

UAF STAFF COUNCIL  
MINUTES #165  
Friday, 14 October 2005  
Face-to-face – No audio-conference  
Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom  
8:45 – 11:00 a.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 a.m.

PRESENT

Joyce Allen-Luopa  
David Basham  
Mary Pat Boger  
Liam Forbes  
Kathy Glowdowski  
Faith Henry  
\*DeShana York

Angela Linn  
Paula Long  
\*Nici Murawsky  
Gary Newman  
\*Barbara Oleson  
Maya Salganek

Jeff Stepp  
Leah Swasey  
Steve Tate  
\*Pam Twitchell

ABSENT

Joyce Alleyne-McCants  
Annette Chism, excused absence  
Cheryl Conner, excused absence  
\*Gabrielle Hazelton

Jason Hunt  
Sandy Jefko  
Jacque Irons

Diane Leavy, excused absence  
David Miller, excused absence  
Sue Sharpton, excused absence

Guests and Others Present

Stephen Jones  
Lynette Washington

- A. The UAF Staff Council #165 Agenda, Friday, 14 October 2005 was adopted as amended. Joyce Allen-Luopa requested that under Committee Reports, Item F., the Chancellor's Recognition draft motion be tabled. "Legislative Mixer," was added to the announcement about the Legislative Luncheon under UAF Community Events, Item 2.
- B. The UAF Staff Council #164 Minute's report, Wednesday, 14 September 2005 was approved as distributed.

2. GUEST

A. CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS - Stephen B. Jones

Budget – Chancellor Jones commented on the increased cost of fuel and other budget concerns. Chancellor Jones stated that the University will ask the legislature for a \$47 million dollar increase in the state appropriation to the University of Alaska system. Chancellor Jones encouraged staff to contact legislators.

Education – Chancellor Jones updated the Council about the term/concept "selective admissions," that he broached at the 29 September Chancellor's convocation. Chancellor Jones stated that the University is looking for ways to ensure student success by helping them prepare to enter BA degree programs or to make a decision to pursue another type of degree or certificate. Chancellor Jones stated that we don't want to close the door on entry to UAF to anybody, but what we do want to do is tighten the restriction on those who enter directly out of high school who are

not prepared to enter a BA degree program. Council members commented on how selective admission might affect rural site students, how the community at large might perceive the change, and how it might reflect negatively on the University image.

Cigarette Sales at Wood Center – The Chancellor informally asked the Council the following: “My particular question that I want to ask this group,” and Jeff and Maya and I talked about it Monday, “what is the general...how many of you think...we ought to continue...just as an example, selling cigarettes right here in the Wood Center”. Chancellor Jones asked Council members to their hand, “If you think that we ought to continue to sell cigarettes in Wood Center.” Chancellor Jones commented after the vote,” that is nearly unanimous...that is unanimous”.

*Note, that the Chair did not officially put the question on the agenda and officially call for a Council vote.*

Tuition Waiver – The Chancellor gave statistics about the employee tuition waiver program relating to courses taken by employees, spouses, and dependents that are either completed successfully, failed, withdrawn from, and not completed.

### 3. OFFICER’S REPORTS

#### A. Maya Salganek, President, Staff Council

Wellness Program – Maya Salganek stated that at the 18 September Faculty Senate meeting, most of the faculty had no idea about the Wellness Program and the Chancellor and Provost also had not been informed.

College of Liberal Art’s Convocation – Maya Salganek stated that many of the staff members voiced their concerns about the Blue Cross identification number being used to gain access to the Wellness Program registration form -- rather than just creating a random access number for everyone.

Mixed Gender Representation – Maya Salganek reported that the Faculty Senate passed a motion to establish mixed gender representation on all Senate committees. Maya Salganek stated that she did not know if the Council wants to pass a similar motion or if we should enforce having male and female representation on all committees.

Budget - Maya Salganek stated that she attended the System Governance meeting where President Hamilton discussed the \$47 million dollar record budget request to the legislators. She stated that \$31 million dollars is to pay our five percent PERS/TRS, salary and staff benefits. The extra funds are going to capital improvement. President Hamilton talked about preparing for the next boom. There is a definite sense and push that the next pipeline is imminent, they are talking about a roll-out date of 2016. This year there is a \$1.5 billion surplus for the state due to the high cost of fuel.

System Governance – Maya Salganek stated that the System Governance draft policy document was not approved by President Hamilton and the General Counsel and needs to be rewritten.

