

MINUTES  
GOVERNANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE (GCC) Meeting #75  
Wednesday, 5 December 2007  
Chancellor's Conference Room

1. Juella Sparks called the meeting to order at 12 p.m.

A. ROLL CALL

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Kayt Sunwood, President, UAF Staff Council	P
Juella Sparks, President-Elect, UAF Staff Council	P
Marsha Sousa, President-Elect, UAF Staff Council	P
Jon Genetti, UAF Faculty Senate, President	P
Meredith Cameron, for Jake Hamburg	P
Jake Hamburg, President, ASUAF	A
Danielle Ryder, Vice-President, ASUAF	A
Lynette Washington, Secretary, GCC	P

B. Wednesday, 5 December 2007, GCC #75, the Agenda was approved as modified.

C. Wednesday, 10 October 2007, GCC #74 Minutes were approved as submitted.

2. Discuss creation and background of the CCDAC group – Juella Sparks.

A. Juella Sparks reported that she has been researching the mission and makeup of CCDAC. Juella Sparks stated that the group met about two weeks ago to review the committee's mission, but that no action was taken during that meeting. Juella reported that during the meeting a former member of the committee expressed concern about being removed from the committee. Juella Sparks informed GCC members that the CCDAC group was not able to select a Chair during the meeting due to lack of a quorum. Kayt Sunwood stated that the charge is about promoting diversity, or checking on whether or not diversity is happening. Lynette Washington stated that she is doing research on the roots of the CCDAC as requested by Kayt Sunwood. Kayt Sunwood stated that there are a number of members in common on the Status of Women committee and the CCDAC. Lynette Washington stated that the GCC group usually meets twice a semester and that a proposed spring meeting schedule will be sent to the committee. Juella stated that by February we should know more about the CCDAC and will move on from there.

3. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

A. Meredith Cameron for Jake Hamburg, President, ASUAF.

Meredith Cameron reported that the innovative challenge/Nobel prize of the North, has received great support on campus. She reported that ASUAF is holding talking sessions at the Wood Center to try and connect more with the students and that the students are given post cards to mail to Governor Palin. Meredith Cameron reported that the post card idea came out of the student coalition group in support of our Alaska Achievers Incentive Program (AAIP), which is our need based scholarship. Meredith Cameron informed GCC members that each of the schools in the UA system made their own post cards. Meredith Cameron reported that student elections are over and ballots are being counted.

B. Jon Genetti, President, Faculty Senate

Jon Genetti reported that the statewide Steering committee met and discussed the NESSE survey and discussed major themes about the survey. Jon Genetti stated that the committee has been tasked to come up with three to four proposed recommendations. Tim Barnett intends to present the recommendations to the Chancellor's Cabinet some time in February. Jon Genetti informed the GCC members that the Steering committee is composed of 12 members that includes faculty, students, Dana Thomas, Assistant Provost for General Studies and Tim Lower, Assistant Professor of Psychology.

Jon Genetti reported that Daniel Julius, VC for Academic Affairs and Research, UA System, is forming a state wide student success steering committee some time before Christmas, and that it is taking in all of the MAUs. Jon Genetti stated that the committee is a kind of catch all for all the MAUs and if something is working at one MAU we should look at it for all of the others. Jon Genetti stated that the Faculty Senate will present a resolution in support of the UAF Staff Council Bunnell House Resolution at the next Senate meeting.

Jon Genetti reported the System Governance committee is used by President Hamilton as a sounding board for some of his ideas and to try to sell things to the Governor and legislative members. Jon Genetti stated that President Hamilton is optimistic about the FY09 budget. Jon Genetti stated that if the UA or any of the MAUs want a new building, then it would probably need to be approved within the next two years. Jon Genetti stated that the cost of building a new building is approaching the \$100,000,000 mark and that the Governor and the Legislature are not excited about funding new buildings. Jon Genetti stated that the Legislature is at this point willing to fund the increase in fixed costs, but not really fund new programs, so we are just in a flat funding phase, which causes problems.

