

MINUTES

UAF Governance Coordinating Committee
Monday, April 30, 2012 – 2:00-3:00 PM
Kayak Room, 408 Rasmuson Library

1. Call to Order – Cathy Cahill, Faculty Senate President

Cathy called the meeting to order and affirmed the attendance of the following members and guest:

Members present: Mari Freitag; Dillon Ball; Juella Sparks; Pips Veazey; Cathy Cahill (audio).

Guest: Mike Earnest, Registrar

Jayne Harvie was present to take minutes.

2. Adopt GCC Agenda #86

The agenda was adopted as submitted.

3. New Business
 - A. Motion to Name Acting Chair (Attachment #1)

The motion was passed to have Cathy Cahill chair the meeting since she was the senior member of the group. Cathy was the only member who had participated on last year's GCC.

- B. Motion to Approve Academic Calendars for 2014-15 and 2015-16 (Attachment #2)

Cathy commented on the passage and approvals of the proposed calendars through the Faculty Senate Curricular Affairs Committee and the Administrative Committee. Mike E. commented on the formulation of the dates, noting that they were tied to both tradition and guidelines of the Faculty Senate and the Curricular Affairs Committee.

Mari asked about if any issues had come up, and Cathy commented on the discussion about Wintermester dates in the future years. An ad hoc committee will be formed by Faculty Senate to address the issue concerning the overlapping dates of Wintermester, start of spring semester, and hard closure and holiday dates in the proposed academic calendars. However, the Wintermester issue does not prevent passage of these proposed calendars.

Mike E. pointed out the lack of a Study Day in the spring semesters of the proposed calendars. This occurs when the Study Day falls the day before a scheduled Commencement.

The motion was called to question and seconded. The vote to pass the proposed academic calendars for 2014-15 and 2015-16 was unanimous.

4. Discussion Items
 - A. Convening of GCC in Fall 2012

All present agreed upon the need to convene both earlier and on a regular basis next year. Issues such as the tobacco hire policy would benefit from such meetings and facilitate a more coordinated approach by shared governance.

It was agreed that there should be at least three meetings arranged for next year: in September, January and April. More meetings could be arranged as necessary.

5. Governance Reports
 - A. Mari Freitag, ASUAF President

Mari shared that she and Dillon were re-elected to ASUAF next year. They are addressing the streamlining of their meetings and issues of student attendance at those meetings. Two trips were made to Juneau this past year. Currently, they have met to discuss the dining contract and provide information to those negotiating the next dining contract.

Dillon commented on the streamlining of ASUAF. Membership will be reduced from 20 senators to 14, effective by fall 2013 after elections have taken place.

Mari noted they will be focusing on outreach to the student body. Their office manager is also going to take on the role of advisor to the group; and the president will retain the power to override the advisor.

- B. Pips Veazey, Staff Council President

Pips recapped the year, mentioning that the fall semester addressed external issues such as the staff compensation package. Staff want to better understand and have input in the process that develops the compensation package. Other external topics addressed included health care, the tuition benefit, and the tobacco user hire policy. Pips also shared about the success of the recent Staff Council survey regarding the proposed Code of Conduct. The survey has garnered 650 responses (including those from UAA and UAS).

Pips also mentioned the reorganization of Staff Council which has been proposed. Staff Council wishes to become leaner and more visible. They have also proposed having a communications officer who would work with the president and vice president. Another bylaws change would include allowing the president to appoint the Staff Alliance person for the following year.

Juella asked Mari and Dillon about student response to the issue of tobacco. Mari had heard the hire policy would potentially include student employees. For students, the issue also concerns the fact this is a residential campus. She had asked Donald Smith how this proposal would save money, and he responded that students go on to become staff employees. Currently, student health care is completely separate from that of staff and faculty. Effects of the proposed policy were noted with regard to research, as well as the hiring of Alaska Natives. The issue is now believed to be “on hold.” Juella suggested that comments be made at the June Board of Regents meeting.

C. Cathy Cahill, Faculty Senate President

Cathy reported about Faculty Senate discussions and actions regarding the Code of Conduct, the tobacco user hire policy, and the eLabs task force. Electronic faculty activity reporting software demos were mentioned, with the next step involving a trial use of Data180 software.