Communications Specialist - Maya Salganek stated that Debbie Carter is the new communications specialist at statewide. This position was created to improve communication throughout all the MAUs. The other half of her job is to handle publicity at the University Relation’s statewide level.

Senior Tuition Waiver – Maya Salganek reported that the Board of Regents (BOR) passed the Senior Tuition Waiver, but that the eligible age will be changed to the social security benefited age. Seniors that are already taking advantage of the benefit are grandfathered in. President Mark Hamilton was advocating for fifty percent of the tuition to be paid by seniors and the BOR did not agree. The employee tuition waiver is now under review. One change that is being discussed is paying for courses that you do not complete or withdraw from. Maya Salganek asked Council members to get feed back from their unit constituents on this issue.

Supervisor Training - Maya Salganek stated that supervisor training was discussed at Staff Alliance. She stated that Jim Johnsen, Vice President, for Faculty and Staff Relations, relayed that he did not have the supervisor training program evaluated over the summer. The status of supervisor training is on hold until further notice is received from Jim Johnsen.

Office of Information Technology (OIT) – Maya Salganek reported that staffing concerns and issues were discussed. It has not been determined if the department will be under statewide or UAF management.

Staff Council Election - Maya Salganek gave thanks to Chancellor Jones for speaking to Steve Smith about online elections. She stated that Rory O'Neill a past Staff Council President will be working with us to get the election online.

#### B. Jeff Stepp, President-Elect Staff Council

Writing Letters to the Legislators - Jeff Stepp reported that he attended a meeting with Pete Kelley. The strategy for educating the legislature this year about the University's funding needs was discussed. Jeff Stepp stated that this year a lot more staff, faculty, and friends are being encouraged to write letters and help secure funding for the University. The Staff Council in Juneau has already been asked to write letters to representatives who were not enthusiastic about funding for the University.

Wellness Plan - Jeff Stepp asked Council members if they had seen the health risk assessment survey. Several Council members had not seen the survey. Jeff Stepp stated that he would make copies for Council members that wanted a hard copy of the survey.

Wellness Plan Forum - Jeff Stepp stated that he and Maya Salganek discussed holding a public forum hosted by Staff Council. The forum will give staff the opportunity to ask questions about the Plan. The forum will give Mike Humphrey the opportunity to make a definitive statement about the positive outcomes and goals that we are hoping to achieve with this plan.

#### 4. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment.

#### ACTION

#### 5. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Staff Council Administrative Committee Retreat  
Friday, 14 October, 3-5 p.m., Room 341 Rasmuson Library

Maya Salganek reminded the Administrative Committee and Council members to attend the retreat.

- B. Recognition for serving on Staff Council, 14 April 2004 letter  
From Carolyn Chapman, Human Resource Director (handout and attachment)

Credit for Serving on Staff Council – Maya Salganek called the Council's attention to the letter received from Carolyn Chapman in 2004. Maya Salganek informed and reminded Council members about the opportunity to receive credit for serving on Staff Council. Maya Salganek reminded the Council about a letter of thanks from Chancellor Jones and Staff Council officers, sent during October 2005. Maya Salganek informed Council members about a plan to send a second letter out to members who are very active and helpful. A copy of the member's letter will be sent to Human Resources, so that the personnel file and BANNER records will include credit for governance participation.

### C. Staff Council Budget (handout)

Staff Council Budget - Maya Salganek shared with the Council members that the Staff Council Budget has rollover funds from 2005. She asked Staff Council committee chairs for ideas about how to go about spending the funds.

### 6. BREAK

### 7. NEW BUSINESS

### ACTION

#### A. MOTION: Proposed Fall 2006-Spring 2007 Staff Council meeting schedule

Proposed Fall 2006-Spring 2007 Calendar Motion – Maya Salaganek called for discussion on the Staff Council proposed meeting schedule. Barbara Oleson stated that the March 16, 2007 proposed meeting date is during spring break. Lynette Washington will review the spring 2007 schedule to select another date. The motion was tabled.

#### B. Staff Council Representatives difficulty in attending meetings

Attending meetings – Maya Salganek stated that some representatives have problems attending meetings. Some representatives are paid on soft money, making it difficult to budget time to attend Council meetings. Gary Newman reminded the Council about the budget rollover funds available and suggested that some of this money may be used to help pay for those on soft money. Joyce Allen-Luopa recommended talking more with the Chancellor about his support for Staff Council.