Juella Sparks asked if the statewide Steering committee on Student Success knows about the GCC's Joint Committee on Student Success. Jon Genetti replied that it is being driven by Daniel Julius, and that he is taking more of an academic view of it as opposed to what you would normally see out of statewide. Jon Genetti stated that there are about 15 to 16 people on the two lists of members. Juella Sparks asked if they are specific individuals and not necessarily groups. Jon Genetti stated that as he understands it, the process was that Daniel Julius, VP, Office of UA Academic Affairs, asked each Provost to nominate three or four from each MAU. Jon Genetti stated that he will put together a summary of what went on at the meeting. Juella Sparks commented that she is curious about what kind of relationship the joint committee might have with this group. Jon Genetti stated that he has no idea, because he got heads up on this committee being formed during the last Faculty Alliance meeting. He stated that a meeting is set for December 19 in the Sherman Carter Conference Room.

#### C. Kayt Sunwood, President, Staff Council

Kayt Sunwood reported that the UAF Staff Council's even-numbered unit election results are to be certified at the next Council meeting. She reported that the new people would be on Council by January and that a new representative Orientation meeting is scheduled during January. She reported that the Bunnell House Resolution is on the December 14, Staff Council agenda.

Kayt stated that proposed increase in health care costs continues to be a huge concern of UAF staff. Kayt Sunwood commented that she serves on a Staff Alliance committee about health care for staff members that are not represented by a union, which are about two-thirds of our employees. Kayt stated that she discussed health care issues with Mike Humphrey, Director of Benefits, UA, Human Resources System. The discussion included information about changes to Pharmacare as well as the new personal trainer aspect that is being considered, but UAF won't get added until maybe after it is already done; there is a

year long process that started this December. There were percentages of employees at UAA and Juneau that would be able to take advantage of it.

Jon Genetti stated that the consultant for WIN is based in Anchorage. The health care committee is questioning all of that and concerned that the unrepresented staff have no say in yet probably will end up with whatever the unions can negotiate. We keep talking to Mike Humphrey making sure that we are not being played against anybody else, because these issues affect all of us.

Kayt stated that she received a letter from Governor Palin, stating how important education is and almost said that the University is part of that, it was a good letter. Juella stated that she is on the Human Resource Redesign Advisory group that is not that active.

Juella Sparks stated that the Staff Alliance issue that we are working on is the tuition waivers, and that seems to be moving. Juella Sparks informed the committee that she spoke with Joe Hayes, Director, UAF Alumni office, about staff that retire not typically receiving a goodbye letter and staff not being told what is available to them at the time of retirement. She stated that apparently benefits that you receive vary across the MAUs. Juella stated that what we are looking at is the Alumni Associations' faculty emeritus benefits. She reported that Joe Hayes stated that he is embarrassed about not having thought to do so for staff retirees. Juella informed the committee that we are working towards retiring staff getting a letter from the Alumni Association, so that staff will know what their benefits are, a free membership for a year, and the benefits that come with that from the Alumni Association.

Juella Sparks stated that we initially looked at when you retire you don't get free tuition until you retire at age sixty-five, and there was a push that as soon as you retire you get a tuition waiver, but we felt that that was a lot to ask for because, when the age was set at 60 years, it costs a half million a year in loss tuition and that is probably why it was bumped up to age sixty-five. If you look at adding it to people now, Tier I staff can retire at age fifty and fifty-five and many are and that is an awful lot to ask the University to eat when health care costs are going up. Juella Sparks stated, so we came up with this middle-ground and as soon as we get all the information from the MAUs we will get the agreement from the Alumni Association and we will put it together as a complete package.

Lynette Washington asked about the Fairbanks' phase health care implementation plan. Kayt Sunwood replied that it is questionable whether or not there will be a Fairbanks' phase, because what they will do is evaluate it during each phase, so the phases last about 3-4 months, and then add more aspects of it in both Juneau and Anchorage. At the end of all of the phases they will evaluate whether to continue and that is all before Fairbanks will be added. Kayt Sunwood stated that the money is coming from the \$6,000,000 recovery charges. Kayt Sunwood stated that they are hugely expanding WIN for Alaska putting that money in to it. Jon Genetti commented that we are already starting to pay for it as of this fiscal year. Juella Sparks commented that the money gets used up and it starts showing up in our premiums. Jon Genetti added that it is based upon what the balance was last year so they are effectively bumping up the costs of health care in future years by charging the expenses for WIN this year. They can kind of hide it, because they have a \$6,000,000 surplus.

