

MINUTES
UAF STAFF COUNCIL MEETING #185
Face-to-face
Friday, 14 December 2007
8:45 – 11:00 a.m.
Wood Center Carol Brown Ball Room

Audio-Conference Information: 1-800-893-8850

Chair PIN: 8244640 (only the chair or meeting convener uses this number). Participant PIN: 8244236.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Jackie Alleyne-McCants
*Julie Carpenter for Nici Murawsky
Liam Forbes
Martin Klein
Glyn Komkai
Paul Landen
Diane Leavy
Paula Long
Ashley Munro
Anne Marie Nacke
Gary Newman
*Barbara Oleson
Katrina Paul
Kathy Petersen
Ana Richards
Holly Royce
Carol Shafford
Juella Sparks
Kayt Sunwood
*Pam Twitchell
Kelly Williams

ABSENT

Nicole Conley
Joanna Cruzan
Dee Daniels, excused
Steve Estes
*Nici Murawsky
Dorothy Parkerson
Maria Russell
John Rutherford

GUESTS

Stephen B. Jones, UAF Chancellor
Mike Humphrey
Naomi Horne
Ann Ringstad
Richard Caulfield

OTHERS

Lynette Washington

- A. Staff Council #185 meeting Agenda, Friday, 14 December 2007 was adopted as submitted.
- B. Approved as modified, Staff Council Minutes #184, Wednesday, 14 December 2007. Item 10 C was changed to read, "Juella Sparks reported that Chancellor Jones invited the members of the GCC group to a meeting to discuss budget issues."

2. OFFICER REPORTS

- A. Kayt Sunwood, President, Staff Council.

Kayt Sunwood informed Council members about the Board of Regents' review of the Family Medical Leave benefit. Kayt Sunwood reported that the proposed Educational Leave benefit is still in

progress. Kayt Sunwood stated that she and Barbara Oleson represent staff on the Health Care issues committee. Kayt Sunwood reported that she and Pam Twitchell are on a committee that is reviewing the National Survey of Student Engagement (NESSE) survey results. Kayt Sunwood stated that the UAF Staff Council Advocacy committee is going to start helping employees to get our voices out to the Legislature. Kayt Sunwood thanked Council members for getting out post cards to Governor Palin, in order to support the UA budget requests. She recommended that letters of thanks be sent to the Governor for supporting UA budget requests. The membership terms of Council members Diane Leavy, Liam Forbes, and Dorothy Parkerson ended on the Council; Kayt Sunwood thanked them for their years of service.

B. Juella Sparks, President-Elect, Staff Council.

Juella Sparks informed Council members that the student recruitment process has been redesigned; the new process will be more of student hiring pool approach. Juella stated that there will be an opportunity to comment on the improved process and a test run may happen this summer. Juella Sparks reminded Council members that she is a member of the Human Resource Council and the Educational leave committees. Juella Sparks reported that work towards finalizing the educational leave benefit continues and that the BOR may approve it by summer. Juella Sparks informed the committee about support received from the ASUAF and Faculty Senate for the Bunnell House resolution. Juella Sparks reported that she is working on writing a comparison report about retiree benefits available across the MAUs. Juella Sparks stated that she intends to put together a proposal for retiree benefit consistency, a plan for distributing that information to retirees, and then Staff Alliance and, President Hamilton.

Staff Council Blog URL: <http://staffcouncil4uaf.blogspot.com>

Staff Council Library blogspot: <http://staffcouncillibrary.blogspot.com/>

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The Chancellor relayed new information about th

minds. He stated that one theme is common in that each unit believes that it is disproportionately disadvantaged in the allocation of resources.

- B. Mike Humphrey, Director of Benefits, Human Resources, UA Statewide: Current health care cost increase issues: <http://www.alaska.edu/hr/benefits> .

Mike Humphrey updated the Council about proposed increases in health care costs. Mike Humphrey informed Council members that the University presently covers 96% of health care costs, but proposes to cover 85% in the next year and 83% for the next two years. He stated that there is an unconfirmed agreement with United Academics on the 85/83/83 proposed cost split. Mike Humphrey stated that by fiscal year 2012 substantial changes in health care costs may happen unless the national position changes. Mike Humphrey reported that Pharmacare will change its name to Caremark. Mike Humphrey shared information about cost savings related to using generic vs. name brand prescriptions. The information that name brand prescriptions are costing about \$3.00 more than generic brands is not generating much motivation to use the generic brands. Mike Humphrey reported that UA is considering providing more vision care benefits, because it has been determined that eye exams reportedly can warn of other health problems. Mike Humphrey informed the Council that the health care plans \$6,000,000 recovery may be applied towards some of the proposed changes. Mike Humphrey encouraged Council members to contact him for more information and details.

4. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

- A. Jon Genetti, President, Faculty Senate.

