

MINUTES
UAF GOVERNANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Meeting #76
Wednesday, 5 March 2008
1:30-3 p.m.
Chancellor's Conference Room 330, Signers' Hall

1. Juella Sparks called the meeting to order at

A. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kayt Sunwood, President, UAF Staff Council	A
Juella Sparks, President-Elect, UAF Staff Council	P
Marsha Sousa, President-Elect, UAF Staff Council	P
Jon Genetti, UAF Faculty Senate, President	P
Jake Hamburg, President, ASUAF	P
Danielle Ryder, Vice-President, ASUAF	A
Lynette Washington, Secretary, GCC	P

GUEST: Ann Ringstad, Associate Vice Chancellor, University Relations

B. Wednesday, 5 December 2007, GCC #75, the Agenda was approved as modified.

C. Wednesday, 10 October 2007, GCC #74 Minutes were approved as submitted.

2. GUEST

A. Ann Ringstad, Associate Vice Chancellor, University Relations.

Ann Ringstad updated the GCC members about recent legislative budget actions. Ann Ringstad reported that they gave us what we call step increases and then the Board of Regents went in and changed the language to "grid increases," so we are pretty much whole on our fixed costs, including the increases that we asked for.

3. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Joint Committee on Student Success

Juella Sparks reported that she gave six names to Dana Thomas to add to a list of those meeting with him, Susan Henrichs, Tim Barnett and Bernice Joseph. Juella Sparks stated that her question is, is there still a JCOSS or have we been pulled in to Dana's group. Marsha Sousa stated that Dana's point is that we are welcome to go ahead and pursue something and we are more than welcome to be a part of his committee. The charge to that committee was to think about what you can do that would be approved by the President so that it can go forward in the budget. Last year not one single item on any student success measure from any MAU made it past the President; he wants something that will get results. Jon Genetti stated that we can support what we passed; we have the JCOSS that we can populate with people that want to serve. Jon Genetti stated that one of the rationales for this is to keep track of what is going on; in that respect it is good to be involved in a specialized task force like Dana is forming. Juella Sparks stated that

she would go ahead and formalize the committee with the Chancellor and forward the six names. Marsha Sousa stated that she could convene the first meeting and would coordinate with Lynette Washington to set up a meeting date with the committee members.

B. Chancellor's Campus Diversity Action Committee (CCDAC)

Juella Sparks stated that the CCDAC group met and that Bernice Joseph, VC/CRCO presented the Alaska Native Education committee report, and shared the committee's action plan for the coming year. Juella stated that she volunteered to co-chair the CCDAC for the next three-months, because according to the Bylaws the chair position is up again for election. Juella Sparks reported that Jane Weber was put in as the Faculty co-chair. Juella Sparks stated that all members are in place and have received their letters of appointment to serve on the committee. Juella Sparks stated that at the next meeting the group plans to create a draft action plan for the coming year. Lynette Washington asked if there is a budget assigned to the committee. Juella Sparks replied yes, and that it will be applied to the CCDAC web site.

4. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

A. Jake Hamburg, President, ASUAF.

Jake Hamburg reported that the ASUAF postponed the admission's challenge to March 30-31, and that participation is looking good. He reported that progress is being made on the small business project to help students start small businesses. He reported that there is an off campus housing list that will give transfer students and grad students from out of state a better idea of the housing situation in Alaska, such as what a dry cabin is and proximity to the University. Jake Hamburg stated that the ASUAF is really encouraged by the support that they are receiving for the Merit-Aid based scholarship program. Juella Sparks asked if that relates to HB-397. Jake Hamburg replied yes, HB-397 and that HB-403 relates to their appropriation amount. Jake Hamburg stated that what we are doing as far as the appropriation is to let them know that this is a savings program, instead of putting a \$100,000,000 in to the constitutional budget reserve, invest it and use the interest to help students get an education. At the same time it is a self-sustaining program we won't have to go back to the state year after year begging for money, so it is a win, win as far as that goes. He reported that ASUAF would testify at a hearing for a competing bill HB-384, which hopes to establish a merit based scholarship task force. We are going to tell them that we appreciate your efforts in looking in to this, but we don't need a task force, as we have been looking at this for eight years, we've done the research, we have all the data showing that this is a very good program, so let's move forward

B. Jon Genetti, President, Faculty Senate.

Jon Genetti reported to the GCC group that the Faculty Senate has Senate elections going on for next year' Senators and that the announcement for President-Elect is also out. He stated that the election will take place at the April Senate meeting. Jon Genetti updated GCC members about current retirement options available and how it affects new employees. Jon Genetti reported that 80% of new employees across the board are going for the ORP III plan and that it is the worse plan that we've had so far.

