

MINUTES
UAF FACULTY SENATE MEETING #146
Monday, November 5, 2007
1:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.
Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom

I Call to Order – Jon Genetti

Faculty Senate President Jon Genetti called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

A. Roll Call

Members Present:

Allen, Jane
Anahita, Sine
Bandopadhyay, Sukumar
Barboza, Perry

Members Absent:

Leonard, Beth
Rosenberg, Jonathan

Daku, Michael

Illingworth, Marjorie (Debra Moses)
Iken, Katrin
Kingsley, Ilana
Konar, Brenda
Little, Joe
Lowder, Marla

David, Lorraine
Goering, Doug
Hapsmith, Linda
Hardy, Cindy
Harvie, Jayne
Henrichs, Susan

B. Approval of Minutes to Meeting #145

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:

B. Motions Pending: none

III Public Comments/Questions

Dana Thomas spoke about the Freshman Seminar Survey, asking for completion of the questionnaire about a first year seminar (copies were made available). Visits by two student success experts, Tinto and Kuh, spoke to first-year experiences of freshman and how to enhance those. Need to address high failure rates in some first year courses. Are faculty interested in a freshman seminar? If so, what kind? Encouraged to share ideas. A response greater than the 27 received to date would be more helpful.

IV A. President's Comments - Jon Genetti

Advisory Committee for Statewide Administrative Review: McTaggart report will come out soon (the product of an external review). An entire week of hearings took place with each functional unit of statewide administration giving presentations and answering questions. Brian Rogers helped McTaggart with this function. In the next week or so a draft report will be

Faculty Alliance retreat with President Hamilton: Marsha will summarize. But with regard to the ORP, Jon commented that one of the unions summarized it eloquently by saying action choices for increasing the employer contribution rate are to: 1.) lobby statewide, or 2.) lobby the legislature, or 3.) sue. Statewide administrators are reluctant to lobby legislators when employer contributions are currently at 19%.

Chancellor's remarks were moved after the break because of his schedule constraints. He's been asked to give an organizational structure overview, and give an update of the FY09 budget outlook -- which may get tighter because of matching fund requirements among other things.

Bunnell House advisory committee member volunteer needed. Jane Weber stated that Committee on the Status of Women will volunteer a person.

UA IDs: Regarding the students these IDs are part of FERPA-protected records, so class rosters are still sensitive material and still must be protected.

Reminder of the Chancellor's reception at 5:30 PM tonight.

Question from the floor from Sine Anahita: She's concerned about the national student engagement study, particularly the non-response bias that needs to be managed – just 18% of first-year students responded, yet the published summary on the web presents the data as though it's representative of all UAF students. As the committees work on recommendations, this needs to be addressed.

Heinz Wiechen asked for clarification about the actual number of computer security incidents at Bethel. Reference made to last year's incident, but there is certainly a possibility of more incidents in general.

B. President-elect's Comments - Marsha Sousa

Marsha commented on the national student engagement study, that it was done in two parts with a part done by the community college branch of UAF and that information is available as well. They had a better response rate. Interesting data.

Faculty Alliance Retreat with the President: Student success initiatives were the primary focus of the morning. President would like to see broad participation on the part of faculty, staff and students at all 3 MAUs. Looking for novel and big ideas, for example: Math boot camp for high schoolers that is summer long, not just a few days, to bring their skills up in preparation for college. Talked about managing outcomes. What can be done better? In the afternoon, compared the MAU efforts for student success initiatives. Marsha mentioned Dana's efforts toward supplemental instruction and looking for early intervention measures. She noted Dana's mention of getting high schools to align with colleges for a grading rubric from about the junior year on up through college so that high school students and teachers understand how they would be graded and what kinds of demonstrations of success were appropriate at the college level. Does not yet exist, and only a few states are beginning to address it. FS reps will meet with school superintendents to get this initiative started. High school teachers could be matched with college instructors to get the process started. Marsha mentioned math examples to illustrate the disconnect with high school to college courses. Action items at the end of the day included: mandatory survey of intent by students when they register; achieve alignment with high schools in grading; why students leave other than just "failing" reason.

Ken Barrick asked whether with all the title changes, what the costs have been. As we approach difficulties in budgets, how can we reconcile rising administrative costs? With dire predictions of future budget difficulties that have been mentioned, will administration be the first area to look for cuts? Chancellor responded with question -- what elements of the university should be held protected against fiscal change? It shouldn't be the administration. What is core to our mission? What isn't? Fundamental core elements of the university must be protected.

