

DRAFT MINUTES

UAF FACULTY SENATE MEETING #182
Monday, April 2, 2012 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom

I Call to Order – Catherine Cahill

A. Roll Call

Members Present:

Abramowicz, Ken
Alexeev, Vladimir
Baek, Jungho
Baker, Carrie (Jun Watabe)
Bandopadhyay, Sukumar
Bret-Harte, Donie (Brian Rasley)

Members Present (cont'd):

Reynolds, Jennifer
Short, Margaret
Valentine, David
Weber, Jane
Winfrey, Cathy

The minutes for meeting #181 were approved as submitted.

C. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as submitted.

II Status of Chancellor's Office Actions

A. Motions Approved:

1. Motion to Amend the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science Degree Requirements
2. Motion to Amend the Educational Effectiveness Policy
3. Motion to Approve an Updated Procedure for the Program Review Process
4. Motion to Clarify the Academic Honors Policy
5. Motion to Approve a New "Directed Study" Category of Registration

B. Motions Pending: None

III A. President's Comments – Cathy Cahill

Cathy noted that the eLabs Taskforce recommendations were circulated. A revised copy has been included in today's agenda that reflects input they

B. President-Elect's Remarks – Jennifer Reynolds

Jennifer announced that Faculty Senate election results are still forthcoming. Committee assignments will be finalized when all the results are in, and shared at the Faculty Senate meeting in May.

IV A. Chancellor's Remarks – Brian Rogers

Chancellor Rogers was unable to join the meeting today.

B. Provost's Remarks – Susan Henrichs

Provost Henrichs reported on the progress of the budget in the legislature, which has turned out to be better than expected. Many of the university increment requests are included in the Senate or House budgets, or both. There is also support for helping to cover the extraordinary rising fuel costs. The university has had much support from its community and business partners. With the capital budget now under consideration, it's hoped the positive support for university projects will continue through that process, as well.

Susan mentioned that work on the FY13 budget is about to commence by the Planning and Budget Committee (PBC). They will also look at the FY14 budget request which will go to the Board of Regents first before being sent to the legislature. The PBC has been restructured to align with the Core Themes, in response to one of the recommendations from the NWCCU site visit. PBC members will be divided into subcommittees to represent individual core themes, along with a group representing resources and capacity (a more broad area addressing computing, IT, library, and facilities). Each subcommittee will recommend criteria for setting priorities for reallocations in the FY13 budget, and for FY14 budget requests. PBC will be active in April and May, with the goal to get drafts to statewide administration in early June.

C. Vice Provost's Remarks – Dana Thomas

Dana commented that he was happy to see the resolution to endorse the UAF Mission Statement. The survey for the mission statement received 460 responses.

He thanked Eric Madsen, Cathy and Jennifer for hosting the two demos of vendor software for the electronic Faculty Activity Reporting.

The efforts of the General Education Revitalization Committee continue to be supported by his office. He and four of the committee members will attend the Association of American Colleges and Universities' General Education Institute in June.

V New Business

A. Resolution Condemning the Proposed Tobacco User No Hire Policy, submitted by Administrative Committee (Attachment 182/1)

Jennifer R. brought the resolution to the floor, explaining that the proposed policy had not come to Faculty Alliance, Faculty Senate, or any other Governance groups that they are aware of. However, it was recently mentioned in the Fairbanks Daily News-Miner, and has been informally discussed throughout the university. The Administrative Committee was very concerned that the proposed policy was inappropriate for the university and drew up the resolution. Jennifer invited discussion about the policy and the Faculty Senate resolution as a response to it.

Elisabeth N. stated her support for the resolution, noting that there are many personal habits people may have that affect their health, rhetorically asking where the line would be drawn. She described the idea of the policy as ludicrous.

Cecile L. also agreed, pointing out this policy starts a slippery slope. She also commented that the institution could do a lot more effective things than proposing this policy.

Steve B. asked for clarification regarding family members who use tobacco. The policy, as written, states if family members (spouse, dependents) use tobacco, the applicant would be denied employment. Steve observed that we don't control our dependents, and Rainer asked if the word "ludicrous" came to mind.

Lara H. brought up the case of cancer patients who may smoke marijuana, but Rainer pointed out that it's not tobacco.

The resolution was called to question and a vote was taken. The resolution condemning the tobacco user hire policy passed unanimously.

B. Resolution to Endorse the UAF Mission Statement,
submitted by Administrative Committee (Attachment 182/2)

Cathy C. brought the resolution to the floor and asked for a few words from Vice Provost Dana Thomas. He noted that mission statements are always a compromise in wording. Using the statement that received the most support from the survey, 75 pages worth of comments had been reviewed and used to construct this current statement.

Cathy asked if this version was final. Provost Henrichs said that Chancellor's Cabinet has expressed satisfaction with it. Next, it will go to System Academic Council and the Board of Regents.

Karen G. commented that she had shared the mission statement with faculty at her department, and they had observed that the statement does not reflect any kind of creative activity at the university. Karen read statements from her faculty:

Because the arts are an essential and vibrant part of life in all of Alaska, playing a vital role in life from Native Alaska families to life in our cities, it cannot be left out of the university's mission statement. What would Alaska be without our drummers, dancers, artisans, musicians, actors and artists? Our life here in Alaska is given meaning and expression in the arts in a way that is more integral and vibrant than I have experienced elsewhere. People in this university are living the arts beyond our music, theatre, art and creative writing programs. Indeed, the arts happen all over our campus every day and are practiced and experienced by everybody. Therefore, the arts are integral to the university's life, and by extension, its mission.

Karen added her own statement, saying there has never been a scientific creation that is not preceded by a creative thought, and, this is taught in the arts on this campus. She suggested wording to include creative activities in the mission statement.

Stephan G. spoke in support of Karen's statement. He had also spoken with faculty in his department and the consensus there was that they could not support this mission statement. He and his colleagues would like to see creative activity clearly and specifically stipulated in the mission statement.

David shared that he does not feel qualified to differentiate between “arts” and “creative activity” and would rather defer to the suggestions made by the representatives of the faculty who see this as their primary mission. Stephan responded that he felt “arts” was better than “creative activity,” but that either addition would work.

