

RAC Notes
Tue Mar 20, 2018
2-3pm, ELIF Room 411

Participants:

In-person: Robert Rember, Larry Duffy, Andres Lopez, Anna Liljedahl

Online: No one.

NOTES

1. Approve Notes from Dec 11, Jan 22 and Feb 19 (Anna)

Approved.

2. RPG update (Rob)

UAF Researchers can apply for the use of other nations ice breakers time through ARICE, the Arctic Research Icebreaker Consortium for Europe.

UA has a representative in DC again.

NSF Geosciences Director visiting Fairbanks this year sometime.

National Lab Day May 29-31. Agenda available on the UAF website. UAF Researcher are encouraged to participate and registration is \$250 per person. There will be six panels on Day 2: <https://aknatlabday.org/agenda/>. The goal of the conference is for each panel to culminate in collaboration(s) between UAF faculty and a national lab(s).

RPG members have concerns with the NSF policy about Title IX reporting of PI's. Comment period to NSF open through May 4th. Email comments to Suzanne Plimpton, splimpto@nsf.gov.

3. Research Council update (email from Andy Seitz)

“The Research Council met shortly after the RAC meeting on Feb. 19. Here is a brief synopsis of what we discussed:

Alaska First Intent Language – The First Intent initiative would require state agencies that are looking to contract researchers to first contact UA researchers, before seeking researchers out of state. Miles Baker had a conversation with Guttenberg's office about reintroducing the Alaska First Intent Language again in this session. Verbiage was submitted regarding the "Alaska First" language. Reference: House Bill 338

SW, UAA, UAF and UAS are beginning the process to define common metrics among the campuses to enable a more uniform process of management and self-evaluation. Data is input, extracted and interpreted inconsistently (Banner). We need to develop and accept common processes of data generation and archiving so we are all viewing information in a uniform manner.

Grants and contracts administration - The collaborators from the Grants and Contracts office in all three MOUs have completed the "process mapping". Their next step will be to compare types

of data and needs, where data is currently submitted and what is submitted and tracked. This will help identify gaps and needs.

UAF is working on an "experts guide." UAA and UAS will look into developing Expert Guides.

The remainder of the meeting focused on developing the "score card", which is required as an outcome of Strategic Pathway as a way of demonstrating the outcomes of the Research Council.

I'll talk to Larry about a faculty alternative. "

4. INE Faculty Senate Representative (Anna)

The Institute of Northern Engineering (INE) is currently represented in the Faculty Senate through the representation of three Faculty Senators and two alternates from the College of Engineering and Mines (CEM). CEM is currently composed of 35 Tenured or Tenure-Track Faculty and 15 Research Faculty.

INE is its own unit that is lead by a Director similar to IARC and GI. Both IARC and GI have their own Faculty Senators.

IARC and the GI have joint faculty, but research faculty are considered distinct units covered by unique merit criteria. INE also has joint faculty, but research faculty are considered a distinct unit covered by unique merit criteria.

INE Research Faculty would like their own Faculty Senators, elected in an election that is separate from the CEM Faculty Senate elections and that only allows INE Research Faculty to partake.

Anna, as CEM Faculty Senator, is coordinating with Faculty Senate President Chris Fallen who is also addressing the change in Faculty Senators with the merge of SNRAS with CNSM to submit a vote to the faculty Senate.

5. RAC Bylaws update (Rob)

A revised draft of the RAC bylaws was discussed (this is not the final version):

The Research Advisory Committee.

The Research Advisory Committee (RAC) consists of up to ten voting members, a chair and a co-chair, along with at least one non-voting ex-officio member such as the Vice Chancellor for Research (VCR). Voting members are restricted to those appointed by the Faculty Senate. At least half of the voting RAC membership must be Faculty Senators or Alternates. At least two of the ten voting members must be Research Faculty. One member must be the Faculty

representative on the UA President’s Research Council (PRC). The committee exists to review the issues of researchers at the University of Alaska Fairbanks and to provide reports, recommendations, and resolutions to the UAF Faculty Senate and/or the UAF Administration on behalf of the UAF research community. The RAC will provide a connection between the Faculty and the UAF Administration and will advise the Administration on research matters. At the first RAC meeting, RAC appoints 1) a chair and co-chair and 2) a RAC member to represent RAC at the VCR’s Research Program Group (RPG) meetings. It is recommended that each RAC meeting agenda include updates from the RPG and the PRC.

6. Cross-campus study with GAAC: Research Faculty as Graduate Committee Chairs (Anna)

Summary (to date) of Policies regarding Research Faculty as Chair’s of graduate student committees

Updated 2018-03-20 by Anna Liljedahl

Department	Chair?	Co-Chair?	Comment
Fisheries, CFOS	No	Yes	
Marine Biology, CFOS	No	Yes	
Oceanography, CFOS	Yes*	Yes	*Must be an IMS Research Faculty
Atmospheric Sci, CNSM	Yes	Yes	*Research faculty at any rank with an atmospheric sciences degree as well as faculty affiliated with DAS can be the chair of a graduate advisory committee if they sponsor a DAS graduate student from their grants and contracts and are approved to be the chair by the DAS faculty.
Biology & Wildlife, CNSM	No	Yes	
Chemistry & Biochemistry, CNSM	N/A	N/A	*No written policy
Geology & Geoscience, CNSM	Yes*	Yes	*Affiliated CNSM Research Faculty can serve as Chairs if they successfully co-chaired department students in the past.
Physics, CNSM	No	No	

Mathematics & Statistics, CNSM	N/A	N/A	*No written policy
Veterinary Medicine, CNSM	N/A	N/A	*No graduate students
All departments, CLA	N/A	N/A	*No written policy ("From the assistant Dean at CLA: <i>"I have never heard of a non-academic chairing a committee."</i>)
Mechanical Engineering, CEM	Yes	Yes	*Must be INE Research Faculty
Electrical & Computer Engineering, CEM	N/A	N/A	*No written policy, beyond <i>"the student's department chair and then the college dean approve the graduate committee"</i> .
Department	Chair?	Co-Chair?	Comment
Mining & Geological Engineering, CEM	No	Yes	*Written policy in draft form as of March 20, 2018.
Petroleum Engineering, CEM	?	?	
Computer Sci., CEM	?	?	
Environmental & Civil Engineering, CEM	?	?	
Interdisciplinary, Graduate School	?	?	
SUMMARY	5 No 4 Yes 5+ N/A	1 No 8 Yes 5+ N/A	

7. Update: UAF culture for Research Faculty (Anna)

New committee to address UAF research faculty issues.

8. Other

None

9. Meeting adjourned

