed and approved the following criteria during 13-14; these have since been approved by the UAF Faculty Senate and UAF Chancellor Brian Rogers as well:
 - Department of Communication (CLA)
 - Department of Anthropology (CLA)
 - School of Management (SOM)
 - Department of Music (CLA)
 - Graduate Program in Marine Science and Limnology (SFOS)
 - Foreign Languages and Literatures (CLA)
- The Unit Criteria Committee reviewed and approved the following criteria during 13-14 and sent them forward for approval by the UAF Faculty Senate, which is pending:
 - Computer Science (CEM)
- Peer Unit Criteria reviewed during 13-14 and sent back for revisions that are still pending:
 - International Arctic Research Center (IARC)
 - Mathematics and Statistics (CNSM)
 - School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences. (SNRE) (SNRAS was merged with Cooperative Extension during 13-14 to form a new entity, the School of Natural Resources and Extension [SNRE]. However, the unit criteria for SNRAS are being proposed for renewal at this time and will cover SNRE faculty working in fields that were previously housed in SNRAS; the existing criteria for Cooperative Extension will continue to apply to SNRE faculty working in fields that were previously housed in Cooperative Extension.)
- Peer Unit Criteria scheduled for review during 13-14
 - Marine Advisory Program (SFOS) is scheduled for the committee's review on 5/6/14
- In reviewing Unit Criteria, the committee is now asking that units proof their criteria carefully to eliminate errors, including discrepancies with the standard Blue Book template. Surprising numbers of errors and discrepancies have been

discovered within existing peer unit criteria. Thus, a goal of review in spring 2014 forward is to eliminate these errors because of the problems they could cause for faculty if left uncorrected.

- The Unit Criteria Committee has been developing proposed additions to its bylaws. These clarify voting procedures for the committee as well as the respective roles of committee members and peer units in the process of developing and seeking approval for unit criteria.
- Faculty Senate President-Elect Cecile Lardon is now heading up the Blue Book project, which will continue into 2014-2015. It is anticipated that during 2014-2015 a draft of the proposed revisions to the Blue Book will be presented to the Unit Criteria Committee for review. The committee has discussed the possibility of proposing some revisions to the Unit Criteria template that is in the Blue Book and may take this up during 2014-15.