Cindy spoke supportively of using “arts.” As a former student and now faculty, she sees it as part of our identity not just locally, but nationally and internationally as well. She stated why she sees a distinction between “arts” and “creative activities.”

Dana pointed out that humanities, social sciences, and science, are not specifically listed here, either. Cindy and Karen stated briefly why “arts” or “creative activity” deserved mention.

Cathy asked for a vote by show of hands for the following terms:

1. “Arts”: 13 “ayes” in room; 3 online. 16 “ayes” total
2. “Creative Activity”: 11 “ayes” in room; 3 “ayes” online. 14 “ayes” total
3. “Creative Arts”: No “ayes” or “nays”

Rainer commented that mission statements were like football teams at institutions – everyone has to have one to be a university, but they don’t have to be good.

Cathy read the recommended revision to the mission statement’s first sentence:

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is a Land, Sea, and Space Grant university and an international center for research, ~~and~~ education, **and the arts**, emphasizing the circumpolar North and its diverse peoples.

A vote by show of hands was taken to approve this resolution on the mission statement containing the addition of the “arts” wording:

The “ayes” were 18 in the room and 5 online: Total of 23 “ayes” in favor of the amended resolution. The “nays” were 16. There were two abstentions.

A vote was then called to question to consider the full resolution as amended on the floor, as follows:

The UAF Faculty Senate ~~endorses~~ **recommends the following revised** UAF Mission Statement shown below.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is a Land, Sea, and Space Grant university and an international center for research, ~~and~~ education, **and the arts**, emphasizing the circumpolar North and its diverse peoples. UAF integrates teaching, research, and public service as it educates students for active citizenship and prepares them for lifelong learning and careers.

A majority vote passed the resolution as amended on the floor, with four “nays” and four or, with four “i.T*.00e peco

D. Motion to Confirm the Nomination for the 2011-12 Outstanding Senator of the Year (Attachment 182/4)

Cathy brought the motion to the floor, explaining that there was the single nomination of David Valentine. The Administrative Committee agreed that David was an outstanding nominee and forwarded the motion to the full Senate for a vote by acclamation. A round of applause affirmed the nomination of David Valentine as Outstanding Senator of the Year for 2011-12.

VI Discussion Items

A. Proposed Ad Hoc Committee to Review Electronic Faculty Activity Reporting Software – Jennifer Reynolds

Jennifer reminded faculty that two software packages had been discussed at the last Faculty Senate meeting. Based on the interest shown at that meeting, the software demos were arranged and held. But, only a handful of faculty actually attended the software demos. So, the recommendation brought before the Senate today is to form an ad hoc committee of those who attended the demos, so that an informed assessment of the software can be accomplished.

Elisabeth N. mentioned she was only able to attend one of the demos. Cathy and Jennifer made it clear that her input on that one software demo was still needed.

David V. asked Jennifer to name who would be on the committee: Jennifer said it would include herself and Cathy, as well as Margaret Short, Elisabeth Nadin, Ken Abramowicz, Andrew Metzger (depending upon whether he had attended one of the two software demos under consideration), Orion Lawlor, Karen Gustafson, Jon Dehn (as past president), Karen Jensen and Chris Fallen. David mentioned he hoped the campus would be well represented on this ad hoc committee. Jennifer pointed out that it had to be limited to those who actually attended the demos and could provide informed input.

B. Complete College America Program – Cathy Cahill

Cathy reminded the Senate of her comments earlier in the meeting, and reiterated she would like feedback from Core Review Committee, Curricular Affairs Committee, Student Academic Development and Achievement Committee, and Faculty Affairs Committee. Cathy said she would put together a list of what the program asks for in terms of “suggestions” and metrics.

Orion commented on the bold recommendations that he had seen in the report “Time is the Enemy.” While some of it sounds good in theory, it states clearly that the entire program must be adopted and not merely parts of it. Also, there are actual recommendations made, including four 8-week terms instead of semesters, no summer break, compressed classroom instruction, and embedding remediation into college courses. All of these would be amazingly dramatic changes for this institution which is older than the State of Alaska itself. He could not personally support joining this program.

Cathy noted that if she rolled remedial math and English into her first-year chemistry course, it would be too watered down to meet the requirements of the Chemistry Program’s accrediting body. It’s this very type of recommendation that she is concerned about. It would not be doing the right thing for our students or the university. Rainer reiterated his request for a list of specifics that the committees could respond to.

BREAK

Following break, Cathy formally announced the results of the election. David Valentine is the 2012-13 President-Elect of the Faculty Senate. Cathy thanked both candidates and congratulated David.

VI Discussion Items - Continued

C. eLabs Draft Policy Discussion - (Attachment 182/5)

Cathy brought the discussion item to the floor, mentioning that faculty had provided good feedback. She especially noted Dean Paul Layer's input on the proposed policy. Revisions have been made to the policy included with this agenda, and she would now like to discuss whether the Senate feels this policy addresses what it necessary and if it's ready to be taken back to the Faculty Alliance.

Brian R. commented that he has taught a lot of distance courses, and what he's teaching has already been approved at his department. It annoys him to think of having to go through the review process all over again. Rainer responded that part of the necessity for this is because neither Anchorage nor Juneau has ever reviewed their offerings. Because Brian teaches here, his courses have already undergone a process required at CNSM, and, in fact, those courses would already be reviewed regularly under the existing process.

Dean Layer also reiterated that CNSM has their review policy in place. They are systematically reviewing science core courses on a regular schedule using a three-year cycle. He gave the example of Atmospheric Sciences which is a 100-level course that will be taught by distance education. The college will review that changed mode of delivery. In short, this policy under discussion today should impact Brian only minimally because units at UAF already have regular reviews and an established procedure in place.

Cathy invited more feedback, but with none forthcoming, she said she'll go forward with this revised draft to Faculty Alliance. They will be mindful of not making the process include more onerous paperwork.

D. Course Catalog, Timelines and Deadlines – Cathy Cahill

Cathy brought the topic to the floor, and described the tight timeline that is necessary to produce the printed catalog. Program changes and course changes must be received by Faculty Senate review committees during the fall semester (usually by October) in order to allow time for review and revisions, and to make the printed catalog drafts that are distributed in March and April. Submissions coming in late can not be considered for printed catalog that comes out in the fall. Basically, programs must be working ahead by a year to make the printed catalog.

