The following was passed at the April 5, 2010, Faculty Senate Meeting #166:

MOTION

The UAF Faculty Senate moves to amend the Bylaws of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Faculty Senate, Section 1, Article III: Membership, subsection B.4 (page 13). This amendment changes the way split appointments are handled in reapportionment calculations for representation on the Faculty Senate.

EFFECTIVE: Fall 2010

RATIONALE: This amendment would drop the use of split appointments to adjust faculty counts for individual units in reapportionment calculations. The change would help to make the reapportionment procedure much less labor-intensive, with minor effect on the outcome.

At present, the Geophysical Institute (GI), the International Arctic Research Center (IARC), and the Institute of Arctic Biology (IAB) are now represented in a Research Institutes “conglomerate group.”

In reapportionment calculations using 2008-2009 data, under the current Faculty Senate Bylaws, the GI and IARC would each qualify for separate representation regardless of whether split appointments are taken into account. IAB would qualify for the minimum representation by 2 senators and the representation of CNSM would decrease from 6 to 4 senators. In addition, a new “conglomerate group” emerges, composed of INE, UAA CHSW/SON, ARSC, OFC, and the Museum. This new group would be represented by the minimum 2 senators, increasing the size of the Senate by 2 members.

In contrast, with this amendment that drops consideration of split appointments, IAB would have only 2 faculty with primary appointments in IAB in 2008-09 (and none in 2009-10). Of the 38 qualifying IAB faculty in 2008-09, 35 had appointments split with CNSM, 1 had an appointment split with SNRAS, and 2 had 50-67% research faculty appointments in IAB without an academic appointment elsewhere. IAB would not qualify for separate representation, CNSM would retain its 6 senators, and the new “conglomerate group” would not form, as it depends on the existence of split appointments.

The amendment specifies that in the case of evenly split appointments, for apportionment purposes the faculty member is to be counted in the tenure-granting unit. This is in accord with the concept that faculty should be represented in the unit of the primary appointment, as the rank of faculty with this type of split appointment is set by the tenure-granting unit and thus it may be seen as the primary unit. This is also in accord with a separate proposed amendment to section C.2, stating that faculty with evenly split appointments will vote in the tenure-granting unit.

NOTE: The difference between Version 1 and Version 2 is relevant to tenure-track faculty with split appointments in which the fraction of the appointment in a research unit is greater than 50%. In 2008-09, seven faculty with split appointments in CNSM and IAB had 62-75% of their appointments in IAB. Seven others had split appointments with 25% in an academic unit and 75% in the Museum. Thirteen had split appointments with 25% in an academic unit and 75% in GI.

Under Version 1, the reapportionment procedure adheres more closely to the actual division of effort by the faculty member for the year in which reapportionment takes place. The primary unit
is considered to be that in which the faculty member has the greatest fraction of his/her appointment, regardless of whether it is in an academic or research unit. IAB still would not qualify for separate representation, but in this version the faculty with > 50% appointment in IAB would be counted in IAB rather than in an academic unit, and would vote with whatever unit IAB decided to affiliate with (i.e., GI, IARC, CNSM, etc.). Note that this procedure would require details of appointments for all faculty with split appointments. This would require less effort than the current procedure, in which details are required for all UAF faculty, but more effort than Version 2.

Under Version 2, these faculty would be counted in the tenure-granting unit, even though the majority of their appointment in any given year may be in a research institute. The justification for this is twofold. First, the appointment may change from year to year, and the information on each faculty member’s appointment is not readily available; thus it is desirable to avoid using these details for reapportionment. Second, an appointment in a tenure-granting unit may be considered the primary appointment on the grounds that it determines the faculty member’s rank.

President, UAF Faculty Senate  Date

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CAPS = Addition
[[ ]] = Deletion

VERSION 1

3 [[4.]] FACULTY WITH SPLIT APPOINTMENTS WILL BE COUNTED ONLY IN THE UNIT OF PRIMARY APPOINTMENT OR, IN THE CASE OF EVENLY SPLIT APPOINTMENT, IN THE TENURE-GRANTING UNIT. [[Each faculty member whose annual academic appointment is less than 1560 hours will be considered a fractional FTFE with the fraction being the number of hours of annual academic appointment divided by 1560.]]

VERSION 2

3 [[4.]] TENURE-TRACK FACULTY WITH SPLIT APPOINTMENTS WILL BE COUNTED ONLY IN THE TENURE-GRANTING UNIT. RESEARCH FACULTY AND OTHER QUALIFYING FACULTY WITH SPLIT APPOINTMENTS WILL BE COUNTED ONLY IN THE UNIT OF PRIMARY APPOINTMENT. [[Each faculty member whose annual academic appointment is less than 1560 hours will be considered a fractional FTFE with the fraction being the number of hours of annual academic appointment divided by 1560.]]