#### 4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Call for the JCOSS discussion/review to be brought back to the table. Committee discussion about what progress has been made towards staffing the Joint Committee on Student Success (JCOSS), Attachment #1 - JCOSS approved motion, Juella Sparks.

Juella Sparks called for the JCOSS discussion to be brought back to the table for discussion. The GCC members agreed to put the motion back on the table. The GCC members discussed staffing the JCOSS. Jon Genetti stated that we anticipate that there will be six initial members. Juella Sparks stated that we will have at least one rep from each of the Governance constituencies. Jon Genetti stated replied that it should be at least one, but you had asked me for two names, but I don't know if you wanted two names to put two people on or two names to pick only one. Juella Sparks asked what would be most representative and effective. Jon Genetti replied that this would be more of a steering committee or a group if we had six members, two from each constituency; it also reads that way in all caps under number three of the committee charges; the Chancellor's Cabinet and the Provost Council each have one member that would be a working group of eight. If there are any specific tasks that we will look into, well then it would be up to that group to decide if they wanted to have one for traditional students and one for non-traditional students. We will look at issues and communicate back to the main joint committee again looking for commonalities or differences or things that have worked or haven't worked and that could be formed on an ad hoc basis. I think that we need to get the main group started and rolling and delegate some of that responsibility to them.

Juella Sparks asked Meredith Cameron if Jake Hamburg, President, ASUAF, had recommended any students to serve on the committee. Meredith Cameron replied that he had not. Juella Sparks commented that I guess that we will have to do the rest of this outside of this committee. Juella Sparks stated that we would work on getting two student and two staff names by December 12. Juella Sparks asked do we submit the six names to the Chancellor and will he appoint the Cabinet and Provost Council ex officio members. Jon Genetti replied that it comes out of our committee; the whole idea for doing this is that we sort of control this committee. Juella Sparks asked do we have recommendations for cabinet members to serve. Marsha Sousa, stated Dana Thomas. Juella Sparks asked who underneath the VCAS is over the Bookstore; do they serve on the Chancellor's Cabinet? Lynette Washington stated that she hasn't seen a list since last spring.

Jon Genetti stated, I guess what we could do is modify the procedures and just say a representative from the Chancellor and from the Provost. Juella Sparks commented that she is open to that suggestion. Jon Genetti stated that if you are picking out of the Chancellor's Cabinet itself you could be some what limited and that may make meetings harder to handle and it has already been pointed out that one of the issues is the cost of text books. Juella Sparks stated that we have a motion before us to modify the JCOSS motion, the make up of it. Jon Genetti recommended amending it to read, "Include a representative, nominated by the Chancellor and the Provost". Juella Sparks suggested can we say nominated by the Provost and Chancellor from a list generated by the GCC. Jon Genetti stated no, I don't think we want to make it more and more specific, the problem we have is that this is a little too specific. Marsha Sousa recommended stating it as, "a representative or designee from the Chancellor' cabinet and Provost Council". Jon Genetti recommended stating it as, "Ex officio members of the committee shall include a representative appointed by the Chancellor and the Provost".

Kayt Sunwood stated that when we ask the Provost for her appointment, we can recommend Dana Thomas. Juella Sparks called for the motion; the motion was seconded, and passed unanimously. Juella asked if as Chair of the GCC could she vote; it was determined that she could. Juella Sparks stated so by next Wednesday we will have two staff names, two student names, and then everyone suggest an appointee to the Chancellor and the Provost. Juella stated we are all agreed so far on Dana Thomas from the Provost. Marsha Sousa asked, so you want us to get you suggestions or is some one going to go to the Provost and the Chancellor and get a name or try to. Juella Sparks stated we are going to give them some suggestions, so after we agree on the suggestions and we have the other six in hand, I'll send an e-mail to the Chancellor and the Provost.