Cathy also mentioned the Complete College America program. Faculty Alliance has been asked to furnish feedback about it to the President. Faculty Senate is working on a formal resolution rejecting the program.

She mentioned the Wintermester issues that will occur with the future academic calendars, noting that an ad hoc committee will be appointed to examine the issue and find a mechanism to address it for future years.

The Strategic Direction Initiative and listening session feedback will go to the Faculty Alliance. They will discuss it at their July 23 meeting.

Cathy noted that the United Academics union is not happy with the leadership style of the UA president, stating they do not feel it’s in accordance with the University of Alaska mission.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:52 PM.

GCC Attachment #1

MOTION:

The Governance Coordinating Committee agrees to name the most senior member of the committee to be Acting Chair of GCC Meeting #86. Cathy Cahill, Faculty Senate President, is the most senior member remaining in office this 2011-12 academic year.

Effective: Immediately

Rationale: The Governance Coordinating Committee has not convened during the academic year of 2011-12. Pressing business regarding future academic calendars needs the immediate attention of the committee. To further this pressing business, the most senior member of the committee shall act as chair of the meeting.

GCC Attachment #2

MOTION:

The Governance Coordinating Committee moves to approve the attached academic calendars for 2014-2015 and 2015-2016.

EFFECTIVE: Immediately.

RATIONALE: The academic calendars for 2014-15 and 2015-16 have been reviewed and approved by the Curricular Affairs and Administrative Committees of the Faculty Senate. The calendars are ready for the review and approval by the Governance Coordinating Committee.

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA FAIRBANKS – PROPOSED ACADEMIC CALENDARS FOR 2012-2015 (Fall and Spring Semesters only)
This copy updated on 3/20/2012.

Fall Semester	2012 Approved by CAC (4/2010)	2013 Approved by CAC (4/2010)	2014 Proposed	2015 Proposed	COMMENTS
Labor Day	9/3	9/2	9/1	9/7	Always the 1st Monday in September.
1 st day of instruction	8/30	9/5	9/4	9/3	Always a Thursday to make up for Thanksgiving.
Last day to Register	9/7	9/13	9/12	9/11	Always the 2 nd Friday after 1 st day of instruction.
Thanksgiving Holidays	11/22-23	11-28-29	11/27-28	11/26-27	Always the 4 th Thursday in November.
Last day of Instruction	12/10 (Mon)	12/13 (Fri)	12/12 (Fri)	12/14 (Mon)	Each class day requires 14 meeting days (FS – 10/15/90)
Final exams	12/12-15 Wed-Sat	12/16-19 Mon - Thurs	12/15-12/18 Mon - Thurs	12/16-12/19 Wed - Sat	A study day(s) required (Faculty Senate – 9/17/90) Final exams required to end by 12/19. (CAC 11/10/03)

Spring Semester	2013	2014	2015	2016	COMMENTS
Alaska Civil Rights day	1/21	1/20	1/19	1/18	Always the 3 rd Monday in January.
1 st day of Instruction	1/17	1/16	1/15	1/14	1st day of instruction is after Alaska Civil Rights Day unless Commencement falls after 5/15. (CAC 1/26/09)
Last day to Register	1/25	1/24	1/23	1/22	Always the 2 nd Friday after 1 st day of instruction.
Spring Recess Break	3/11-15	3/17-21	3/16-20	3/14-18	The 3 rd week in March as coordinated with the FNSBSD.
UAF Springfest	4/26	4/25	4/24	4/22	Always the Friday two weeks prior to Commencement Weekend.
Last day of Instruction	5/6 (Mon)	5/5 (Mon)	5/4 (Mon)	5/2 (Mon)	Each class requires 14 meeting days (FS – 10/15/90)
Final exams	5/7-10 (T-F)	5/6-9 (T-F)	5/5-8 (T-F)	5/3-6 (T-F)	A study day(s) required unless last day exams on Sat. (FS 5/3/10)
Commencement	5/12	5/11	5/10	5/8	Always the Sunday after final exams end. Commencement required to be completed by 5/15 or before