

**MINUTES**

UAF Faculty Senate Meeting #217

Monday, October



IV A. Interim Chancellor's Remarks - Dana Thomas

Chancellor Thomas announced that the forum he mentioned at the September 22 State of the University address, is tentatively scheduled for November 1. The forum is about enrollment and growing into our capacity, and will be broadened to discuss other revenue generating opportunities.

The next Board of Regents meeting will be in Fairbanks on November 10 and 11. Public testimony will occur on October 31 between 4-6 pm. He encouraged faculty to listen to that or take part, if possible. There will also be a BOR reception on Nov. 10 in the evening between 5:30 – 7:00 PM in the Globe Room of the Elvey Building.

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Katie B. noted there is a UNAD report attached (see link above). Kate Q. did not have anything to report concerning UAFT.

E. Athletics - Dani Sheppard

Dani S. introduced herself and described her role as the Faculty Athletics Rep

The current process specifies the involvement of tenured faculty, but this grossly cuts down on the number of available faculty to serve on the faculty review committee.

Another issue concerns step 3. which outlines the Provost's role. At step 3.c., the Faculty Senate rather suddenly comes into play, but the process is not clear about how that happens. They'd like to see the Faculty Senate piece in its own section to make it clearer. It should also be pointed out that regardless of what the Faculty Senate decides concerning a program elimination, as in many issues, it's the Chancellor who actually has the final say after all is said and done.

In the current language, it says program deletion will require Faculty Senate action, but doesn't specify what the process is or what happens if the Senate decides to do nothing. What they've

some of these decisions are largely being driven by financial problems. The Board of Regents has recognized that suspension of programs by administration in this climate is something they no longer want to allow to occur. So, she suspects that the BOR will decide that university administrations will no longer be allowed to suspend admissions to programs.

With regard to faculty participation in the program review process, the current process was discussed and agreed to by the Faculty Senate several years ago. She understands that the circumstances have changed such that people are more concerned about how program review is conducted. She reiterated how faculty are involved in the process currently, both at the program level and at later stages of the review process. The concern she's hearing nowc239 .6( o2 Tw ((i)2 2





Another idea that's been discussed is possibly providing scholarships for new students who have earned their associate of arts (AA) out of state, to attract more students. Doing so would potentially help fill more upper division courses for baccalaureate degree programs. He shared several examples of creative program ideas that he has learned about from several of the schools and colleges. He invited faculty to share their ideas with the Provost and himself.

Provost Henrichs added that they're aware that they can't spend more money on increasing enrollment than the tuition they might take in. So, their emphasis is on looking for ways to attract students that are reasonably low in cost and will mostly bring students into the upper division where there is more room in the class sections. If they were able to meet the enrollment targets that they've tentatively set they might achieve \$8-10 million in additional tuition revenue. It won't be easy, however. Investing real money into this effort is essential for success.

Chancellor Thomas mentioned that not having sufficient scholarships for juniors and seniors in baccalaureate programs impacts their retention of those students, as well as overall enrollment. Elements like these need to be on the table during such discussions.

Orion shared an example from Computer Science that helped with graduate student enrollment. There are only about 200 institutions that offer baccalaureate programs in computer science, and they mailed out posters advertising their graduate programs. It was a targeted effort that helped bring in a dozen students.

Chancellor Thomas mentioned the fact that the Department of Defense wants to double the number of students in cybersecurity in the next five years.

Wendy C. asked about incentivizing new students from outside with out-of-state-tuition waivers. Chancellor Thomas responded that they're open to suggestions. He noted that they've discussed some ideas specifically targeting states with high in-state tuition, such as New Hampshire. Alaska would be very competitively priced for those out-of-state students.

Anna L. asked for comments concerning recruitment and retention of graduate students. Provost Henrichs responded that they've set a tentative target of increasing graduate students by 20%. There's been a small decrease in the past few years because of increased difficulty in obtaining research funding, so not as many students are being funded on grants. There has been a decrease in Fund 1 dollars available for teaching assistantships, also. They do want to increase their graduate enrollment and faculty ideas are invited. It seems that the combination

use some money for post-docs and for start-up of new faculty because those are areas which can lead to increased research dollars.