Ken Barrick asked if Faculty Senate does have or can have a role in evaluating the need for future administrative positions? Is there a role for participation in planning? Chancellor responded yes. Says it's been done in the recent past -- Jon's predecessor as FS president had input. Feels the FS role is getting better now than years before as the Chancellor has greater need to engage them and more experience working with the FS. Three years plus have taught him how to work more effectively with them.

plan adopted applies to all UA employees, not just staff. Feels a terrible health care plan will affect lowest paid staff most adversely.

X New Business

- A. Motion to amend the policy on Course Prerequisites to clarify the C grade, submitted by Curricular Affairs & Student Academic Development and Achievement

Ilana Kingsley introduced the motion and it was passed unanimously.

MOTION:

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The UAF Faculty Senate moves to amend the policy on Course Prerequisites (p. 39, 2007-2008 UAF Catalog) to clarify that a grade of C means a 2.0 C and not a 1.7 C-.

CAPS = Additions

[[]] = Deletions

Registration

COURSE PREREQUISITES (UAF Catalog, p. 39)

Course prerequisites tell you what previous preparation you need to enroll in a course. An instructor has the right to drop any student from the course if he or she does not meet the prerequisite or has not received a grade of "C" (**2.0**) or better in all prerequisite courses. Under special circumstances, an instructor may allow a student who does not meet prerequisites to enter a class.

You should not register for a course for which you have not completed the appropriate prerequisite courses and received a grade of "C" (**2.0**) or higher unless you have received the instructor's explicit permission. You are expected to check all the prerequisites for the classes for which you intend to register. Prerequisites must be met in order to enroll in some math and developmental courses. Check for prerequisites in the current class schedule, the courses section of the catalog or at <http://uaonline.alaska.edu>.

EFFECTIVE: Immediately

RATIONALE: This clarifies that a C grade means a 2.0 C and not a 1.7 C-.

- B. Motion to amend the policy on Probation to increase the number of credits, submitted by Curricular Affairs & Student Academic Development and Achievement

Ilana Kingsley introduced the motion and it was passed unanimously.

MOTION:

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The UAF Faculty Senate moves to amend the policy on probation (p. 78, 2007-2008 UAF Catalog) to increase the number of credits a student can enroll in each semester.

CAPS = Additions

[[]] = Deletions

Academic Standards

the number of test slots is significantly below the demand, resulting in long delays for potential students. A large number of US universities now accept the IELTS as a substitute for the TOEFL. Common minimum IELTS scores range from 5.5 to 7.0, corresponding to TOEFL scores of 500-600 (paper version). It is recommended that we adapt an IELTS score of 6.5 based on the average for mid- and top-tier research

are on the line. It was also clarified that in an open meeting the candidate only observes and listens. Anyone technically could attend. The resolution passed with 24 votes in favor, 1 opposed and 2 abstentions.

RESOLUTION

Present: Mae Delcastillo (for Melissa McGinty), Deanna Dieringer, Linda Hapsmith, Ilana Kingsley, Beth Leonard, Rainer Newberry, Jane Allen, Carol Lewis, Amber Thomas, Dana Thomas, Libby Eddy

Absent: Falk Huettmann, Diane McEachern

Motion on grades for course prerequisites (a C means 2.0):

UAF Faculty Senate (Meeting #129) has already passed a motion in regard to prerequisite courses and grades. “Students should not register for a course if they haven’t met the prerequisite courses or has not received a grade of “C” or better in all prerequisite courses.” Need to consider prerequisite courses, as well as credit/no-credit grades and transfer grades. This applies to any course, not just core courses.

Committee decided to bring motion to FS to change the wording in the catalog that a C is a 2.0. Beth (and Ilana) will draft a motion.