### 8. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

#### A. Paul Layer, Faculty Senate President

Governance role – Paul Layer reported that at a recent retreat with President Hamilton and other administrators, Faculty Senate discussed and defended the role Governance groups play in university academic issues.

Occupational Certificate – Paul Layer informed the Council that for the past year a task force has been working on developing an occupational training/certificate program. The program will be an agenda item for discussion at the December Board of Regents' meeting, but does not require Board approval.

Grading Policy - Paul Layer informed the Council that the grading policy change issue is still being discussed.

Center for Distance Education – Paul Layer informed the Council that efforts are being made to coordinate better with the Center, to become more familiar with academic deadlines, to keep faculty more informed about Distant Education, and course development.

Employee Tuition Waiver - Paul Layer stated that if the senior tuition waiver is eliminated, it would be another move towards eliminating the employee tuition waiver. He shared statistics with Council members about the increase in tuition during the last six years. He stated that Faculty Senate will work with Staff Council on the tuition issues and concerns. Liam Forbes read the official language of the tuition waiver.

Wellness Program – Paul Layer stated that people are not really in the know about the program.

#### B. Joe Blanchard, President ASUAF

No report.

## 9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Staff Affairs, Liam Forbes

The report was attached to the agenda.

### B. Rural Affairs, Barbara Oleson

The report was attached to the agenda.

### C. Elections, Membership and Rules, Gary Newman

The report was attached to the agenda.

### D. Advocacy Committee, Angela Linn

The reports were attached to the agenda.

### E. Ad Hoc Committee on Work Place Ethics (WPE), Dorene Walrath

The report was attached to the agenda.

WPE Chair resignation – Maya Salganek reported that Dorene Walrath was forced to resign her position as Chair and as a member of Staff Council. She stated that Annette Chism will leave the committee in December. Joyce Allen-Luopa recommended that the name of the committee be changed, because what they are working on does not really involve work place ethics. It was recommended that a mission statement be created in order to be more focused.

### F. Chancellor's Recognition Award Committee

Discussion about the Chancellor's Recognition Award rewrite draft Motion was tabled.

Committee Reports if available may be viewed at <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov> University News Room  
Announcements – Please check for Staff Council Announcements: <http://www.uaf.edu/news/news.html>

-----

## 10. EXTERNAL/OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

### A. Chancellor's Campus Diversity Action Committee (CCDAC)

Enrollment Policy – Jeff Stepp reported that the CCDAC discussed the proposed UAF enrollment policy changes. He stated that the committee discussed how the changes would affect rural students, housing, and transportation. There is concern about students at rural sites not being well prepared for the university. The committee discussed and strongly emphasized improving University advising and support services for students.

### B. Governance Coordinating Committee – Maya Salganek

### C. Master Planning Committee – Gary Newman

No report.

D. MPC Subcommittee on Circulation and Parking – Annette Chism

No report.

E. Strategic Plan Committee: Jackie Alleyne-McCants or Barbara Oleson

Strategic Plan – Barbara Oleson reported that the mission and core values for the plan are complete. The committee is currently working on seven different themes, goals and initiatives that will be developed from the themes. Council members were encouraged to send their input by December 30.

<http://www.uaf.edu/strategic/plans/2010/feedback/index.html>

<http://www.uaf.edu/strategic/plans/2010/index.html>

F. Chancellor's Budget Committee – Kim Cox

The report was attached to the agenda.

11. UAF COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Council was reminded about the Ice, Lights and Northern Nights: A Gala Celebration Saturday, October 15, 7 PM

The Council was reminded about the 20 October Legislative Mixer from Noon to 1:30 in Wood Center Ballroom.

Jeff Stepp reminded Council members about the poetry slam competition. He stated that not many faculty and staff attending events, so an effort is being made to announce events as Campus activities.

Maya Salganek reminded the Council about the Winter Shorts theatre events this week.

12. STAFF COUNCIL ROUNDTABLE

Council members discussed various issues and concerns during the round table discussion.

13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

\*\*\*\*\*

A tape of this Staff Council meeting is available if anyone wishes to listen to the complete tape; submitted by Staff Council Secretary, Lynette Washington.

\*\*\*\*\*

For More information contact the UAF Governance Office  
Staff Council: 474-7056 <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/>  
Room 312 Signers Hall PO Box 99775-7500