MINUTES

UAF Staff Council Meeting # 192
Friday, 17 October 2008
8:45-10:15 a.m.
Retreat
10:30-12:00 p.m.
Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom

Audio Conference information: 1-800-893-8850, Participant PIN: 8244236; Chair PIN: 8244640 (only the chair or meeting convener uses this pin#)

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Barbara Oleson
Pam Twitchell
Holly Royce
Bryan Uher
Kathy Peterson
Jennifer Miller
Julie Carpenter
Gary Newman
Brad Havel
Dee Daniels
Jill Dewey Davison
Carol Shafford
Katrina Paul
Cody Rogers
Ashley Munro
Donna Resnick
Sharon Corbett
Elisa Bratcher

ABSENT-Cont’d

Paula Long
John Rutherford
Amanda Wall

EXCUSED ABSENCE

Glyn Komkai
Leah Glasscock-Sanders

OFFICERS PRESENT

Juella Sparks
Martin Klein

GUEST

Brian Rogers, Interim Chancellor,
via audio-conference
John Duhamel

ABSENT

Jacqueline Alleyne-McCants
Jennifer Stutesman
Jeanne Miller
Maria Russell
Joanna Cruzan
Steve Estes
Nici Murawsky
Mary Sue Dates
Jason Stuckey
Angela Camos
Ginny Tschanz

Ann Ringstad
Ann Kjera
Brian Newton
Kayt Sunwood

OTHERS

Lynette Washington
A. Adopted Staff Council Agenda #192, Friday, 17 October 2008

Approved as amended.

B. Approved Staff Council Minutes #191, Wednesday, 17 September 2008

Minutes and excused absences were corrected. Approved as amended.

2. OFFICERS REPORTS

A. Juella Sparks, President, Staff Council

Summer Report 2008 and 2007-08 Report to the Chancellor, attached to the agenda via email.

B. Martin Klein, President-Elect, Staff Council

Martin Klein reported that he is an alternate on the Business Council.

3. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

A. Marsha Sousa, President, Faculty Senate

Marsha reported that Senate is working on broadening reapportionment, due to the increasing number of term appointed and adjunct faculty. The Senate is developing a Legislative Affairs committee to be better advocates for the University. Faculty Senate has passed and is formatting a resolution to reduce out-of-state tuition for graduate students in their third year or later. The resolution was written to affect all PhD and Master’s programs within the MAU’s. A Graduate Certification in Statistics has also just been passed.

B. Brandon Meston, President, ASUAF

Brandon Meston reported that the ASUAF has been busy with ASUAF senator increases and restructuring of the executive side of government relations. The Coalition has decided it’s primarily focused on the issues in Juneau. ASUAF recently sponsored the first of two candidate forums for local interior candidates. ASUAF is to host two candidate forums for the interior. They will host a campus specific forum on the issue of alcohol from 12:00-2:00pm at the Wood Center multi level lounge. Big issues for ASUAF right now are parking, bookstore, vending machines, renewing membership with the Chamber of Commerce to promote the Student Saver program. There is also a possibility of a student government fee increase.

4. GUEST

A. Brian Rogers, UAF Interim Chancellor

Chancellor Rogers thanked Council members for coming to his home on the evening of 16 October for the social. He reported that supervisory training has started and that the administration is looking at what is working, what isn’t, and how it can be improved. Non-retention and supervisory training are on top of his list.
B. John Duhamel, Interim Director, Human Resources

John Duhamel updated Council members about the HR redesign. He emphasized that efforts are being made to improve customer service. Plans to combine and restructure UAF HR under UA Statewide HR are not going forward, although a few processes were redesigned. He stated that the UAF HR director position has been reinstated and approved by the Chancellor. John informed the Council that HR is not the best place for the mediation program to reside and suggested that a contracted mediator would be able to better represent staff and HR. He recommended that a permanently assigned mediator work under the Chancellor. John noted with regard to staff handbooks, that he believes in them, but information constantly changes and he is not sure how to manage that to ensure that it stays current. He would like to explore the issue more. HR is looking at the idea of a Web based handbook and options to make it easier and doable.

