

MINUTES
UAF Staff Council Meeting #178
Face-to-face
8:45-11 a.m.
Friday, 23 March 2007

Liam Forbes called for the meeting to come to order and roll call.

PRESENT

Jackie Alleyne-McCants	*Barbara Oleson	John Rutherford for Martin
Mary Pat Boger	Dorothy Parkerson	Klein
Nicole Conley	Katrina Paul	Carol Shafford
Dee Daniels	Holly Royce	Shaun Sowell
Liam Forbes	*Julie Carpenter for *Nici	Juella Sparks
Glyn Komkai	Murawsky	Kayt Sunwood
Diane Leavy	Ashley Munro	Leah Swasey
Paula Long	Ana Richards	*Pam Twitchell
Gary Newman		

ABSENT

Sonja Bickford	Steve Estes	Maria Russell
Deborah Carlson	Martin Klein	
Joanna Cruzan	*Nici Murawsky	

GUESTS

Chancellor Stephen B. Jones
Michelle Bartlett, Director, Summer Sessions

OTHERS

Lynette Washington

- A. Staff Council #178 Agenda was adopted as submitted, Friday, 23 March 2007.
- B. Staff Council Minutes #177, Wednesday, 14 February 2007, were approved as distributed.

2. OFFICER REPORTS

- A. Liam Forbes acting for Jeff Stepp, President Staff Council

Liam Forbes updated Council members on the recent actions, issues, and concerns of staff related to student success, the April 3 advisory vote, the resolution to honor Paul B. Reichardt, and the short-term Staff Council president-elect position. He updated the group about the actions of the

Chancellor's Vision Task Force stating that the group will conclude in fall of 2007. More information about the task force may be found at <http://www.uaf.edu/vision2017/>. He said that the task force has received substantial input from Staff Council members and the Staff Affairs committee. Liam Forbes reminded Council members that the Heart Walk is scheduled Saturday, 19 May and encouraged all to participate by walking and donating. Leah Swasey attended the March Staff Alliance meeting in Jeff Stepp's behalf. Leah Swasey informed Council members that Staff Alliance group is scheduled to attend a retreat in Juneau in early April. Leah Swasey reported that the Educational Leave Policy is still in draft form. Leah Swasey reported that based on a report heard at the meeting, the healthcare costs for FY08 shouldn't rise significantly.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

4. GUESTS

A. Steven B. Jones, UAF Chancellor.

Chancellor Jones updated Council members about the UAF Heart Walk teams. He reminded council members about the Longevity awards ceremony planned for Friday, March 30th. He announced that Susan Henrichs, Dean, of the Graduate School has been appointed as the new UAF Provost of Academic Affairs. He stated that Paul B. Reichardt the current UAF Provost is retiring this June and is the recipient of the distinguished Edith Bullock award. The Chancellor commented that the university will receive the funding for fixed costs, but that is not nearly enough. He encouraged Council members to contact their legislators to advocate for fully funding the university. The Chancellor stated that during his meeting with Liam Forbes at the pre-staff council meeting, Liam asked about the status of proposed educational leave policy. Chancellor Jones informed Liam that it is still in draft form, but if approved it would apply to nonrepresented staff and faculty to further their education. In particular employees that are able to complete their degree program in one year or less. The Chancellor stated that there is wide-spread system support for the educational leave policy.

B. Michelle Bartlett, Director, Summer Sessions

Michelle Bartlett informed Council members about Summer Session's 2007 programs and schedule. Michelle Bartlett provided a number of handouts about the summer programs and informed the group about the following special events:

- May 14-25, MAYmester, 3 credits in 2 weeks, intensive, meeting five days a week for four hours each day
- May – August, Free summer movie nights (check the schedule for dates and times). Tickets are available in several places on campus.
- May 23 – August 15, Discovering Alaska, a summer lecture series (see schedule for specific dates and times of lectures throughout the summer months)
- Friday, June 8 at 10 a.m., National Public Radio (NPR) Talk of the Nation Science Friday with Ira Flatow an informative discussion on science and technology.
- July 13 and 14 First Annual Alaska Book Festival, featuring various authors, readings, book signings, workshops, panel discussions, and lectures
- Weekend Focus/looking for a week end adventure (events scheduled beginning May and throughout the summer months)
- July and August dates, 2007 Photography Extravaganza (check the schedule for the July and August dates and times)