## B. Text Book Cost Issue, Meredith Cameron for Jake Hamburg.

Meredith Cameron stated that Jake Hamburg and Danielle Ryder apologized that they were not able to come up with any one to bring to the meeting to represent the UAF Bookstore, but that they have been in touch with not only the UAF Bookstore, but also the statewide Bookstores. Meredith Cameron stated that ASUAF is working on trying to come up with a plan and that each bookstore seems to be doing its own thing on how to solve this problem, and looking for the best possible one for our position. We are kind of in the same boat as UAS with shipping costs being tacked on to our books. We have been working with the Student Coalition to work together and try to figure this out. Right now in the works is organizing a book swap, we are not sure if it will be campus-wide or statewide at this time. UAS and I think Kenai both have attempted book swaps on campus in the past; that is one of the options that we are looking at to find a way to cut costs. We thought that this way would be a way to consolidate efforts and really bring a focus into this issue.

Meredith Cameron stated that, we are seeing huge problems with students last month going in and buying text books for this past semester, because permanent fund dividend checks came out, so they have been buying books. You ask students how are they doing and they say it has been rough. Hopefully, some type of book swap happening early on in the semester to cut back on the amount of books. They are also drafting letters to departments and professors asking them to do as much as they can to put E-reserves online, putting copies in the library, just cutting back on the number of text books where they are not using the entire book, getting things printed on newsprint instead of a regular published book. Also, it helps recycling; those are the things that Jake and Danielle are really pushing for.

Marsha Sousa asked what about the suggestion to put our books online. Meredith Cameron replied that the issue with that idea is that the Bookstore wasn't really seeing the ISBN. It would take a lot to individually investigate each book. Meredith Cameron stated that we are trying to get professors to do that, but we are unsure how negotiation with the Bookstore is working. Juella Sparks asked about the rumor that the Bookstore is being privatized. Meredith Cameron replied that it was a big concern when that rumor spread, what that entailed for everybody, and what that meant for prices. I know that some ASUAF Senators have really attacked this issue by wondering what it would be like for students to take over the Bookstore and put more student control into that, so we are exploring everything at this point. Jon Genetti informed the Committee about a sixty-minute audio conference on January 8, entitled, "Text Book Affordability, No Nonsense Tips for Controlling the Costs." Jon Genetti stated that the cost is \$195. He commented that it looks like it is geared towards faculty, how faculty can cut costs of course material and have students identify lower costs options, such as digital and custom text to bridge the gap between buy back and the next semester. It sounds like we already know most of that anyway. Marsha Sousa stated that there are hidden costs in custom text books.

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Proposed Resolution on Bunnell House, Juella Sparks.

Juella Sparks asked Meredith Cameron if the resolution has gone before ASUAF. Meredith Cameron replied not formally and that Danielle Ryder is taking the lead on this issue and circulating the petition. Juella Sparks asked when it will go forward. Meredith Cameron replied that she was not sure, but would have Danielle Ryder contact Juella. Juella stated that she has a meeting with Chancellor and was hoping to get all three resolutions before meeting with the Chancellor. She added that based on the Chancellor's comments about the Bunnell House issue a group of individuals were prepared to bring the issue to

President Hamilton, but Juella asked them to wait until after December 14<sup>th</sup>. Kayt Sunwood asked what the procedure is to bring a resolution to the Chancellor after the Faculty Senate passes a resolution. Jon Genetti stated that it doesn't need his signature. Lynette Washington stated that resolutions are not signed by the Chancellor. Jon Genetti stated that the Chancellor is aware of the resolution, because they talked about it at the pre-Faculty Senate meeting. Juella asked what his response was. Jon Genetti stated that the Chancellor doesn't really want to close it, but may be going to President Hamilton would be effective, because he had said when you look at statewide they had forwarded over a million dollars from this current year's budget for higher priority things. Juella Sparks stated that the Chancellor needs the opportunity to officially respond before we go to the President. Juella Sparks stated that because our governance groups haven't specifically voted and passed this resolution, it can't come before this group. Jon Genetti stated that we could, but it is essentially rubber stamping what we won't have time to do it before the next GCC meeting.