- a. Students are allowed to sign up in Banner; Banner doesn't prohibit students from signing up.
 - b. Need to remind FS that:
 - o Banner does not automatically prevent people from signing up and that the Dept. admin has the ability to check if students have the appropriate prerequisites.
 - o Faculty can withdraw students who don't have the appropriate prerequisites.
3. Discussed issue of readmittance
- a. Linda will find out what % students going for an associates degree get disqualified & what proportion of students who are on probation get disqualified.
 - b. Ilana will follow up with Carol regarding Deans' Council
4. Ramona McAfee presented the group with a proposal to change the required # of residency credits, for active service military members who are seeking an associates degree, from 6 to 3.
- a. UAA residency is set at 3 credits for a 2 year degree
 - b. UAF is the administrative MAU for military programs in Interior AK
 - c. The degrees offered are in goarmyed – the military portal; for UAF they include:
 - o Associate of Arts (AA)
 - o Associate of Applied Sciences in Accounting (AAS-A)
 - o Associate of Applied Sciences in Culinary Arts (AAS-CA)
 - o Associate of Applied Sciences in Maintenance Technology - Airframe and Powerplant (AAS-M)
 - d. A motion was made to bring this to FS.
 Post-Meeting Info: The issue of military credits has been indefinitely tabled per Ramona McAfee.

Unfinished Business:

CLEP
 FreshStart

B. Faculty Affairs - Jon Dehn

A report was attached to the agenda. The minutes should reflect that Donie Bret-Harte was in attendance and updated minutes are included below. Committee has been working on adjusting the bylaws to properly include their role as a conduit of communication between the unions and the senate. They are trying to find accurate budget information and to that end Jon is now on the Chancellor's budget committee. They're also looking at the new online travel system, and waiting on a report by a faculty who investigated this. There have been positive comments from staff so far. The online system for Annual Activity reports caused lively discussion in the committee meeting. Jon provided the senate with a description of the system and some of the background associated with it. Jennifer Reynolds commented on proposed design changes and issues of usage of the system by administrators.

**Faculty Affairs Committee
 19 October, 2007, WRRB 101**

Attending: Ken Barrick, Donie Bret-Harte, Anne Christie, Jon Dehn, Marla Lowder, Jennifer Reynolds, Jonathan Rosenberg

Discussion of the bylaws description of the faculty affairs committee. A slight modification is in the works, where all are tasked with suggestions for language to include the role of faculty affairs as a conduit for Unions / Senate communication / coordination. The rationale is to update the language to encourage participation of the Unions as well as the Senate in Union efforts.

Discussion of the perceived increase in early tenure applications, clarification was asked for since there was no increase noted in the data from past senate minutes, or from Doris Nichols at the Provost's office.

We went over the org chart briefly, note that there are now 13 persons with the title "Chancellor" at UAF.

Also, we were unable to find accurate budget information about UAF online at the website.

The new online travel system was not discussed until it could be seen demonstrated. The GI is taking special interest in this a demo was scheduled in IARC.

The new automated annual activities reporting was demonstrated as being tested by SFOS. Not only is it cumbersome, time consuming, ill-conceived and buggy, it undermines the primary function of the activities report. What was once a tool to help the faculty member chart their career with the aid of their director or dean has now become a data mining project for statewide. Further, much of the data required to be entered here is potentially sensitive, including students grade distributions and particularly the information in the self narrative. The committee feels this will eliminate the usefulness of the activities reports on at least two levels.

First, the faculty will be disinclined to fill out every single manuscript, since it is an impenetrable process requiring more detail than any journal citation. As Jeff Freymueller noted last year when this was proposed, he would be inclined to enter the minimum required and then move on to more important matters. This would skew the data-mining efforts of statewide and under represent UAF's total contribution.

Second, faculty will be disinclined to enter candid information which should be documented and discussed with their director/dean to ensure a healthy academic environment. That makes the reports less useful to faculty and directors/deans to manage their careers and institutes/schools respectively. This speaks to core areas of academic freedom which could be threatened by this sort of activity. There are certainly more points can be made here.

There are no obvious positive aspects of the current online system. A perfect world would include past reports, automatically gauge and prepare a tenure/promotion packet, have areas blocked from data-mining or scrutiny from statewide, and a doi database search to ease reference entry. This should be an aid to faculty, not the burden it currently represents.

Finally the issue of open meetings in faculty tenure/promotion reviews came up, and led to the motion before the senate. Though we cannot change the current rules in CBA, this motion was

C. Unit Criteria - Brenda Konar

- The service portion of the unit criteria tries to explain what library science does, however the added part at the end of the evaluation is not a way to evaluate the faculty. Perhaps break the various items under either public or university service.
- Under evaluation, there is nothing to use to evaluate assistant, associate, and fulls. There needs to be something to guide faculty as far as what they need to be doing. Perhaps fulls must be acting at the national level.
- There needs to be something in the Service section that states that the bulk of the workload is service.
- Top of page nine needs to be re-worded so that only a self-evaluation is not the only item needed.
- Descriptions of what library science does are great but it would be nice to see specific examples and how to evaluate these. You should particularly mention items that are unique to library science.