Cathy raised the following questions: Do faculty want to have a fixed hard copy of the catalog in hand by fall? What about a pseudo-paperless catalog and an online addendum of new programs that doesn't interfere with the catalog year for students?

Rainer N. noted the actual change that has occurred in recent years is that the catalog is coming out in August, rather than in May. The deadline is March 1 for this scenario. For many years the catalog came out in May; however, to do this would require a deadline more like January 1 for reviews to be completed. Are faculty OK with a catalog in August? Or May? And, what about not having a printed catalog at all – just an electronic one? The main idea behind having a paper catalog is for it to be a contract with the students.

Cecile L. asked about tackling the issue from the angle of streamlining the processes and/or paperwork. Could there perhaps be fewer steps in the process? From her perspective at the department level, it's difficult to plan for required program changes and related administrative decisions when it takes so long to have changes get into the catalog. Would changing the deadlines really help the process? Or, is it too much of a burden on too few people?

Rainer noted that the curriculum reviews are the only time that the course syllabi for new and changed courses can be adequately reviewed against the syllabus requirements of the Faculty Senate. The committees often see that a syllabus is inadequate for the students, and it can be time consuming, even problematic, working with the faculty to get the necessary changes made. And, individual courses have to be approved before a related program change can be approved. Rainer suggested the topic of restructuring the process could be taken up further outside the Faculty Senate meeting.

Cecile appreciated Rainer's comments, but still felt that a review by a single committee should be enough, rather than the two levels of reviews that occur now.

Stephan G. commented that it's hard to advise students when faculty are not sure where their program changes are in the process, or whether they'll be approved in time to make the catalog.

Cathy shared that she likes to have the catalog in hand when advising students, so she prefers having it available in May, deadlines notwithstanding. She asked for comments about getting the printed catalog in August vs. May.

Sukumar B. stated that he's fine with getting the catalog in August, and the addendum isn't needed.

Mike E. stated that what is approved by March 1 will make the printed catalog. He made some comments concerning program approvals and how they impact deadlines depending upon what their required final level of approval is (such as chancellor-level, or BOR and NWCCU). [Much of Mike's comments were obscured by the background noise of someone on the audio conference who was typing right next to their telephone.]

Joanne H. stated her support of having the addendum because of her experience with waiting for the NWCCU approval of the special education program. The new program could not be advertised until that approval was received. Mike E. noted that in the case of a new program the addendum is very helpful. He also noted the addendum is just for new programs, not changed programs.

Rainer asked if the addendum is paper or electronic. Mike answered that it's electronic, first produced as HTML, then later as PDF.

Cathy said they'll send the catalog discussion item forward to the Curriculum Review and the Graduate Academic and Advisory committees.

Ken A. asked Mike if it was possible to put out a PDF catalog while the printed one is being published over the summer. Mike answered that putting the PDF together takes almost as long as getting the paper catalog printed. A PDF version would probably be done by July, just a month before the paper catalog came out in August.

Cecile commented that the bulk of review work is probably changed courses and programs (not new ones). For that reason, she would prefer the March deadline to get the catalog in August, giving departments more time to get their paperwork through the process.

Rainer asked Cathy if she would get a show of hands of faculty who are OK with getting the catalog in August. There were 25 responses for getting the catalog in August; and only 3 for May.

VII Public Comments/Questions

1. Annual Giving Director Megan Damario spoke about the Employee Giving Initiative. The initiative runs April 9 through May 11. Glenn Juday is co-chairing the effort. Information materials were made available at the back table. Ross Imbler (Annual Giving) was also in attendance.

Susan Sugai (associate director for the Center for Global Change & Arctic System Research) also spoke in support of the Initiative, sharing about one of her major activities which is a featured program this year. Her office conducts a student competition for research awards. The Center for Global Change provides funds that are used for interdisciplinary research projects for undergraduate and graduate students. Having done this for 20 years, they have seen that many awardees stay in Alaska and continue doing research. They receive 50-70 proposals each year, but can usually fund only about ten projects. People can donate to this project through the Employee Giving Initiative.

2. Ed Husted, head of the Paralegal Studies program and chair of the Community and Technical College curriculum council, introduced himself. He noted that as CTC curriculum council chair, he is also a member of the Faculty Senate Curriculum Review Committee, and found today's discussion about the UAF Catalog interesting.

He and Charlie Dexter were present because they wished to mention another matter concerning the UAF Catalog. A handout was provided with some of the historical background of CTC, and is posted online at the URL below:

http://www.uaf.edu/files/uafgov/11-12_Meeting182_Handout-UAF-CTC-Info.pdf

Ed noted how unique the University of Alaska Fairbanks is, and referred to the 2010 UAF Strategic Plan which specifically mentions the Tanana Valley Campus (as it was called at that time) as a clearly separate and distinct community college. It has been housed under the College of Rural and Community Development which has its separate and distinct mission to serve the five rural campuses. In January 2009, a request was made to the Chancellor to separate TVC from CRCD.

The request was not approved. After looking at othetter 7(csesudont bm)8.sutp0.cal5st2 aj.4(m)8.4(unity and Tr

Charlie Dexter, chair of the Applied Business and Accounting department for 23 years, described that in past years TVC / CTC faculty had always initiated their own curriculum changes for the Catalog. However, the recent situation that occurred regarding the Catalog was a significant departure from faculty-initiated Catalog changes. It began with a rumor last week that all CRCD campus headings were being removed from program listings, whether a heading for a rural campus or the CTC. He checked at Marketing where the printed Catalog is produced and found the rumor was true. All individual campus headers were to be removed, even from those programs belonging to CTC. Charlie met with Vice Chancellor Joseph about the matter, and the change was further confirmed. Fortunately, Charlie just found out at the break time of this meeting that the headers will be put back to the way they were at the direction of Chancellor Rogers.

Charlie commented that it demonstrates the challenges the Community and Technical College faces as a college within a college. There had been no discussion of the matter with Interim Dean Michelle Stalder or any of the CTC faculty or program chairs whose programs would be affected. He deemed it a gross breach of protocol for major changes to be made to individual programs in this manner without any consultation of faculty or chairs.

