

Governance Report

November 2017



Coalition of Student Leaders Colby Freiel, Chair

In late September, the Coalition held its fall summit in Anchorage and conducted their annual officer elections. I would like to congratulate Nathan Grilley on his election as Vice Chair. I have been reelected to serve as Chair. We were joined in Anchorage by university and state leaders who gave us valuable insight into the issues facing higher education in Alaska and valuable perspectives on the work being done to address those challenges. Special thanks are due to Chair CEN, President Johnsen, Associate Vice President Miles Baker, Chief Title IX Officer Mary Gower, as well as staff from the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, for their participation in the meeting. I am happy to report that the summit was a success. We met each of our goals and have a clear direction for the remainder of the year.

Input has been sought from all 29,000+ UA students, asking them their perspective on the tuition proposal. Students have in the past been willing to pay more for a quality education. We understand and are grateful for the low cost tuition we have available to us in Alaska. The Coalition is still interested, however, in hearing student voice and using those voices to inform our stance on this proposal.

- o President Johnsen acknowledged that faculty governance representation on the Academic Council will consist of one faculty governance leader from each university
- o President Johnsen agreed that one faculty member shall serve on each statewide council with the exception of the Research Council, for which one faculty member per university will serve and that selection will be made by the chancellor in consultation with the chair of each faculty senate. Faculty representation on councils other than the Academic Council and the Research Council will be revisited at the 2018 Faculty Alliance Retreat.

x Faculty nominees for the following statewide Council positions are being solicited

- f Research UAA, UAF, UAS
- f Business
- f Community Campus
- f Development
- f Human Resources
- f Information Technology FA Chair: Lisa Hoferkamp
- f Institutional Research
- f Student Services
- f University Relations

Specific faculty representation was verified in a 9/29/17 letter to President Johnsen; representation on the Academic Council shall consist of the current, elect and upcoming elect chair of the FA; representation on the VPASA Search Committee shall consist of the three faculty senate presidents.

- o Faculty will be involved in the roll out of the Student Success Collaborative (SSC) and opportunities for faculty input and support to ensure effective implementation will be made available.

The FA continues to support two non-teaching days per academic year as the most logical solution to disparate numbers of classroom hours within and among semesters.

Discussions between the FA and President Johnsen that have taken place since the September 2017 Board of Regents meeting have focused the Alliance' attention on several directives and issues.

Decisions resulting from Strategic Pathways Phase III are highlighted by increased University-wide collaborations and towards that end President Johnsen has requested FA input regarding implementation and structuring of system-wide communities of practice (COPs), their charge and goals. Since COPs within academia are traditionally self-developed, faculty are very interested in how administration will support this effort and look forward to maximizing the potential opportunity.

President Johnsen's recent announcement of changes to the implementation plan for the Alaska College of Education (COE) prompted the FA to collect faculty input letter

summarizing that input was submitted to the President on Sept. 29, 2017. Collectively, the UA faculty expressed concern regarding the utility and cost efficiency of dissolving the UAA and UAF Schools of Education and requested specifics on the role of the proposed Executive Dean of the COE.

The FA has been asked to identify a faculty liaison to be part of a small team (with four UA administrators) that will participate in the 2018 ACE & NASH Leadership Academy.

Work towards aligning course numbers, descriptions and SLOs of GERs across the UA system has progressed though the start of the academic year and associated tasks has taken precedence for most faculty.

The Statewide Information Technology Council (ITC) is discussing implementation of a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system. While several issues are relevant to the discussion, the FA strongly supports an ERP system that allows faculty to administer their courses in a manner that minimizes disruptions (e.g. registration, financial aid and course prerequisite issues) and facilitates transparent administration of research and teaching grants. The ITC has also drafted an Administrative Email Policy which the FA has provided edits. Those edits are aimed primarily at correcting features of the policy that will negatively and unnecessarily impact faculty's ability to carry out their teaching, research and service responsibilities.

The Academic Council Subcommittee on Concurrent Enrollment (SCE) has submitted a draft document to the FA containing BOR regulation language on concurrent enrollment. After discussing the document's content and its potential impacts, the FA has requested, in an email to SCE chair Fred Villa dated Oct. 2, 2017, universitywide faculty review prior to submission of the draft document to UA Legal Counsel.

The FA continues to work together with the Statewide Administration Assembly on a crowd sourcing project for generating new and innovative approaches to the enrollment problems currently faced by the University.

Letters, Memos and Resolutions:

[2017 09 27 FA Memo to CITO re Email Policy](#)

[2017 09 29 FA to Johnsen re Faculty Representation](#)

[2017 09 29 FA to Johnsen COE](#)

Faculty Alliance is the faculty voice in matters affecting the academic welfare of the University of Alaska system and its educational programs.

Staff Alliance

Kara Axx, Chair

UA Staff Alliance met on Sep 6 and Oct 11 to discuss staff unionization, Strategic Pathways Phase 3, staff retirement options, full time employment definitions, plans for UA leadership

and succession development, and potential changes to annual leave accrual caps and cash in procedures

Directo