- July 30-31, Health Seminar Series, Maria Trozzi (teen depression and suicide)
- Travel, Explore, and Discover: England, France, Ital, Portugal (check the schedule for application deadlines and specific details).
- October 20-November 7, Winter Cultural Tour in China

5. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

A. Shirish Patil, President, Faculty Senate

Shirish Patil updated Council members about recent actions of the Faculty Senate. He informed the group about Dr. Vincent Tinto, Distinguished Professor of Higher Education, of Syracuse University. Dr. Tinto is scheduled to visit UAF March 26-28 to discuss techniques to promote student success.

B. Sven Gilkey, President, ASUAF

No report.

ACTION

6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. President-Elect Short-Term: Distribute Ballots and Call for President-Elect nominations

Liam Forbes opened discussion about the short-term president-elect position. Discussion ensued about the time commitment, budget, and travel related to the position. Leah Swasey reminded Council members that the person elected to the position would receive substantial support from current officer Jeff Stepp and previous officers Rory O'Neill and Maya Salganek, as well as the secretary of Staff Council.

Liam Forbes called for nominations from the floor since no nominations had been received prior to the meeting. Council members recommended Gary Newman, Jackie Alleyne-McCants, Kayt Sunwood, and Leah Swasey. All the nominees declined except Kayt Sunwood. Gary Newman called for the nomination to close. Barbara Oleson called for unanimous consent to elect Kayt Sunwood as the short-term president-elect. Kayt Sunwood was elected by unanimous consent.

B. Announce the election results and call for the motion to ratify the election.

Liam Forbes called for the motion to ratify the election.

The UAF Staff Council passed the following motion at its Meeting #178, Friday, 23 March 2007.

RESOLUTION: (Passed Unanimously)

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BE IT RESOLVED, that the UAF Staff Council ratifies the election of the President-Elect on the basis of the following ballot.

PRESIDENT-ELECT Short-Term Ballot UAF STAFF COUNCIL

Please vote for ONE individual to serve as the President-elect of the UAF Staff Council March 2007-June 2007 and then move into the Staff Council President position.

Write-In Candidate _____

SUPERVISOR APPROVAL

In order for the election to be accepted the electee's supervisor must indicate approval that they are prepared to release the electee as needed to fulfill the duties of this voluntary role for a one-year term and then for a one-year term as Staff Council President. The commitment represents at least six hours per month during the academic year.

C. Announce that the Long-Term President-Elect

Liam Forbes reminded Council members that the long-term president-elect position nomination process will be announced in mid-to-late April.

INFORMATION

7. NEW BUSINESS

Proposed Staff Council Motions/Resolutions of Support, Liam Forbes:

A. Staff Council Proposed Motion of Support to the GCC Joint Committee on Student Success

Liam Forbes read the joint committee on student success motion as submitted by Jeff Stepp. Liam Forbes called for discussion. Gary Newman commented that the resolution keeps us focused on students and helps us to meet the strategic plan goals as an institution. Liam Forbes called for the vote.

The UAF Staff Council passed the following motion at its Meeting #178, Friday, 23 March 2007.

MOTION: (Passed Unanimously):

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The UAF Staff Council moves to support the GCC Joint Committee on Student Success Motion.

Effective: Immediately

RATIONALE: The UAF Staff Council agrees with the Governance Coordinating Committee that Student Success is comprised of interested administrators and campus leaders from ASUAF, Faculty Senate, and Staff Council demonstrative of the importance of shared leadership and collaboration in the promotion and enhancement to support the enrichment of student success at UAF.

Motion as passed by the GCC Wednesday, 28 February 2007

MOTION (Passed Unanimously):

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Joint Committee on Student Success, Whereas, collaborative, shared leadership among administrators, students, faculty, and staff is a key component to creating campus environments that foster student success, and;

Whereas, collaborative work groups can be powerful vehicles for launching and institutionalizing student-friendly policies and practices and for developing complementary programs such as first-year initiatives, fresh approaches to general education curricular offerings, service-learning, and student leadership development programs among others, and;

Whereas, such initiatives almost always result in richer learning opportunities for students when done collaboratively than when an individual unit develops them;

Therefore, be it resolved that, by March 1, 2007, the GCC will form a Joint Committee on Student Success comprised of interested administrators and campus leaders from ASUAF, Faculty Senate, and Staff Council that will demonstrate the importance of shared leadership and collaboration in the promotion and enhancement of student success at UAF.