Rainer stated that he heard them saying they are “mad as hell and not going to take it any more,” but what exactly did they want from the Faculty Senate? Ed responded that they wanted to make Faculty Senate aware of what was going on, and further action appears to be continuing along these lines. Ed gave the example of being eliminated from the Student Awards breakfast as a unit this year; and, Charlie noted he had concerns about Commencement and having their graduates not recognized as being from CTC. Mike E. vouched that the Graduation Ceremony hasn’t been changed.

VIII Governance Reports

A. Staff Council – Pips Veazey

A Staff Council report was not available.

B. ASUAF – Mari Freitag, Robert Kinnard

Robert Kinnard gave a report on behalf of President Mari Freitag, describing the follow up trip to Juneau by eight students who were there over spring break. They talked to legislators about new engineering buildings for Fairbanks and Anchorage. It looks like funding for one of those may go through.

This week ASUAF discussed their student government budget which is comprised of the \$35 per-semester student fee that is charged for taking three or more credits. They are busy getting their budget ready for approval at the June BOR meeting. ASUAF elections will be held during SpringFest.

C. UNAC – Melanie Arthur UAFT – Jane Weber

Melanie talked about the health care cost increases and the fact that open enrollment takes place in two weeks. In general, it’s economically advantageous for most employees to enroll in the high deductible plan. But statewide administration is not accounting for the fact that employees are going to make economic decisions. For the second year in a row they have left a plan in place that makes it inevitable for another deficit to occur, just like the one that has occurred and impacted program costs.

The average yearly increase in actual health bills that are incurred is 10%. This fact also needs to be addressed for the long term. Staff and faculty have their voice in the Joint Health Care Committee, but it is not being heard.

Melanie announced the upcoming public meetings of United Academics.

Elisabeth N. asked if anything can be effectively done about this situation. Melanie responded that the short answer is “nothing.” The JHCC passed a motion asking for changes to address the deficit for this year, but they were told “no” because they have a collective bargaining agreement and this would be considered bargaining outside that agreement. Melanie stated the need for employees to be active in helping to find solutions. She noted that other groups in the state face the same circumstances with health care costs that we do, but somehow they are not in the same predicament.

Cecile L. mentioned the Q and A from Statewide, noting the snide remark made that the JHCC had not proposed any viable options for the situation. But JHCC had advised enlarging the pool after exploring aspects of that for six months. Last fall the JHCC had asked for Statewide’s consultant to do some exploration about possible clinic access since deductibles have gone up so high, but nothing has been done with the information they provided to the consultant. There has been no action by Statewide on those suggestions which are viable solutions that could be considered. JHCC members see their proposals written off right away without being given real consideration at Statewide. Jane W. noted they will keep trying to bring their ideas before Statewide for consideration.

Melanie announced she is going on sabbatical, and so there will be a vacancy on the JHCC.

IX Members' Comments/Questions/Announcements

Announcements

Open forums for Administrative Services were announced.

Jane W. announced the annual Promotion and Tenure workshop on April 27. Cathy and Jennifer encouraged the Faculty Senate members to share this with their faculty.

A.

ATTACHMENT 182/1
UAF Faculty Senate #182, April 2, 2012
Submitted by the Administrative Committee

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS

The University of Alaska Statewide administration has proposed a policy that the University of Alaska would not hire tobacco users, or anyone whose spouse or dependents are tobacco users;

WHEREAS

A university employee may have no knowledge or control over the tobacco use of family members such as a 25-year old dependent child;

WHEREAS

Tobacco use rates are high in some countries, including many with highly productive potential university faculty and staff, and this policy would limit hiring of these potential faculty and staff;

WHEREAS

The rate of tobacco use among Alaska Natives is approximately double that of the state population as a whole, and this policy would have a disproportionate effect on the hiring of Alaska Natives by the University of Alaska;

WHEREAS

Extrapolating medical costs from lifestyle choices and its use in hiring decisions suggests the potential of institutional control over other conditions such as weight, exercise, diet, sleep, and blood chemistry, and is a form of discrimination that contradicts University of Alaska non-discriminatory hiring policies;

AND WHEREAS

Many other avenues for cost reduction in the University of Alaska's approach to health care self-insurance have not been explored or tested, including numerous suggestions from the UA Joint Health Care Committee;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED

The UAF Faculty Senate condemns the proposed policy of not hiring a specific group of people based on higher predicted medical expenses, and views this as incompatible with the operation of an open, inclusive institution.

Further, the UAF Faculty Senate urges the University of Alaska administration to actively investigate suggestions from the Joint Health Care Committee, in a collaborative approach to addressing the problem.

State of Alaska Division of Public Health:

<http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/infocenter/topics/tobacco.htm>

<http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/chronic/tobacco/factsheets.htm>

Proposed tobacco user policy: <http://www.alaska.edu/files/benefits/HealthCareFY13Q-A.pdf>

ATTACHMENT 182/2
UAF Faculty Senate #182, April 2, 2012
Submitted by the Administrative Committee

RESOLUTION

The UAF Faculty Senate endorses the revised UAF Mission Statement shown below.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is a Land, Sea, and Space Grant university and an international center for research and education emphasizing the circumpolar North and its diverse peoples. UAF integrates teaching, research, and public service as it educates students for active citizenship and prepares them for lifelong learning and careers.

PERSONAL STATEMENTS:

**Sukumar Bandopadhyay, Professor of Mining Engineering
Candidate for President-Elect**

I have been an active member of the UAF senate, beginning with Fairbanks Assembly and then with faculty senate since 1983. During these years I have seen a considerable amount of change. The Senate has grown in stature and recognition around the university system. I was particularly impressed with the position faculty Senate took during difficult budget years when the university administration tried to restructure the academic programs (1994), and more recently on the status of women and minority.

My ten plus years of service on the faculty senate and leadership positions on various senate committees over the years has given me insight into the support the senate receives from the professional staff, senators, committee chairs and faculty members. They are as dedicated and committed as any group of members I have ever had the pleasure to be involved with. I deeply appreciated the support I received from all my colleagues.

