



Faculty Senate

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

November 2014

Report of the President

Faculty Senate Meeting, November 7, 2014

Space Management Policy

Per the recommendation of the Faculty Senate Budget, Planning and Facilities Advisory Board, the Faculty Senate passed a motion in support of the Space Management Policy draft submitted to the Faculty Senate E-board by Associate Vice Chancellor for Facilities & Campus Services Chris Turletes on October 13, 2014. A copy of the draft policy is included in the November Faculty Senate Agenda.

Evaluation of Non-tenure Track Unit Member and Merit Pay Adjustment Taskforce

The Faculty Senate approved the formation of an Evaluation of Non-tenure Track Unit Member and Merit Pay Adjustment Taskforce to develop an evaluation process that is “separate and distinct from that of tenure track and tenured unit members” per section 9.2.7 of the UNAC collective bargaining agreement. This taskforce will also determine rules and procedures for non-tenure track unit members to qualify for a merit adjustment to base salary per section 15.6.3 of the UNAC collective bargaining agreement. As per the Faculty Senate Constitution, Article V, Section 8, members on this committee will be appointed by the Faculty Senate President. The taskforce will complete their charge and submit their materials and recommendations to the Faculty Senate by March 31st, 2015 to be included in the April agenda. ***If you are interested in serving on this important task force, please let me know!***

Faculty Handbook Taskforce

I am still seeking Faculty Senate members and other volunteers for the Faculty Handbook Taskforce.

The questions this taskforce will address include the following:

- 1) What is the unique content that should be included in the Faculty Handbook/Handbook site?
- 2) What existing information needs to be linked to the handbook/handbook site?
- 3) What is the best location for housing this document online?

Task force members will work with Assistant Vice Provost for Faculty Services, Marian Bruce on this task, and we expect it to be a relatively short time commitment.

NWCCU mid-cycle accreditation site visit

Last week I participated in the NWCCU accreditation visit to UAA. While the official written report won't be sent to UAA for a few weeks, the feedback we received was generally positive and very useful. I believe the feedback will not only help us have a successful re-accreditation process in 2017, but also allow us to communicate with the UA Board of Regents and others the meaning and purpose of independent accreditation for our university.

Community campus coordination

There are two efforts underway to clarify the relationship between community campuses and main campuses, in particular around the authority to make decisions around faculty hiring and who teaches particular courses. One of these is a UAA-specific discussion, chaired by Bonnie Nygard, and another is a UA system-wide discussion being led by Vice President for Academic Affairs Dana Thomas. The UAA group is developing guidelines around the hiring of faculty to teach courses on community campuses and is looking at the UAF "Red Book" that specifies how that happens at UAF community campuses. The statewide discussion is around a statement of the role and mission of community campuses, which VP Thomas hopes to bring forward to the UA Regents in December. The latest draft of that statement, and a response and alternative from community campus directors, is attached to the senate agenda. I will share more information on both efforts when it is available.

Provost Search

The national search for a new UAA provost is underway. The position has been posted to a broad array of national sites and publications, and committee members have also been engaging in targeted outreach and recruitment efforts. All applications are going through the search firm consultant and not through UAKJobs. A copy of the search announcement is attached as an information item to the November Faculty Senate agenda, and we hope that you will reach out to your colleagues across the nation. We want a strong pool of candidates! I can also connect interested applicants directly with the search consultant.

Faculty Alliance

As mentioned last month, the Faculty Alliance proposed a Common Calendar Task Force and strategy to President Gamble; this has been implemented. The task force consists of 4 faculty (including 1 rural rep), 3 Registrars, 1 administrator, and 1 technical representative (staff). Members were sought based on their familiarity with a variety of course delivery methods, student needs, accreditation requirements, needs and constraints of rural and urban campuses, and familiarity with space needs and constraints. Faculty Alliance has since requested that 3 students be added to the task force, and has solicited nominations from the Coalition of Student Leaders. The task force charge was included in the October 2014 Faculty President report, but as a reminder, the task force will provide a brief preliminary report by December 1, 2014 to the President, Faculty Alliance, and university leadership. The final report will be due by February 16, 2015 and will include both a summary and set of recommendations and/or options for implementation of the calendar alignment mandate. Look for a survey to get your input!

The Faculty Alliance passed a motion concerning adoption of a common minimum admission standard for Baccalaureate programs across the UA System. However, the ensuing discussion led to a decision to take a bit more time to decide the final recommendation and then to bring it forward as an amendment to UA Regents' policy which will be spelled out in University Regulations, rather than as a Faculty Alliance decision. If you are interested in contributing to this discussion please send me your thoughts.

UNAC meeting

The three faculty senate presidents and the Faculty Alliance chair were invited to meet with the UNAC Representative Assembly on October 25. While there were a number of items on the agenda, the major topic of discussion was the UA Board of Regents. A video of the interaction between Faculty Alliance Chair Dave Valentine and the BoR was shared at the meeting.

Visit to Mat-Su campus

First Vice President, Tara Smith, and I met with faculty members at the Mat-Su College on October 14. We had a good (if too short) conversation after which I toured the campus with campus director Talis Colberg. Everyone in Anchorage should plan on going to a show at the new Glenn Massay Theater when it opens later this fall – it's a beautiful facility!

UA Statewide Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research Search

The search for a new UA VPAA is also underway. That search is being led by Dr. Ashok Roy, Vice President for Finance & Administration/ CFO, University of Alaska System. Information on the search is as follows:

The University of Alaska System (UA) invites letters of interest for the position of Vice President for Academic Affairs & Research (VPAA & R). UA seeks a visionary, collaborative and innovative leader who will identify synergies to build strong teams to support large, transformative academic and research initiatives.

Vice President for Academic Affairs & Research

Reporting to the UA President, the VPAA & R is the Chief Academic Officer of UA and directs the development and implementation of comprehensive strategies in keeping with the mission; represents the university to external funding organizations, school districts, partners and governmental departments/agencies; advises the President and Board of Regents on matters of academic policy, vision, and strategic planning; and helps implement "Shaping Alaska's Future." The position will work closely and collaboratively with the three chancellors, provosts, other vice presidents and faculty governance, as well key external stakeholders, including K-12 partners, the Alaska Workforce Investment Board, Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (the regional accrediting body for seven states, including Alaska) and many others.

University

The University of Alaska System consists of three separately accredited universities encompassing 16 campuses across Alaska. In Fall 2013 the University System enrolled 32,696 students for credit, and employed 4,502 full-time employees. The University has a rich tradition of supporting excellence in academics and research and service.

Qualifications

- Earned doctorate
- Distinguished record of academic research, teaching, and administrative leadership
- Exceptional leadership qualities
- Ability to create a vision, develop a strategic plan, and collaboratively lead its implementation across the UA System
- Understanding and knowledge of multicultural and diversity issues and their importance to the Alaskan community and the UA mission
- Experience with unionized faculty preferred

Application Process

The search committee invites letters of interest to be submitted to the University of Alaska President, Patrick Gamble, electronically to the following address: ua.president@alaska.edu, with a copy to the CHRO, Erik Seastedt, eseastedt@alaska.edu.

Priority consideration will be given to letters of interest submitted by December 31, 2014.

Letters of interest received after this date may be considered at the discretion of the search committee and/or hiring authority.

The University of Alaska is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer and educational institution. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other status protected by law. Applicants needing reasonable accommodation to participate in the application and screening process should contact the local Human Resources office.

More information is at: www.uakjobs.com/applicants/Central?quickFind=85727