B. Staff Council Proposed Resolution Opposing the April 3rd Advisory Vote.

Liam Forbes called for discussion. Mary Pat Boger asked for a summary of the resolution. Liam Forbes read the last two paragraphs of the motion.

The UAF Staff Council passed the following motion at its Meeting #178, Friday, 23 March 2007.

RESOLUTION: (Passed by majority vote, one abstention, one nay)

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RESOLUTION
ON
April 3rd Advisory Vote

WHEREAS, The Constitution of Alaska states that “all persons are equal and entitled to equal rights, opportunities, and protection under the law” (Article 1, Section 1); and

WHEREAS, discrimination against faculty and staff on the basis of marital status and other statuses is expressly prohibited by the University of Alaska Board of Regents Statement of Non-discrimination; and

Whereas, the UAF Staff Council affirms the importance of complying with university non-discrimination policies as well as upholding our State’s Constitution; and

Whereas, the voters of Alaska on April 3, 2007, will decide whether to place a proposed Constitutional Amendment on the ballot in 2008 that would “prohibit the state, or a municipality or other subdivision of the state, from providing employment benefits to same-sex partners of public employees and to same-sex partners of public employee retirees”; and

WHEREAS, the Constitutional Amendment, if passed would render the Constitution internally inconsistent, simultaneously asserting and denying equal rights, opportunities and protection under the law; and

WHEREAS, the Constitutional Amendment, if passed, would compel the university to deny financially interdependent partners (FIPs) health insurance benefits, tuition waivers, faculty housing, library cards, and other opportunities and benefits currently offered other similarly situated persons under university policy; and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned consequences would prohibit the university from complying with its own policies of non-discrimination as well as require the university to violate both the spirit and the letter of the Alaska Constitution as it was written; and

WHEREAS, the Staff Council affirms that providing insurance and other benefits to FIPs is a valuable way to recruit and retain excellent faculty and staff; now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the UAF Staff Council is opposed to the April 3rd Advisory Vote and to any proposed Constitutional Amendment that would abridge the rights of faculty and staff; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the UAF Staff Council commends the University of Alaska statewide administration for its ongoing support of financially interdependent partner (FIPs) benefits.

C. Staff Council Proposed Resolution to name the Natural Science Facility the Paul B. Reichardt Building.

Liam Forbes gave a brief summary of the efforts to name the building in recognition of Paul B. Reichardt, current UAF Provost. Liam Forbes called for discussion. Gary Newman asked if there is an official policy to name buildings. Liam Forbes stated that he was not aware of an official policy. Liam Forbes stated that the resolution was passed by Faculty Senate, approved by the Chancellor, and will go forward to the President, and the Board of Regents for final approval. Liam Forbes called for the motion.

The UAF Staff Council passed the following motion at its Meeting #178, Friday, 23 March 2007.

RESOLUTION: (Passed Unanimously)

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RESOLUTION TO NAME THE NATURAL SCIENCES FACILITY
THE
PAUL B. REICHARDT BUILDING

WHEREAS, Paul Reichardt has served UAF in many roles for 35 years in a manner deserving of the University of Alaska's greatest admiration and respect; and

Whereas, Paul Reichardt has served as Professor of Chemistry from 1972-1990; and

Whereas, Paul Reichardt has served as Dean of the College of Natural Science from 1990-1998; and

Whereas, Paul Reichardt was instrumental in planning the building of the Natural Sciences Facility and getting the funding from the State Legislature necessary for the furnishing of the Natural Sciences Facility; and

Whereas, Paul Reichardt served as Director of the Museum, 1993, and was very supportive of the UA Museum of the North's expansion project and the fund raising campaign; and

Whereas, Paul Reichardt has served as Interim Provost, 1993, and from 1998 to present as Provost demonstrating a commitment to graduate and undergraduate education; and

WHEREAS, Paul Reichardt helped develop UAF 2005 and produced UAF's Academic Development Plan that resulted in useful and practical guidelines for a variety of endeavors helping establish a basis by which decisions about programs, budget and space assignments are made and helps us to obtain state funding; and