C. Kayt Sunwood, President, Staff Council

Juella Sparks reported for Kayt Sunwood. The Council met and has all of our new members on board. She reported that the Council will combine its next meeting with the annual Staff Council retreat. Juella Sparks stated that the Council will look at issues that are stuck in committees and need action. Jon

Genetti brought up the issue about Play & Learn child care center closing in Fairbanks and that viable child care options has become a big issue with faculty recruitment. Juella Sparks stated that the Bunnell House Advisory group is working on a survey about child care to be published in the next week. Juella stated that she is planning on stepping away from the Bunnell House group in favor of serving on a child care task force. Juella Sparks recommended that the GCC put together a resolution calling for a task force. Jon Genetti stated we can put together a resolution that has the power of all three governance groups. Jake Hamburg suggested that the Sun Star get involved in the research. Juella Sparks suggested that the resolution be drafted and approved via email. Jake Hamburg recommended that it be tied to the Vision Task Force. Jon Genetti recommended that it go through NESSE as the group works on finalizing its committee's recommendations. Jake Hamburg stated that if there is a student that is interested in serving on the task force that ASUAF has stipend for a student to work on that specific issue; the stipend is about \$500.

5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Academic Calendar 2009-2012

Juella Sparks opened discussion on the proposed academic calendar. GCC members shared current and passed problems about the academic calendar. The current issue is that the proposed Springfest dates for 2009-2012 are too early. The group agreed that it is too late in the semester to change the Spring 2008 April 18th SpringFest date. The GCC group recommended that the future year dates should be either the 3rd or 4th Friday in April, and at least two full weeks prior to Commencement. The main objection is that it should not be too close to finals/exam week. The calendar will be sent back to the Curricular Affairs group to discuss changing the SpringFest dates during academic years 2009-2012. Marsha Sousa volunteered to take the calendar back to the Curricular Affairs group for discussion and review.

6. COMMENTS and QUESTIONS

Juella Sparks called for comments and questions. Marsha Sousa informed the group about Dana Thomas pushing hard for a review of the Core Curriculum. Marsha Sousa reported that the student Advising Center has asked to have a person on the committee, because they feel that they have a unique perspective on the problems associated with transfer and general education students. Other people have asked to be on the committee, but Dana would like to keep to at least eight or less people so that progress may be made. Marsha Sousa informed the GCC members that Mike Harris will represent the Faculty Senate's Core Review committee. Marsha Sousa stated that she asked what the charge of the committee would be, because from her on perspective she would like to go back to the General Ed requirements rather than the Core, but that Dana feels that having the Core at the University makes us unique. Marsha Sousa stated that my perspective is based on a person who has to constantly coordinate transfer programs between MAUs because we are not allowed to have every program at every MAU; and that General Ed requirements would make it a lot easier. Jon Genetti recommended coming up with something that is both the Core and General Ed that does the same thing.

Marsha Sousa stated that good General Ed requirements does essentially what the Core does, but that is because we don't devote the resources to our Core that we would truly have to devote to it to make it a solid Core. Jon Genetti stated that over the years our Core has been politicized and there is a lot of departments that depend on the student credit hours derived from courses in the Core, as compared to what makes sense to be in the Core, but changing that is a tough problem. Marsha Sousa stated that if they are going to do a Core I want them to do it right, which means there has to be connections between those classes; everybody has to understand why the classes have to be taken; all of the classes have to be

quality; they have to be taught by good professors; and not an adjunct faculty member that has no training and no feed back and nobody to talk to. Jon Genetti stated that, that point was made clear out of the NESSE survey as well and that is why Dana Thomas has become more charged about this issue. Marsha Sousa stated that students feel ripped off when they take two years of courses here, transfer out and find that our strange core courses don't necessarily meet the General Ed requirements some place else.

7. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

A tape of this Governance Coordinating Committee meeting is available in the Governance Office, Room 312 Signers' Hall.