I feel that my background of 30 years at UAF as faculty member, leadership position at UNAC, University Executive as the Dean of the School of Mineral Engineering, University-wide Promotion and Tenure Committee, University-wide Post-tenure Review Committee, Faculty Affairs Committee, Curriculum Review Committee, give me a diverse background that covers a broad area of the faculty senate activities. That, coupled with my service of ten plus years on the faculty senate affords me the insight and experience needed to lead the UAF faculty senate.

If elected, I will solicit your help and listen to your ideas. I look forward to working with you. Thank you.

PERSONAL STATEMENT – DAVID VALENTINE:

David Valentine is a Professor of Forest Soils and Chair of the Department of Forest Sciences in the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences. He earned his MSc and PhD from Duke University (1984 and 1990, respectively) in Ecosystem Ecology. He worked as a Postdoctoral Fellow and Research Associate at the Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory at Colorado State University. During that time, he was also awarded a Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship from the Department of Energy, and worked at the Agricultural Research Service. He joined the UAF faculty in 1996. His research focuses mostly on boreal forest soil carbon dynamics and how they may be altered by climate change; his work is part of the Bonanza Creek Long Term Ecological Research program (NSF- and USFS-funded) and is also supported by McIntire-Stennis funding. He has supervised several MSc and PhD students. He has taught courses in soils (introductory and graduate level), decision-making in natural resource management, and environmental ethics. He is president of the UAF chapter of the Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society, which recognizes outstanding undergraduate and graduate scholarship across all disciplines.

Dr. Valentine was first elected to the Faculty Senate in 2010, motivated primarily by his desire to contribute to the revision of the UAF Core Curriculum. Quickly learning the value of the maxim “be

careful what you wish for”, he joined the Curricular Affairs Committee and was asked to chair its subcommittee, the General Education Revitalization Committee (GERC), during spring 2011. In May 2011, GERC proposed a new, LEAP-based set of objectives and student learning outcomes to the Faculty Senate, which adopted them for the purposes of revising the UAF Core Curriculum. He stepped down as chair in fall 2011, but continues to serve on GERC as it continues development of the new general education curriculum. He has also served on various campus-wide committees, including the Pre- and Post-Tenure Review Committee (once as co-chair), the Planning and Budget Committee, the Center for Global Change Science Steering Committee, the Rasmuson Library Dean Search Committee, and the Natural Resources & Sustainability PhD Program Development Committee (joint with Dept. of Economics).

Several challenges face the Faculty Senate. First, thanks to the talents and efforts of past and current leaders, it is a well-functioning body. By not being the dysfunctional “squeaky wheel” that motivated faculty in the past to seek election and effect change, it runs the perverse risk of dropping off the radar screens of busy faculty. The Faculty Senate should continue to work to assert its relevance and value to faculty, and to attract the best senators possible. Second, UAF is in the midst of efforts to update its general education curriculum, to more actively assess and manage its effectiveness, and to more effectively assess student outcomes across the entire curriculum. This must continue to be a faculty-driven effort, with the Faculty Senate playing the lead role. Third, the higher education environment is changing rapidly. Increased availability of and emphasis on distance delivery is decoupling student location from educational opportunities, with mixed results. Moreover, students can more easily assemble degree programs from across the UA system. These pose challenges to both UAF and the entire UA system with respect to finding the best ways to serve students' needs. Fourth, under budgetary pressures, the federal funding environment for research is changing, in many cases for the worse. The Faculty Senate should seek ways to partner with UAF administration to facilitate alternative sources of funding for research and scholarly activities. Overall, the Faculty Senate is addressing these challenges well, but they will continue to demand focused efforts by the Senate in order to ensure the results we would want.

UNOFFICIAL BALLOT
FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT-ELECT

Please vote for ONE individual to serve as the President-Elect of the UAF Faculty Senate for 2012-13.

___ Sukumar Bandopadhyay

___ David Valentine

THE OFFICIAL VOTING BALLOT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED AT THE MEETING.

For discussion only: possible revisions of a DRAFT policy on science labs by distance delivery. The original draft by the UA Distance Science Labs Task Force was distributed to Faculty Senate members by email on March 12, 2012.

UA Distance Science Labs Task Force

Adopted by Faculty Alliance February 24, 2012, for Review and Approval by Faculty Senates

Chair: Daniel B Monteith

Task Force Members: John M Petraitis, Andy Veh, James T Pantaleone, Mark A Fitch, Jacqueline E Cason, Rich Collins, Rainer Newberry, Orion Lawlor, Michael S Stekoll, Deborah K Barnett, Cathy L Connor

Instruction methods are changing and evolving rapidly, with exciting opportunities but serious challenges, and this requires a more open and inclusive university-wide discussion including students, instructors, faculty, adjuncts, and administration. The University of Alaska has a mission to provide Alaskan students access to higher education. Laboratory natural science courses, which are a vital part of our bachelor's GER/core, pose particular challenges to ensure both access and quality. Crucially, lab science is about sensing and interacting with the physical environment, with the complexities as found in nature.

This policy defines a **RECOMMENDED review process** for GER/core lab science courses as defined below. **WE RECOMMEND THAT** existing lab science courses, distance or not, that have not been reviewed by **A MAU-APPROVED*** ~~this process~~ **can no longer be offered** as GER/Core lab science courses starting Fall 2013.

*The specific procedures for doing such reviews will presumably vary among the MAUs.

This **RECOMMENDED** policy applies only to **lab science** courses accepted for the lab science requirement of the bachelor's GER/core at any MAU. Policies vary widely between the **UAA GER /L lab** courses, **UAF natural science core** courses, and **UAS GERS lab natural science** courses. Lab science courses affect every baccalaureate major, touching every department.

Principle: just as course content is governed by the department that controls the prefix (e.g., BIOL), **instructional method** for lab sciences is also a substantive issue that must be approved by that department. Disciplines can best determine content; disciplines are in the best position to judge instructional methods. However, Faculty Senate oversight is important to maintain overall quality control.

In addition to review of existing GER/core lab science courses, this **RECOMMENDED** policy requires review for GER/core lab science courses that **add or change primary delivery method** between:

- Hands-on in-classroom equipment.
- Take-home physical kits.
- Remotely operated equipment.
- Virtual/simulation, purely software onscreen.