WHEREAS, Paul Reichardt, while Provost, led significant UAF efforts resulting in 2006 institutional reaffirmation of accreditation with no subsequent reports, a relatively uncommon event among institutions of higher education; and

WHEREAS, Paul Reichardt has served on various Statewide Committees, and other university committees representing the interests of UAF faculty to the administration of UAF and statewide; and

Whereas, Paul Reichardt has established the Academic Leadership Institute where faculty, staff and administrators spend time studying and talking about academic leadership; and

Whereas, Paul Reichardt has been one of UAF's most consistent and significant donors, donating \$139,711.10 since 1974; and

WHEREAS, THE UAF STAFF COUNCIL WISHES to acknowledge the outstanding service rendered to the faculty and the University by the work of Paul Reichardt as he concludes his term as Provost, now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE UAF STAFF COUNCIL respectfully requests that UAF's Natural Science Facility be named for Paul B. Reichardt as an acknowledgement of his exemplary service and philanthropy to the University.

8. BREAK

INFORMATION

9. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Staff Affairs

The minutes for the staff affairs 27/February/2007 committee meeting are now posted on the Staff Council website at: <http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/staffcouncil.html>

B. Rural Affairs, Barbara Oleson

The report was attached to the agenda.

C. Advocacy, TBA

No report available.

D. Elections, Membership, and Rules, Leah Swasey

Leah Swasey reported that the committee is focused on filling vacant representative positions in the units.

E. Ad Hoc Health and Wellness, Paula Long

Dee Daniels reported for Paula Long. Dee Daniels reported that the group is focused on redesigning the L.I.F.E. Program to increase hours and days available to staff. The group hopes that the outcome of the proposed changes will allow for a more flexible program allowing members to use the facility any time, but for a limited time during the week.

F. Ad Hoc Staff Appreciation Day, Lynette Washington

Lynette Washington reported that she a letter was forwarded to Forrest Karr, Director, Athletics & Recreation requesting season passes to the BP Top of the World event, men's and women's basketball, volley ball, and hockey. Employees will have an opportunity to draw/win the season passes as well as the Alaska Airline tickets during the Staff Appreciation Day/Ice Cream Social event. Lynette Washington informed the Council that she would be sending out a reminder in late April about the Staff Appreciation Day event, scheduled Thursday, 17 May 2007, Noon-2 p.m., Wood Center multi-level lounge area.

G. Ad Hoc Staff Make Students Count, Lynette Washington

Lynette Washington reported that the committee had reviewed 15 applications and forwarded two names to President Hamilton. Lynette Washington informed the Council that President Hamilton usually announces the recipients of the award at the June Board of Regents' meeting, but that last year the award recipients were announced in early fall.

10. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Chancellor's Campus Diversity Action Committee (CCDAC) – Maya Salganek

Kayt Sunwood reported the committee minutes that were sent out as an addition to the agenda.

B. Governance Coordinating Committee – Liam Forbes

C. Master Planning Committee – Gary Newman

The report was attached to the agenda.

D. Master Planning Subcommittee on Circulation and Parking – Katrina Nelson Paul

No report was available. Carol Shafford brought up the issue regarding Parking Services not informing the campus community about major changes before they enforce the changes, e.g., the recent parking kiosks. Council members expressed concerns about impolite parking service officers, parking meters that don't register at 20 below, and having to pay for classes and then having to pay to park.

Katrina Paul stated that she has never received a letter officially appointing her to the Subcommittee on Circulation and Parking. Lynette Washington stated that she delivered the letter to the Chancellor's office requesting that Katrina Paul be appointed as the Staff Council representative to the committee. However, there has been no follow-up from Chris Bennett. Katrina Nelson expressed that the committee seems to be inactive and that communication is poor. Jeff Stepp will be asked to follow-up with the Chancellor.

External committee reports will be attached or linked to the agenda if available.

11. STAFF COUNCIL ROUND TABLE

12. ADJOURN

Staff Council meeting #178 was adjourned at 11 a.m.

Tapes of this Staff Council meeting are in the Governance Office, Room 312 Signers' Hall if anyone wishes to listen to the complete tapes.

For More information contact the UAF Staff Council Governance Office
474-7056 Room 312 Signers Hall, PO Box 757500