

MINUTES  
UAF FACULTY SENATE MEETING #154  
Monday, November 10, 2008  
1:00 p.m. – 2:50 p.m.  
Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom

B. Approval of Minutes to Meeting #153

The minutes were approved as distributed.

C. Adoption of Agenda

The agenda was adopted as distributed.

II Status of Chancellor's Office Actions

A. Motions Approved:

1. Motion to approve the Graduate Certificate in Statistics.

B. Motions Disapproved: none

III Public Comments/Questions No public comments.

IV A. President's Comments – Marsha Sousa

Marsha read the names of the people on the Core Revitalization Committee (not to be confused with the Senate's Core Review Committee). They are: Anne Armstrong (SoEd); Diane Wagner (CNSM); Jacob Josef (SOM); Susan Todd (SNRAS); Karen Grossweiner (CLA); Charles Mayer (CEM); Trent Sutton (SFOS); Ron Illingworth (CRCD); Michael Harris (Senate Core Review Committee); Kirsten Halpin (Student); and Linda Hapsmith (Staff). Dani Sheppard met with the Core Revitalization Committee to talk about experiential learning (the community service type of learning) which may become an interesting point of discussion as the project continues.

Core Revitalization will take a holistic look at the baccalaureate core and develop a report about the common intellectual experiences that our baccalaureate, associate of arts, and associate of science students should have; and it will propose a mechanism by which these experiences should be assessed in the holistic sense. This will be a stepping stone in the process of revitalizing the core. Looking at each of the core courses will happen down the line and is not part of this year's goals.

In January, six of the committee members will attend an AACU meeting in Seattle, titled "Ready or Not: Global Challenges, College Learning, and America's Promise." No one could make it to the November meeting. A seventh member will attend the February AACU meeting in Baltimore (General Education, Assessment, and the Learning Students Need). [www.aacu.org](http://www.aacu.org)

Jane W. asked about the Senate being kept apprised of the committee's work. Marsha affirmed that and noted the report they produce will be presented to the Senate, and is a public document.

Ken B. asked about what will be shared with the Senate at the end of the committee's work. Marsha indicated a report will be produced for the Provost's Office and shared with the Senate. Ken asked about what the Senate's roll might be in this process. Marsha said it won't require Senate approval – it will be shared with us. The product of the committee does not require Senate approval at this point in the process. Ken B. proposed regular reports from the committee in that case. Jane W. asked if what the committee produces will come to the Senate

for ideas and comments from everyone for the next Administrative Committee meeting (November 21) on this topic.

Optional Retirement Plan (ORP): A union letter or email was sent out in response to the change in the way ORP benefits are being contributed to by the university, and a lawsuit is going forward. UAFT is in discussion with UNAC.

Statewide issues: Both Marsha and Jon attended the BOR meeting last week. UAF presented nicely at that meeting. Students supported both the Life Sciences and the Engineering buildings. The budget is going forward with no changes. Number one priority is K-12 education, which is an opportunity to put the student success initiatives together in a package and elevate the level of our incoming students. The new commissioner of education is having an education summit in Anchorage at the end of this week, and Marsha is one of those who will represent UAF. It's more like a K-16 conference as they're including more higher ed people in the conference. They want to get a better dialog going about how we prepare students in K-12 for entering the university, and whether the university's expectations are in line with 21<sup>st</sup> century education, etc.

With regard to our UAS colleagues in Juneau, about two weeks ago, the Dean of Arts and Sciences was administratively reassigned. This did not set well with the majority of UAS faculty. Faculty Alliance has forwarded a motion to statewide that anytime such actions take place, the faculty in the affected unit should be more fully informed of the action and the cause for it, and be involved in a dialog. UAS faculty senate met about this last week; but we haven't heard what their response has been.

Ken B. asked what the administrative reassignment was. Marsha doesn't know, except





They want to make it an example for Fairbanks, not just UAF. They want to put it on the map as an example of energy efficiency and make it an educational building as well. Thanks extended to Garrison Collette, Rich Seifert; Celia Miller, Tran Smyth, Randy Peterson, Elise S. and Gavin Baker.

Kenan H. asked students about funding. They're still looking for building funds, aside from what they have for the charrette. The cost estimate is \$1 million; and the BOR has provided fund-raising authorization to them. They're working to get an exact design before starting the fund-raising. Jennifer R asked about bid process; they want to have a rough floor plan in place then let the contractors contribute to the final plans: a design – build process, which helps the building eventually pay for itself, with lower up front costs. They would like the Senate's vote of support; and Marsha has asked for some

Rural staff have expressed concerns on the geographical differential and has asked it to be brought to the Staff Compensation task force.