When a new or existing GER/core lab science course changes primary delivery method, this modification **requires course approval** from the MAU department. Courses may be delivered experimentally using a new method up to two times prior to full review, with notification to and monitoring by the MAU department. Review **WILL ALSO BE CONDUCTED** ~~is also needed~~ via the ordinary MAU faculty senate curriculum process. Ongoing assessment and review is highly recommended.

THESE ARE Issues for **faculty to address** in proposing a lab course **OR IN REVISING THE MODE OF DELIVERY** (see also: *Supplemental Questions for Online Course Approval Requests*, Berkeley Division of Academic Senate Committee on Courses of Instruction) **WE RECOMMEND THAT A FORM BE CREATED FOR NEW AND REVISED SCIENCE LAB COURSES THAT INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING:**

1. What are the goals and outcomes of the existing face-to-face sections?
2. What delivery methods will be used from the list above, and in what proportions?
3. What are the goals and outcomes of the lab sections? Are the goals and outcomes different for different modes of lab instruction? How will the goals and outcomes be achieved, and assessed?
4. If a new mode of delivery for an existing lab course is proposed, how will the new lab section be different from existing lab sections?
5. Is there a population of students identified that need this course?
6. Student preparation: How will students be advised and screened for technology proficiency? Do they have the prerequisite knowledge and preparation? Do they have the self-pacing skills needed for distance delivery? Are technologies introduced at an appropriate pace?
7. How will students and instructors interact? How will students and other students interact? Will the technology support a “community of learning”?
8. Will a fully asynchronous course include some synchronous time for students to ask and answer questions? Are synchronous sessions required (lecture/discussion) or optional (office hours)?
9. What are the expectations for student-faculty communications, such as email latency and frequency, and how will they be met?
10. What internet connection (bandwidth) will be required for students? For instructors?
11. Specific technology questions: a. For take-home kits, how will the kits be purchased? Maintained? Are there safety concerns? How does the equipment in the kits compare with in-classroom lab equipment?
b. For simulations, how will they be used in this course, and how do they compare with reality? How do they compare with professional methods or practices in the field? What software will be required?
12. How will plagiarism and academic integrity issues be addressed?

Issues for **REVIEWERS TO ASSESS** ~~departments to discuss~~ during the **ROUTINE** lab course review process (see also: *Best Practices for E-Labs*, [Southern Association of Colleges and Schools](#), substituting “e-labs” for “programs”) **ARE LISTED BELOW. THE COURSE INSTRUCTORS WILL SUBMIT RELEVANT INFORMATION ADDRESSING THE QUESTIONS BELOW.**

1. What are students supposed to be learning in the existing face-to-face sections? Are they learning that, and how is it assessed?
2. Will distance courses affect face-to-face enrollment? Will distance courses draw students away from existing courses, eventually replacing them, or primarily draw in new students?
3. What impacts will this course have on the program’s professional accreditation? What effect will the course have on downstream courses, using it as a prerequisite?
4. How will the course design work be supported, for the significant effort to develop a new distance course or convert an existing course? How much effort is it? Will it appear in faculty workloads?

5. Who will choose instructors for the course? How will instructors be trained in the changing technology?
(20)Tj12 0 0g

used to fulfill [**minor degree**] requirements **FOR A MINOR** may be used at the same time to fill major or general distribution requirements if so designated.

EFFECTIVE: IMMEDIATELY (FALL 2012)

RATIONALE: There are many cases in which a course might be required for a major or a minor (example: PSY F101 for a BA in Psychology) but that course also carries a General Education designator (such as “S” for Social Sciences). Strictly interpreted the way it’s written, the PSY F101 could not be counted toward the required credits in Social Sciences and Humanities, no matter how many PSY credits were earned (say, 36). This would have the unintended and unfortunate consequence of requiring well over 120 credits for a B.A. degree and well over 130 for a B.S. degree if the language is not altered. This is something that has been broadly misunderstood in the advising community for many years (ever since the inception of the Core, as far as we can tell). This was brought before Curricular Affairs in 2009 (see documentation provided) and both the Registrar’s Office and the Academic Advising Center was under the impression this change had already taken place.

Note that with this change, no credits used toward the major could be used toward GERs until they have gone over 30, or for a minor over 15.

There was much discussion about the fact that this is a CLA issue, particularly with regard to the issue of credit hour production. Support by the CLA dean and associate dean was noted. Rainer asked faculty to discuss it widely, particularly Jun since he is in CLA. The committee approved the motion as presented.

3. Reports from subcommittees

a. GERC- Dave Valentine

Dave reported about the ambitious schedule the committee has set for completing their work. However, progress has stalled over some sticking points, particularly how to address the Writing skills component, how to address a Language requirement; whether or not to incorporate the Freshman Experience (or to what extent); and how to satisfy the need for ten credits in Natural Science and include the quantitative course requirement. (An NS quantitative course was clarified to mean a course on how to work with data and make inferences from data.)

BOR policy requires 34 credits of Core, and UAF currently has 39. The committee must also consider how their proposed options satisfy the student learning outcomes they set last spring.

It was agreed that Alex Fitts would be invited to

trCi39. .

Question 2

How much effort was it to teach?