Meeting ended at 1310.

D. Committee on the Status of Women - Jane Weber

The following report was attached to the agenda:

**Faculty Senate Committee on the Status of Women
October 16, 2007**

Members present: Diane Wagoner, Kayt Sunwood (ex-officio), David Koester, Jane Weber, Cindy Hardy, Carol Gold, Sine Anahita, Renate Wackerbauer, Brenda Norris

Members missing: Uma Bhatt (Uma was not on the email list, and thus did not receive notice of the meeting; this has been rectified)

Guest: Christiana Wright, student journalist from the *Sun-Star*

Minutes by Sine Anahita

Next meeting moved to 11/13/07

Family friendly policies

letter from new faculty member was circulated; she just had a baby and was unable to obtain faculty housing; was living in student housing that was unacceptable and unhealthy; wished us to write a letter in support of her obtaining adequate and safe housing

x we discussed other issues related to family-friendly policies that the university could adopt that would improve the quality of work life for women faculty: automatically stopping the tenure clock upon the birth or adoption of a child instead of faculty having to request it;

Core Review Committee

Minutes for the Meeting of 10:30-11:30am. Wednesday Oct. 10

Present: Latrice Bowman, Christine Coffman, Steve Cysewski, Mike Harris (members), Linda Hapsmith, Sue McHenry (ex-officio)

Report for the Senate Minutes

2. Dana Greci was elected to replace Christie Cooper as Recorder.
3. September 11th meeting minutes were approved with a few changes. Christie agreed to update them.
4. Joy's Report:

The new faculty orientation has been expanded from last year to include a week of

Link suggested a fifth project: improvement of methods of generating activity reports, and Eric brought up possibly including workload agreements too. Link agreed to be the point person for this project. Julie Lurman agreed to look at a draft of his suggestions. Channon said he would provide a power point for the committee to review.

Larry volunteered to send around a list of the 5 projects, including who has volunteered to work on each one and asking for additional volunteers.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 a.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday November 6, 2007 @ 8:15 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Dana Greci, Recorder.

Ron also raised a concern specific to the way vocational certificate students are placed in their communication and computation classes. Many of these programs have designed classes which have communication and computation embedded and taught in applications specific to the trade. Placement testing for these students that directs them to DEVM 050, for instance, may cause them to unnecessarily take an extra math class—a significant impact on a student’s progress in a one-year program. We agreed that this can be dealt with through advising to place the student in the appropriate vocational math or English class. We also raised the question of whether there were separate placement tests that could direct a student towards the appropriate vocational, rather than academic, placement for students in those programs and whether more developmental level preparatory vocational courses could be developed. These concerns will be referred back to the Department of Developmental Education.

Mark raised the issue of the impact Mandatory Placement will have on the affected core teaching departments, particularly English and math. We discussed the potential impact on FTE, class size, and TA class availability during the initial transition period. Both English and Math faculty on the committee felt that their departments had not yet addressed these issues. Dana Greci also raised the question of reading placement and how this will impact other core classes.

We need to find data on the following questions:

What impact will mandatory placement have on core enrollments in Math and English (such as English 111 and Math 107 or 103)?

What courses will be impacted by placement based on reading level?

Whereas, Sheri Layral was instrumental in ensuring that deadlines were met by the UAF Faculty Senate committees; and

Whereas, Sheri Layral was successful in ensuring that the UAF Faculty Senate meetings ran smoothly; and

Whereas, Sheri Layral enthusiastically agreed to continue serving after retirement to ensure a smooth transition to a new office manager; and

Whereas, Sheri Layral's thorough knowledge of UAF system policies and regulations, academic programs and course catalog was invaluable; and

Whereas, Sheri Layral has made the impossible job of UAF Faculty Senate President possible; and

Whereas, The past and current UAF Faculty Senate Presidents and current President-elect wish to acknowledge the outstanding service rendered the faculty and the University by the work of Sheri Layral; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the past and current UAF Faculty Senate Presidents and current President-elect acknowledge the many contributions of Sheri Layral and express their appreciation for her exemplary service.
