

**MINUTES**  
**UAF Staff Council Meeting # 195**  
**Friday, 20 February 2009**  
**9:45-12 a.m.**  
**Wood Center CDEF**

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

The March 2009 Council meeting is scheduled: Friday, 20 March 2009, 8:45-11 a.m., Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom.

**1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT**

Elizabeth Recchia  
Susan Baird  
Barbara Paskvan  
Brad Havel  
Jill Dewey-Davidson  
Kathy Petersen  
Angel Stacy  
Maria Russell  
Sharon Corbett  
Jennifer Miller  
Jeanne Miller  
Jennifer Elhard  
Travis Brinzow  
Mary Sue Dates  
Ashley Munro  
Katrina Paul  
Jeanne Miller  
Jennifer Elhard  
Donna Resnick  
Kayt Sunwood  
Pips Veazey  
Jenny Day  
Marianne Freelong  
Deb Hao  
Leah Glasscock-Sanders  
Carol Shafford

**PRESENT Cont'd**

Chris Van Dyck  
Jennifer Stutesman  
Walker Wheeler  
Julie Carpenter

**OFFICERS**

Juella Sparks  
Martin Klein

**GUEST**

Brian Rogers, Interim Chancellor  
Dana Thomas, Assistant Provost for General Studies  
Ann Ringstad, Director of Community Advocacy

**ABSENT**

Ann Hovde

**EXCUSED ABSENCE**

Holly Royce  
Bryan Uher  
Gary Newman  
Nici Murawsky  
Heather Leavengood

- A. Adopt Staff Council Agenda #195, Friday , 20 February 2009

Adopted as amended.

- B. Approve Staff Council Minutes #192, Friday, 17 October 2008 and #194, Friday, 12 December 2008

Approved as amended.

## **2. OFFICER REPORTS**

- A. Juella Sparks, President, Staff Council (Presidents report attached)

Juella urges everyone to read the non-retention resolution attached to the presidents report. The Staff Compensation Task Force is meeting Monday.

- B. Martin Klein, President-Elect, Staff Council

Martin introduces Nichole Kloepper the new Staff Council secretary. Juella and Martin are headed to Juneau next week as a part of Staff Alliance. Step increases are a current hot button with the Staff Compensation Task Force. Currently, staff get a 4.5% step increases with a required supervisor appraisal and longevity. When a new staff member comes on they too get the same 4.5% increase. Please give Juella input on step increases to address to Juneau. There is a March 5th meeting with Juella, Martin and new HR Director Chris Racina talking about non-retention.

Staff Council has a staff handbook in the works to inform new and current employees so they have a streamlined source for staff policies and benefits. John Duhamel and the Chancellor like the idea but not the name of "handbook".

## **3. GOVERNANCE REPORTS**

- A. Marsha Sousa, President, Faculty Senate.

Juella spoke briefly for Marsha. Faculty Senate is working with the UAF Bookstore on the text book issues. Karl Kowalski is speaking at the March Faculty Senate Meeting and Chris Racina is speaking at the April meeting. Faculty Senate passed the following academic programs: PhD in Indigenous Studies, a Certificate in Pre-Nursing qualifications. They talked about the General Studies option being added to Interdisciplinary Studies, which was presented by Dana Thomas. The issues Faculty Senate are currently paying close attention to are the Academic Master Plan (out of statewide) and distance education planning. Please see the president's report for highlights of the last attended Faculty Senate meeting.

- B. Brandon Meston, President, ASUAF.

No report is available.

#### 4. GUESTS

##### A. Brian Rogers, UAF Interim Chancellor

The Chancellor and an UAF honor student attended the Clinton Global Initiative. The Clinton Global Initiative recognizes the honors programs retrofit project, it should take two years to complete. The operations capital budget it is pretty lean, the core state funding included pay raises and some fixed costs for the Virology Lab. Some new money for operations has been added for the Alaska Summer Research Academy, CES, and Energy programs.