Jeff B. commented t

Core Review - Andy Seitz, Chair

Curriculum Review - Rainer Newberry, Chair

Rainer mentioned the committee has already approved five items.

Student Academic Development and Achievement

- Sandra Wildfeuer, Chair ([Minutes for 9/08/2016](#) linked)

Sandra shared that they're drafting revisions concerning the early progress reports. They are also looking at the repeating courses policy, the pre-major status policy, and the English alignment and placement.

Faculty Development, Assessment and Improvement

- Franz Meyer, Chair

Graduate Academic and Advisory - Donie Bret-Harte, Chair

Sean Topkok, Co-Chair ([Minutes for 9/09/2016](#) linked)

Donie reported the committee has met twice, and will meet next week (Sean will chair). They've approved one item, and are reviewing a long list of others.

Research Advisory Committee - Jamie Clark, Gordon Williams - Co-Chairs

([Minutes for 8/26/2016](#) linked)

Jamie reported they're hammering out their agenda, which will include initiatives the VCR's office could support to help make grant-making more successful. They don't have any representation of peer research faculty on the committee this year. They are interested in finding some soft money members.

Information Technology Committee - Siri Tuttle, Chair

Siri announced she's been elected the chair. They will be looking at how Strategic Pathways will potentially impact the tech infrastructure.

XI Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned on time at 2:45 PM.

**Research Report provided by Vice Chancellor Larry Hinzman:**

September and October are great months for Alaskan science. There have been many very high level meetings and UAF has played a central role in almost all of them.

President Obama used Alaska as a setting to promote his concern and agenda with climate change. Since that time, many high level cabinet members, ambassadors, and agency leads have visited UAF. These include the President's Science Advisor, Secretary of the Navy, Secretary of Energy, Administrator of EPA and Director of NSF. UAF has become synonymous with Arctic expertise.

We are also many other things including a fine undergraduate institution that works hard to provide our students with research experience and the knowledge and training necessary to secure a place in the nation's workforce as productive members of society. We are central to Alaska's evolving economy, stimulating economic diversity by introducing new discoveries, patents, licenses and the capable workforce to move these ideas to reality. We do this by providing a high quality, 2015-2016 September (2014) October (2015) UAF to learn more about our expertise and facilities. The primary purpose of this event was to

Larry Hinzman

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Larry D. Hinzman

Adjunct Union (UNAD) Report  
Submitted by Katie Boylan

The adjunct executive board met from September 23-24 in Anchorage. The main topic of discussion was upcoming negotiations since UNAD's current contract will be expiring at the end of February. The board received negotiation training from an AFT instructor. Before the meeting concluded, the board assembled its negotiation committee. Meetings with management will begin in early December.

At the end of next week, several members of UNAD's e-board will be meeting in Anchorage for Caucus. During this time, the board will meet again to continue preparing for negotiations.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS, for Strategic Pathways to be successful and credible, it needs to be seen as fair and deliberate, and reflect the diversity of viewpoints needed to collect the necessary information and carefully study the impacts of the recommendations being considered; and

WHEREAS, while the Phase I Strategic Pathways Task Forces were formed during the summer when few faculty were on contract or available, and the work was preliminary in nature, this is no longer the case; and

WHEREAS, Strategic Pathways implementation committees are continuing to meet and make decisions and recommendations to implement the recommendations from Phase I, but the composition and operation of the task forces is essentially unchanged; and

WHEREAS, faculty have not been given an opportunity to choose their own representation, and those faculty who are involved have been given instructions that limit their capacity to freely discuss the work of these committees with their colleagues; and

WHEREAS, changes currently being proposed do not always reflect an understanding of vital information about the impact of major changes on students, and faculty can help provide that understanding; and

WHEREAS, as an example, at the last Board of Regents meeting the BoR recommended the elimination of the BA program in education, but much of the material provided to the Board at the meeting contained significant erroneous information or lacked important context; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

The UAF Faculty Senate requests that:

” Faculty members be free to discuss the contents10(r)-1tco>>BDC /C-u-5( b)-6(a /C-) 1 ee\_0 1 (f