Staff Appreciation Day was an amazing success. The Davis Concert Hall was packed for the Longevity and Awards Ceremony. Chancellor Rogers gave a great address that made each one of us feel appreciated and important. The Ice Cream Social that followed was the grand finale of a day the UAF staff spent enjoying Professional Development classes, along with Personal Development classes and Orientation Sessions. There was also a Frisbee golf tournament, and we were treated to a wonderful lunch. WIN for Alaska provided Cholesterol and Biometric screenings as well as free massages. Mark Oldmixon of UAF Outdoor Adventures, was on hand presenting the new sustainability “Green Bike” Program, and Goldstream Sports did bicycle tune-ups all day.

Election for President and Vice President of the UAF Staff Council will be held at the June 22nd Staff Council Meeting. If you know someone with leadership qualities who is passionate about the issues facing us right now, nominate them. They do not have to be Staff Council Members; they only need permission from their supervisor.

Watch your email for Brown Bag Lunches and UAF Tours. The Advocacy Committee is working hard scheduling tours and Brown Bag Lunches you will not want to miss. Contact Jodi Baxter if you have any ideas you would like to see used.

Items covered in the May Staff Council Meeting:

- As of 4/15/11, UA has had a 96% employee level response rate and a 95% response rate on the dependent level to the ConSova Audit.
- Amy Coffman, organizer with the Alaska Public Employees Association (APEA) was present at our meeting to inform us they have notified the University they will campaign to organize a union for supervisors.
- Electronic Timesheets for non-exempt employees will begin in August, with the exempt employees and faculty following suit in November.
- The Employee Tuition Waiver Motion and Healthcare Task Force Motion were passed unanimously.

Legislative News Updates:

- We received a substantial increase in scholarship funds provided by the state both for need- and merit-based scholarships.
- On the operating side of the budget, we received an additional $250,000 in support for the Alaska Center for Energy and Power.
- In the capitol budget there was a huge boost in deferred maintenance funds. Of the $37 million designated for UA, $22 million will go to UAF. In addition, the legislature added authority to bond for an additional $100 million of which $69 million will go to UAF.

Talk to your Staff Council Representatives. They want to know what you think. They work hard for you. UAF Staff Council is your voice.

UAF Staff Council meetings are open to the public. Public comments are scheduled at 8:50am for every meeting. All meetings are held at the Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom. All meetings are audio conferenced.