The Life Science building funding is limited, the legislature is aware of the bill for eighty-two million requested. Thirty-five million will get the utilidor and research side built together with bond debt. The stimulus package is still being digested; there are multiple paths to money. Ninety three million is being used for K-12 education, higher education and research facilities. The Chancellors says there is a good change UAF will get 8 million out of it. The National Science Foundation received four hundred million dollars. One hundred and fifty million is going to the Arctic Region Research Vessel which will be constructed outside of Alaska. The project will be operated by the University of Alaska Fairbanks and home ported in Seward. There is also one million dollars in the USGS budget for the Geophysical Alaska Volcano Observatory project. The workforce development and training have several funding pots; theses are possible funding avenues for rural campuses and TVC. A benefit for students is a Pell grant increase of five hundred dollars within a two year period. In broadband there is nine billion total to improve rural broadband this will depends on the telecommunication carrier proposals.

The Chancellor's forum will be held from 11:00-4:00 p.m. today in the Wood Center. There will be feedback requested over the next few weeks on the progress of supervisory training. The Chancellor's Planning and Budget Committee needs a new representative. Gary Newman served the last few years as the Staff Council representative. The Chancellor is looking forward to Staff Appreciation Day and seeing how this event turns out. Juella noted that the Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services is also holding forums so use these avenues to get your opinions out.

##### A. Ann Ringstad, Director of Community Advocacy

The legislative session is third of the way over already. The Board of Regents were down in Juneau last week as well as UA Foundation, Alumni and Student Governance groups. The University budget is currently sitting in the Finance House Subcommittee. The next step is to send subcommittee recommendations to the Full House Committee. Informational materials and updates on the UAF budget can be accessed on the UAF alumni website. Ann suggested contacting the Finance Subcommittee to tell them how and why you support the University. It is necessary for the legislature to understand the importance of the University. Teleconference testimony is encouraged when the finance house subcommittee meets there is only twelve hour notice before the committee meets.

##### B. Dana Thomas, Assistant Provost for General Studies

Dana Thomas reports there are significant revisions in the reaccreditation process. UAF is in the first round of the new evaluation process. The accreditation process can and has affected staff

members. During the last accreditation review an external evaluator suggested that UAF look in to a staff handbook. Standard two of the new accreditation process is where staff will be the most recognized. This is the resource category that maintains the goals of its human, fiscal, technical, student support, library and information services, and physical infrastructures. An Institutional Accreditation Committee is being formed in the spring and a Staff Council representative is requested to be on the committee.

The handouts given cover the new accreditation standards and a draft accreditation process for UAF written by Susan Hendrichs, Provost. The powerpoint is an overview of the revised accreditation standards and new oversight process. Please refer to the handouts and links available at the UAF Staff Council website for in depth details on the accreditation process.

## **5. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dayna Mackey is part of the Graduate Speaker Commencement Committee and is currently taking nominations. If there are any graduating seniors in Fall 2008 or Spring 2009 please send the nominations to Dayna.

## **ACTION**

## **6. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **A. Update and discussion on Staff Appreciation Day**

Staff Appreciation Day/Longevity Awards is officially May 11, 2009 at the Davis Concert Hall. The meeting minutes and updates on the event are available on blackboard; contact Maria Russell to get on the list. Terence Cole is giving a history of UAF. There will be a brief luncheon, and an ice cream social, we are planning on a full day event. There are also workshop modules for professional and personal development.

Juella called for more volunteers to serve on Ad Hoc committees. The nominations open the first week of March, representatives that are involved attend only one or two meetings. The following are the volunteers for committee.