Answer Options

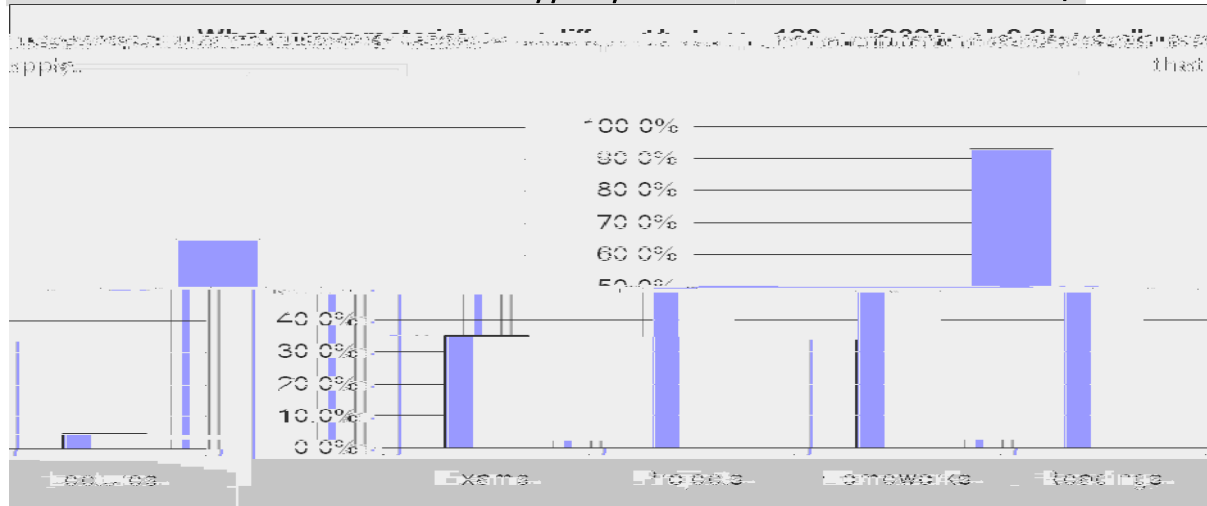
Response Percent

Response Count

Question 4

What course materials were different between 400 and 600 levels? Check all that apply.

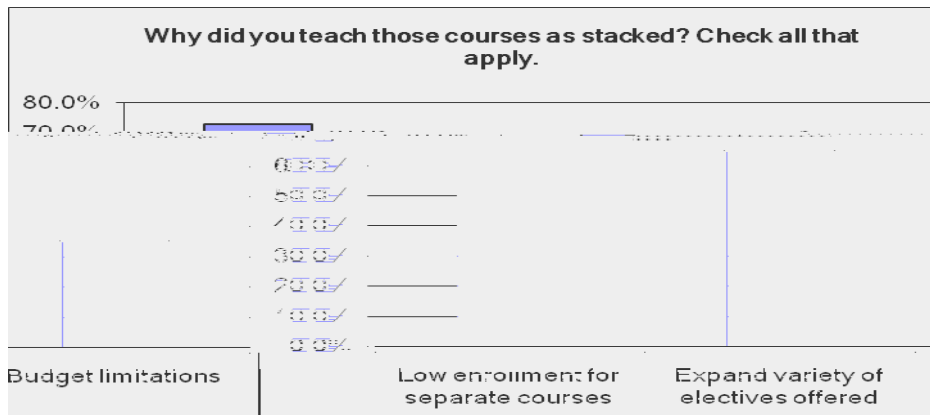
Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Exams	34.9%	15
Projects	93.0%	40
Homeworks	48.8%	21
Readings	65.1%	28
Lectures	4.7%	2
Other (please specify)		20
answered question		43
skipped question		1



Question 5

Why did you teach those courses as stacked? Check all that apply.

Answer Options	Response %	Response Count
Low enrollment for separate courses	73.0%	27
Expand variety of electives offered	64.9%	24
Budget limitations	35.1%	13
Other (please specify)		18
answered question		37
skipped question		7



Responses to open-ended questions:

It was extremely difficult to have a discussion that meets the needs of both. There is not as much time to get into a scholarly discussion with the graduate students.

The greatest issue I have with it is that 2/3 of the classes taught toward our Secondary Education Masters degree are stacked. In addition, several of those classes are taught by adjunct faculty that does not differentiate toward the 600 level. As a result, our master students are not sufficiently prepared for writing a thesis or doing research. If differentiated stacked classes work well. I actually had 400 level students writing optional research papers. 400 level students determined that 600 level lectures and activities were interesting and relevant at several of my classes. However, I tend to teach toward the 600 level and my 400 level students may have to work a bit harder. On the other hand other instructors work at the 400 level and just add on a research paper without teaching how to do it or any other components of a 600 level class.

I think it works great. The course is challenging and the graduate students are held to higher standards in terms of the quality of the writing and presentations. The graduate students complete all the assignments that the undergraduates complete, along with additional readings and a significant project (NIH grant proposal) that is due at the end of the semester. I have taught this particular stacked course 3 times, and believe the undergrads benefit from contact with grad students, and the grad students benefit from the opportunity to mentor the undergrads. The quality of in-class discussions also increases when grad students are present, and the work of the undergrad students rises to the quality of the grad students' work when they have more contact with each other. I like the stacked course procedures and would love to see them continue.

It would be a mistake for the senate to make it more difficult for faculty to participate in stacked courses (no more paperwork for faculty since there is no tradition of followup enforcement by the senate on existing rules, or consistently applied sanctions for ongoing course/paperwork discrepancies). Faculty currently receive no compensation or merit considerations from the administration for doing the extra work for stacked courses. If the senate wants to do something real about increasing the rigor of UAF courses (and, I don't think they do), then they should concentrate on the large number of underqualified (or unqualified) adjunct and other faculty teaching required undergrad courses. In my wilderness concepts course, I have between 1 and 3 grad students per semester, so the interaction with these few students is great and rewarding for me (we do not have a faculty approved grad program in Geog).

So far no undergraduate students have been enrolled in this class.

What worked: the interaction between the different types of students, grad students helped the undergrads. Undergrads gave a new perspective to the grads. What didn't: it is a little hard to have different levels of mathematics ability, but I can get by.

There are no guide lines for the expectations of stacked classes, and think that has reduced the potential rigor of the grad level course. We see undergrads taking the 600 option to get graduate credit because they know it is usually the same class. I looked at previous syllabuses, and often the only difference (I saw) was a "project" required. Same lecture; same homework; same exams. My approach was to give additional homework and exam questions, and I think some students were unfortunately surprised, while some appreciated it. In any case, I think the requirements should be at least clarified (and in my opinion, made more strict). I have less opinion about the workload issue because the number of students is the elephant in the room on that one, which is not taken into consideration in the workload, only the activities report.

Ultimately, like any un-stacked course, it depends on the mix of students. I've taught stacked courses for a dozen years and find that they are workable and a very efficient use of my time.

Exposing undergrads to grads helps raise the

I think it worked pretty well, but I would be open to suggestions on how to make it even better.