Jon Genetti reported that the Senate passed a resolution in support of the Staff Council's Bunnell House resolution. Jon Genetti informed the Council that the Senate is working towards putting in place a permanent core review process. Jon Genetti reported that the external review of the UA Statewide Administration has been delayed, based on apprehension coming from statewide. The consultants intend to scrutinize and re-question folks and interview more people based on information/results collected during the October meeting. Jon Genetti reported several committee recommendations may be uncomfortable for statewide administration. The external review was commissioned by President Hamilton, and conducted by the McTaggart consultant group.

- B. Jake Hamburg, President, ASUAF.

No report available.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

- A. Naomi Horne, Development Officer, Office of Development: Giving opportunities, specifically the UA Foundation funded Carolyn Sampson Memorial Scholarship.

Naomi Horne thanked staff for all of their support and generosity towards various scholarship programs. She specifically commended Council member's past and continued efforts to build the Carolyn Sampson Memorial UA Foundation endowed Scholarship Fund. Naomi Horne updated Council members about opportunities for the UAF community to give. She stated that some staff members that are Alumni of UAF may have been receiving donation cards in the mail; she stated that at any time you mail use the donation envelope/card to designate your gift to the Carolyn Sampson Scholarship fund, just write it on the back and we will assure that it gets there. Naomi Horne stated that the Office of Development will launch the employee giving campaign in

March and encouraged staff to donate their gift to the Carolyn Sampson fund or any other fund that benefits UAF students.

Naomi Horne referred Council members to the Giving opportunities Web access link: <http://www.uaf.edu/giving/annual/index.html> .

6. BREAK

Kayt Sunwood called for a ten minute break to take place right after Public Comment instead of taking place after New Business. There were no objections.

ACTION

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Kayt Sunwood called for discussion about the 2007 Election results.

Kelly Williams, reporting for Mary Pat Boger, Chair, EMR committee relayed to Council members that several mistakes happened during the election process. Kelly stated that because of data errors with Unit 2/CRCO and a communication error with Unit 4/IAB those two units would require a revote. Gary Newman explained that the employee data report generated from PAIR is then utilized by the EMR committee to identify what units/departments and all employees fall under, based on time keeping locations. Gary informed the group that during the process, the Cooperative Extension Services (CES) was placed under SNRAS/Unit 3; therefore, the CES staff members did not receive ballots.

Kayt Sunwood stated that we are reviewing the election procedures to make sure that they fit well with our constitution and bylaws and this is an opportunity to make sure we are doing this well now and in the future.

Gary Newman asked that a motion be made to certify the elections for units 6, 8, 10, 12, and 14. The motion was made and seconded. Kayt Sunwood opened up the motion for discussion.

Juella Sparks recommended that based on the number of errors made that the whole election be thrown out. Juella Sparks recommended that the EMR committee strongly review the Constitution and Bylaws.

Liam Forbes stated his reluctance about holding up the business of the Council by redoing the entire election, because it may cause us to lose members, but agreed that the procedures definitely need work.

Juella Sparks stated that this is a disservice to the integrity of the election given the inconsistencies. She re-stated her desire to redo the election, stating that volunteers from the Council could work on getting the ballots out rather than Lynette and a student.

Gary Newman stated his dismay in Juella Spark's recommendation to throw out the whole election and that she had not communicated this since meeting with the EMR group prior to the election.

Whereas, most staff work 12 months of the year; and

Whereas, the loss of year-round childcare may have a disproportionate and negative impact on women, especially their recruitment, professional development, and retention; and

Whereas, Bunnell House has an experienced and knowledgeable permanent staff who will be unlikely to be retained if Bunnell House is closed during summer; and

Whereas, the Bunnell House ECL Advisory Committee, composed of representatives from TVC, UAF and the community is working to find long-term solutions to the challenges of keeping Bunnell House open year-round and expanding childcare services on campus; and

WHEREAS, the Staff Council affirms that providing on-campus childcare is a valuable tool in recruiting and retaining excellent faculty and staff; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the UAF Staff Council strongly encourages the UAF campus to share in the operating costs of Bunnell House by contributing the funding needed for operating costs during the summer months.

Gary Newman updated committee members about the staff calendar progress and process. Gary Newman asked Council members for suggestions about putting Council member names on the calendar with respect to rep and alt positions for Units 2 and 4. It was agreed that it is more important to get the calendar out with member names.

Kayt Sunwood thanked the calendar committee for their work.

Diane Leavy asked if other items on the agenda could be moved to the next meeting. Kayt Sunwood replied that agenda items could be tabled. Gary Newman suggested moving through the External Committee Report section quickly; Kayt Sunwood agreed to move through quickly.

Committee Chairs: If available please forward your reports to fystaff@uaf.edu and post reports on the Governance web site -

12. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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

For More information contact the UAF Staff Council Governance Office

www.uaf.edu/uafgov/staffcouncil.html

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