**March Update**

The Faculty Senate exists in order to provide a forum for and create a voice to address university-life issues including curriculum, student success, institutional development, and professional development. Below are the major items addressed in the February and March meetings.

*Engaged Learning and Research*: As part of the work to re-certify UAA as an engaged university (Carnegie classification), new definitions of engaged and participatory teaching and research were approved. These definitions broaden the types of teaching and research that qualifies as engaged and divides it between two levels.

*Research and Creative Activity Symposium:* Starting in the fall 2014 semester UAA will now hold a research and creative activity symposium for faculty to display their work. Undergraduate research is not expected to be a part of this so as not to detract from the already existing spring display of undergraduate work.

*Online Activity Reports*: Based on a recommendation of the research and creative activity committee, Faculty Senate approved a request for UAA to make progress on an electronic means of collecting and analyzing activity reports. The motivation for the committee is to make it easier to find and display the breadth and quality of UAA’s work and to match researchers to opportunities.

*Academic Disputes*: At the request of Academic Affairs, Faculty Senate approved a committee to work next year to redesign the academic dispute process, so that it is easier to handle and fair to all. A companion motion requests that colleges use standing committees to process academic disputes rather than trying to squeeze the work into faculty schedules as problems arise.

*Unit Feedback*: IULRC is nearly done with development of the new process for providing feedback to deans. This is the final opportunity to review the process and provide any suggestions before the committee finalizes the process and implements it.

*Senate Bylaws*: Faculty Senate approved changes to the bylaws impacting the University Wide Faculty Evaluation Committee, the senate distinguished service awards, and senate use of Robert’s Rules of Order. Please review these changes and vote on them when you receive the email.

The status of all motions can be found at <http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/governance/facultysenate/faculty-senate-motions.cfm>.

Please remember that Faculty Senate exists to address items of concern to all faculty members. If you have a question or concern that you think is appropriate for senate to address, please contact the senate executive board, a senator, or one of the senate committees or boards.



Dr. Mark Fitch
Faculty Senate President