Stacked options allows our department to offer specific methods courses we need for NCATE. The students are similar enough in the stages of their careers/education where it is an effective tool for our department.

It worked well.

When the enrollment at the 600-level was moderate 5-12 students, it worked well for me to run a separate lab/seminar for them. But when 600-level enrollment is very low, this does not work as well. It also depends on the quality and motivation of the graduate students; some graduate students probably get more out of being in the regular 400-level

Sometimes it takes longer to explain material when you have a diverse crowd BUT in the end they understand the material better. Typically good undergrads do as well in the graduate classes in ATM. I took grad classes as an undergraduate (my university did not stack them) and I usually did better than the grads as I had only one job, to study. The grad students had to also do research. I think it takes some doing but can be a very positive experience for both groups.

Writing is very different from Ph.D. students in the same class with undergrads who are juniors! Life experiences, work history all very different. Too different at times. Students were in the class though for similar reasons and committed to these.

Entry Criteria, Devoted Teaching time

Had to be careful to make sure I was not making graduate assumptions of undergraduate students.

What worked: I could accommodate the needs of a majority of the graduate students. What did not work well: (1)

Some of our high performing grad students were frustrated (2) Some of the students in general trailing thought that the graduate students tended to dominate the class - especially in the interactive sessions during lecture time. This discrepancy in entry level varies from year to year. Last year was particularly challenging for me. Thanks for giving this issue a UAF wide thought.

Grad students often draw out higher caliber of work from undergrad students. Can be difficult for grad students to get equivalent motivation especially when they are the minority. Using the grad students to take on seminar leading was very effective.

Everything worked as designed.

Worked well: graduate students benefit from hearing introductory material, which may get skipped in a pure 600 level class. Undergraduates benefit from hearing at least a bit of more advanced material, interacting with upper level students, and seeing more of the literature than they would otherwise. Didn't work well: graduate students get less advanced lectures than they want and deserve. It's tough to keep two classes straight, and tempting to essentially offer one mediocre course with two numbers.

ATTACHMENT 182/7

UAF Faculty Senate #182, April 2, 2012

Submitted by the Committee on the Status of Women

Committee on the Status of Women

Minutes for Thurs, Mar 29, 2012; 11:30-1:00 pm, Gruening 718

Members Present: Melanie Arthur, Derek Sikes, Kayt Sunwood, Jane Weber, Nilima Hullavarad, Jenny Liu, Stefanie Ickert-Bond, Johnny Payne, Ellen Lopez

Members absent: Shawn Russell

1) Brown Bag - "Career Development Mapping" 3/22 brown bag lunch went well but need a new room due to technological issues.

2) Speaker for Women Faculty Luncheon, Sep 25th, 2012. Shawn Russell, who has wanted to attend, will be flown in. 25th Birthday of Women's & Gender Studies, 2012: Celebration with food & cake, this Friday 5-6:30 multi-level lounge. Will do a larger celebration in the fall. Plan to bring in a nationally known speaker - Carolyn "Biddy" Martin, 19th president of Amherst College, Provost of Cornell from 2000-2008 (longest serving provost). Perhaps a collaboration with CSW could happen also and perhaps Carolyn could be the speaker for the luncheon? Need to confirm ASAP so we have time to setup a speaker if needed. Kayt will communicate with Carolyn on this and get back to us.

3) Panelists for Promotion / Tenure Workshop, Friday, April 27. 10-12 room 109 in Butrovitch. Derek Sikes will moderate. Panelists who have agreed: Paul Layer, Roxie Dinstel, Sine Anahita and Melanie Arthur. Ellen will ask Courtney who has recently completed a fourth year review. Steffi will ask Ute Kaden in Education. Kayt will run the eLive internet connection.

4) Spousal Hire Policy. Melanie update: Too late for this academic year for senate. Melanie will no longer be on faculty senate when it can be discussed. No policy in place but having a policy and corresponding budget is on Chancellor's list of goals for 2012 & Vision 2017 Plan. An initiative in 2003 was drafted based on concerns of violation of fair hiring regs. Does CSW want to take this on? ~25% of universities have policies, another ~15% have policies that oppose partner accommodation. AAUP has a set of best practice recommendations such as: a transparent policy, known to candidates, hiring process of spouse should be as similar to a typical hire as possible. Concerns rest mostly on the issue of possible lowering of standards to hire a spouse and lack of transparency regarding the process of direct hiring. Dean Payne added that currently, with no policy we can't even ask a candidate if a job candidate has a spouse. With a policy we could provide the policy to the candidate and legally make it a topic of discussion. The 2003 proposal suggested provost cover 1/3 of hire cost at least initially. The policy draft currently would only cover tenure-track hires but this could be relaxed. Melanie added that a hire will not proceed unless there is motivation by all parties involved so why limit it to only tenure-track positions?

CSW agreed to pursue this by working from the 2003 draft and senate comments. Jane will invite Mae Marsh, Director of Diversity and Equal Employment, to next CSW meeting.

Next Meeting - (after the P&T workshop in April); Thurs 10 May 2012, 10:00-11:30AM (to accommodate guest Mae Marsh).

Meeting was adjourned at 12:40; Respectfully Submitted, Derek Sikes

These minutes are archived on the CSW website:

<http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/faculty-senate/>

ATTACHMENT 182/8
UAF Faculty Senate #182, April 2, 2012
Submitted by the Graduate Academic and Advisory Committee

**GAAC: Graduate Academic Advisory Committee of the UAF Faculty Senate
2012-02-24 Meeting Minutes**

Voting Members: Orion Lawlor, Lara Horstmann, Vincent Cee, Chung-Sang Ng, Donie Bret-Harte,
Elisabeth Nadin
Non-Voting: Tim Bartholomaus, Laura Bender, Lillian Misel

Curriculum progress:

#9, with a revised syllabus PETE 646 is approved.

#12, with a revised syllabus BIOL 6xx (Scientific Teaching) is approved.

#13, with a revised syllabus BIOL 6xx (Arctic Plants and Vegetation Ecology) is approved.

#15, with revised paperwork BIOL 675 (Vegetation Ecology) is approved.

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