## 7. COMMENTS and QUESTIONS

Lynette Washington stated that she has researched CCDAC and can send that information to the committee. Kayt and Juella were interested in receiving the packet of information. Lynette stated that the information may include information about the Diversity & Tolerance and Work Place Ethics committees that existed prior to the CCDAC being formed.

## 8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

-----

Governance Coordinating Committee #75 - Attachment #1  
Governance Coordinating Committee Meeting #75  
5 December 2007

The UAF Governance Coordinating Committee passed the following motion at its meeting #73, on 16 April 2007.

MOTION: (passed unanimously)

=====

## UAF GOVERNANCE COORDINATING COMMITTEE PROCEDURES

### ARTICLE V Committees

Sect. 1 The standing committees of the UAF Governance Coordinating Committee shall include:

#### JOINT COMMITTEE ON STUDENT SUCCESS

Sect. 2

- A. Standing committees shall have at least one representative from each of the governance constituencies, exception will be made when agreed upon by all constituencies.
- B. Terms of all committee members will be one year for students and two years for faculty and staff.
- C. Committee chairs will be elected from and by the respective committees.

- D. Committee chairs shall forward committee business to the UAF Governance Coordinating Committee for disposition, except when limited by University of Alaska regulations.
- E. Policy items from the standing committees must be forwarded to the individual governance bodies for action.
- F. In addition to the committees' specific charges, the primary responsibilities of the committees are formulation and oversight of university-wide policies under the purview of each committee.
- G. Committees will meet as needed during the academic year to fulfill their duties.
- H. The chairs of the standing committees will report recommendations at the [[monthly]] UAF Governance Coordinating Committee meetings.

Sect. 3 Standing Committees Charges

A. JOINT COMMITTEE ON STUDENT SUCCESS

THE CHARGE OF THE JOINT COMMITTEE ON STUDENT SUCCESS SHALL BE TO:

1. CREATE A CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT THAT FOSTERS STUDENT SUCCESS.
2. WORK COLLABORATIVELY TO RECOMMEND STUDENT-FRIENDLY POLICIES, PRACTICES AND COMPLEMENTARY PROGRAMS THAT PROMOTE AND ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS AT UAF.
3. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE SHALL INCLUDE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE CHANCELLOR'S CABINET AND THE PROVOST COUNCIL.

Sect. 4 Ad Hoc Committees may be established as demand warrants.

Sect. 5 The Governance Coordinating Committee will receive reports from other committees outside its control who are also concerned with campus issues. Examples include: police advisory board, technology board, one-card committee, and any other committee deemed relevant to faculty, staff, and students.

Effective: Upon Chancellor Approval

Rationale: A collaborative, shared leadership among administrators, students, faculty, and staff is a key component to creating campus environments that foster student success.

-----

Governance Coordinating Committee #75 - Attachment #2  
 Governance Coordinating Committee Meeting #75  
 5 December 2007

RESOLUTION  
 ON  
 BUNNELL HOUSE

**WHEREAS**, it was announced that the Tanana Valley Campus (TVC) is no longer able to sustain the operating costs of the Bunnell House Early Childhood Lab School during the summer months and that it will close, starting in May 2008; and

**Whereas**, the provision of adequate childcare is a critical issue affecting all members of the university community, including faculty, staff, students, and administrators who depend on Bunnell House year-round; and

**Whereas**, with approximately 70 families on the Bunnell House wait list, there is a demonstrated need for expanded childcare on the UAF campus; and

**WHEREAS**, there is already a shortage of childcare available in Fairbanks, which is exacerbated when school is out for the summer; and

**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 2008 and recognize the need for more childcare space on campus.

Offered to Staff Council by the Staff Affairs Committee (Written by Diane Wagner, Juella Sparks, Sine Anahita and Kayt Sunwood).

-----

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