A retreat was held and they discussed updating the constitution and bylaws.

Issues with non-attendance and generating membership.

#### B. ASUAF – Brandon Meston

Marsha passed along some information on Brandon's behalf. Nov. 21 is the deadline for student applications to participate in Feb 21-24 legislative lobbying trip. If any faculty have students who might be interested, please inform them. ASUAF elections are coming up on Nov. 20 and 21 for new reps – so far there are no candidates for student regent and student commissioner. Talk it up with your students – they need a UAF representative.

#### C. UAFT/UNAC

Jane W. mentioned that the issue at the forefront for both unions is ORP for the tier I faculty. Marsha mentioned the two unions are conversing about moving forward in concert.

Jennifer R. mentioned that Brandon had attended Faculty Affairs Committee as a guest speaker; and he discussed student representation and the fact that they're only coming from Fairbanks because the money comes from the campus activity fees. This has disenfranchised the rural students' participation with the legislative fly-in – Marsha will take that up issue. Mike Davis commented that he's participated with the legislative fly-ins and has had Rural Student Services students accompany him on the visits to legislators from the rural areas. It's very effective to have students from rural campuses to do that. Not sure about fee collection issue at the rural sites.

### VIII New Business

#### A. Motion to reaffirm the Unit Criteria for Anthropology

Ray Ralonde brought the motion to the floor; Cathy C. seconded it. Ray read the minutes about the discussion of the criteria from that meeting at which it was reviewed.

Jennifer R. asked about the need for reaffirmation – every 5 years it needs to be reviewed, updated if necessary, and then reaffirmed.

Ken B. had a question regarding any possible conflict in the Anthropology department. None is known. Jon D. asked about the notation in the criteria, which was in order.

Ayes passed the motion unanimously to reaffirm the unit criteria.

### IX Committee Reports

#### A. Curricular Affairs – Amber Thomas / Falk Huettmann (Attachment 154/2)

Amber spoke about their committee minutes. Beth Leonard was in attendance at the last meeting, but it wasn't noted. They continue to have questions for the Core Revitalization



Committee. They discussed the new general studies degree, to be placed in the Interdisciplinary Program. They are reviewing the General Education portion of degree requirements before 1991; and they included members who were here in 1990 and were part of the three-year process that created the core. They're looking at issues that could again come up now.

B. Faculty Affairs – Cathy Cahill (Attachment 154/3)

Brandon Meston came to their meeting as well. (Minutes not approved yet from that meeting.) Regarding the legislative fly-in, faculty need to get students from different departments and different legislative districts to go down, so that it's not all Political Science students. Needs-based scholarship program is being pushed (Alaska Achievers Program). Please get students to apply by the deadline – they need to go to the ASUAF office to pick up applications.

Legislative affairs: We need to pick up direct contact again with legislators – UAA is doing that and being very effective. Any input you have is needed and appreciated. We need to have a united front in support of UAF. They will work together with ASUAF and Staff Council for a united front.

Research committee (RAC) – We need to have communication about research priorities from and to the administration from faculty to represent our interests. We need the research component represented on the Senate, not just academics. They want to form the committee; Marion Bret-Harte is leading the effort and talk to her if you want to be involved. They are not planning to look at proposals, but instead want to look at broader issues to make it a more effective process (not day to day aspects).

Redistribution (reapportionment) effort to look at Senate membership – They are looking at data provided from the Provost's Office for quality.

Digital Measures software: They're making progress on killing it. It's been difficult to get changes made to the software. UAA is abandoning it. UAA is writing their own software, we want to look at it and see if it meets our needs. UAF wants to beta test, and they are going forward on that.

Everyone should have gotten the memo about the Senate's resolution from last year regarding open P&T committees.

Regarding the Provost's memo regarding the P&T process and lightening the load on the committee members – This is a union issue. Faculty need to talk to the union about changing the process if that is what they collectively want.

Jane W. confirmed the dates for the legislative fly-in to be Feb. 21 and 22, with a workshop a few days before; they break out the students by districts to talk to their district reps.

Jennifer R. mentioned having a UNAC rep come

They are also looking at a faculty peer assessment tool. They