- Chancellor's Staff and Supervisory Recognition Award Committee:  
Ashley Munro, Mary Sue Dates, Donna Resnick, Marianne Freelong, Walker Wheeler, Jennifer Miller
- Outstanding Staff Council Award Committee (OSC):  
Donna Resnick, Jennifer Miller, Holly Royce, Susan Baird
- Staff Make Student Count Award Committee:  
Holly Royce, Leah Glasscock-Brown, Bryan Uher

## **7. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. Nominations for the Chancellor's Planning and Budget Committee**

Juella asks the floor if anyone is interested in serving on the Chancellor's Planning and Budget Committee. Gary Newman was the representative for Staff Council in the past. Juella appoints Mary Sue Dates.

B. Staff Council Calendar Changes

A motion was passed to have meeting #198 the day after Staff Appreciation Day. This will move meeting #198 from Friday May 22, 2009 to Tuesday May 12, 2009. A second motion was made to remove the April 22, 2009 face to face to the #198 meeting to allow travel on both days if budget allows.

## **INFORMATION**

### **8. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Staff Affairs, Julie Carpenter

Julie reported committee room changes sent via email, she is stepping down at the next Staff Affairs meeting February 25 from 2-3 p.m. and giving the chair to Mary Sue Dates.

B. Rural Affairs, Liz Recchia

The minutes are attached to the agenda. On March 6 there is a special audio conference; Pete Kelly is updating the committee on the UA budget. After the presentation the regular Rural Affairs committee will commence.

C. Elections, Membership, and Rules, Katrina Paul

EMR biggest item at the moment is refining recent elections list. The February meeting was cancelled due to lack of a quorum. In the March meeting there is going to be a reading of the constitution. EMR meets the first Monday of every month from 10-11 a.m. in the Chancellor's Conference Room. Walker Wheeler volunteered to join the committee.

D. Advocacy Committee, Maria Russell

Advocacy has been working with Staff Appreciation Day. Staff Tours went well with the Discovery Lab. Advocacy is looking to find new volunteers for the committee.

### **9. EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

A. Master Planning Committee (MPC), Gary Newman

No report available.

B. Subcommittee on Parking and Circulation (SCP), Katrina Paul

No report available.

B. Chancellor's Diversity Action Committee (CDAC), Juella Sparks

Juella sits on this committee as a representative for GCC. She covered CDAC items in her president's report. CDAC is making resources and concerns on diversity more available on campus.

C. Technology Advisory Board (TAB), Brad Havel

The spring proposals were due February 15, 2009. TAB has not formally met yet.

D. Chancellor's Planning and Budget Committee, Gary Newman

Juella appointed May Sue Dates to be the new representative on the committee.

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

Carol reports that the committee has met several times and is mostly students. The committee want to improve the nautilus equipment, funding is available, funding allocation is the problem. The shower rooms in the SRC need improvement, but there is no money available. The funding comes through athletics, so SRC is often battling for the funds.

F. Staff Health Care Committee, Liz Recchia

The Staff Healthcare Committee discussed allocation and use of three hundred thousand dollars for promoting marketing and healthcare incentives. The Staff Health Care Committee reports to Mike Humphrey, the Director of Benefits and the Joint Health Care Committee which includes administration and union representatives. Martin adds this is controversial because the university is self funded on their health benefits. That means in the simplest form the staff pay premiums to cover all healthcare costs. So, if you can reduce costs, the premiums go down. The university can reduce costs by making people healthier by spending money on wellness programs. Therefore arguing that raising the premiums for wellness programs reduces costs. Liz says past year comparisons have been done for staff preventative versus staff treatment. The Staff Health Care Committee found that preventative was up and treatment was down.

G. Bunnell House Advisory Committee/Family Friendly Task Force, Holly Royce

No report available.

**10. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION**

The round table discussion is off the record.

**11. ADJOURN**

\*\*\*\*\*

For More information contact the UAF Staff Council Governance Office  
[www.uaf.edu/uafgov/staffcouncil.html](http://www.uaf.edu/uafgov/staffcouncil.html), 474-7056 Room 312 Signers Hall, P.O. Box 977500.