C. Amy Bristor, Coordinator, UAF TVC Campus, Professional Development & Community Outreach.

Amy Bristor reported that the CPM program has been discontinued because of low enrollment and cancelled courses. She stated that many of the courses need to be rewritten and updated, because they are no longer relevant to community needs. The Essential Supervisory Series was created in lieu of the CPM program. This is a series of eight classes that have some CPM components. The series started in spring 2008 and attendance is very well received. PDCO now needs UAF staff input for new class ideas.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

A. Ann Ringstad, Co-Chair of Tanana Valley accompanied by Ann Kjera, Executive Director and Brian Newton, Co-Chair: United Way Campaign.

Ann Ringstad thanked Council members for inviting her and the United Way guests to address the Council. Ann R. and guests Ann Kjera and Brian Newton informed Council members that the annual United Way campaign is underway. The group reported that that United Way has 23 member agencies that are in need of support, especially with the high cost of fuel, rising substance abuse, rising costs of healthcare, daycare, and housing. Ann K. encouraged Council members to dig a little deeper this year and donate to one of the 23 agencies. Ann R. reminded Council members that the Chancellor sent out a campus email endorsing United Way.

ACTION

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Juella Sparks addressed Educational Leave and Release Time. She noted that at the last Staff Alliance/HR Council meeting they didn’t believe that the policy and regulations for the Education Leave and Release time were going to be changed, due to lack of funding at the statewide level.

Juella stated that she has done some basic work on the staff handbook, but has not met with John. Essentially, what she has together is a list from the University of Alabama staff handbook. She expressed concern about not having a centralized location for the staff to go with HR concerns, and how difficult it is to find information. The Staff Handbook is a starting point. She said HR has made changes to the Human Resources site to make it a little more friendly, but it is outdated. For example, she would like to see multiple interfaces for Staff and Faculty leading to the same information. She suggested that an Ad
Hoc group be created to make this happen. Kayt Sunwood thanked her for putting it together. Julie Carpenter said it was already a Staff Affairs issue, so the recommendation was that it should come out of Staff Affairs. Staff Affairs will work collaboratively with her and John to get the handbook completed. She hopes to have the handbook draft complete by next meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

Katrina said that EMR is updating the membership list highlighted are the changes and new people. Katrina is working with Lynette to get nomination ballots for the odd units out. Martin gave a special thanks to Katrina for all of her hard work.

Call for volunteers to serve on the Ad Hoc committees. Lynette announced Ad Hoc committee award purposes. Martin said this is the council’s time to volunteer and help restructure Staff Appreciation Day. Volunteers include: Kayt Sunwood, Ashley Munro, and Carol Shafford for Staff Appreciation Day. Volunteers for Staff Makes Students Count: Holly Royce and Ashley Munro. Barb Oleson encouraged alternates to get involved with the Ad hoc Committees.

Juella entertained a motion to table committee reports until the next meeting. Gary suggested that the committee reports be on the consent agenda.

INFORMATION

8. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Staff Affairs, Julie Carpenter

The report is attached to the agenda.

B. Rural Affairs, Liz Recchia and Barbara Oleson

The report is attached to the agenda.

C. Elections, Membership, and Rules, Katrina Paul

The report is attached to the agenda.

D. Advocacy Committee, Maria Russell

A report is not available.

E. Proposed Staff Calendar Year 2009

9. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Master Planning Committee (MPC), Gary Newman

The report is attached to the agenda.

B. Subcommittee on Parking and Circulation (SCP), Katrina Paul.
The committee has not met.

C.  Chancellor's Diversity Action Committee (CDAC), Ginny Tschanz.
D.  Technology Advisory Board (TAB), Brad Havel

The report is attached to the agenda.

E.  Provost Budget and Planning Committee, Gary Newman

The report is attached to the agenda.

F.  Student Recreation Center Committee (SRCC), Carol Shafford

No report available.

G.  Staff Health Care Committee, Liz Recchia

No report available.

H.  Bunnell House Advisory Board, Holly Royce

Juella reported that the Chancellor is working on putting together a family friendly task force and prefers that it not to be an all women committee. She will ask the Chancellor for a UAF Staff Council slot on the committee, and to consider a position for Holly Royce on the committee.

10.  ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

The round table discussion is off the record.

11.  ADJOURN

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