

SC Report for 3/20/09
Mtg #196

Committees:

- Governance Coordinating Committee – This committee has not met since our last Council meeting. It next meets on the 24th.
- Chancellor's Diversity Action Committee – This committee has not met since our last Council meeting. It next meets on the 27th.
- Staff Alliance last met in Juneau on the 25th. We were in Juneau for two days meeting with legislators to advocate for the university's budget. There three big things I took from this trip: 1) there is real concern about another multiple appropriation budget for the university this year, 2) there is a real need for someone to be in Juneau advocating for UAF and 3) the federal economic stimulus bill is wreaking havoc with spending plans out of the legislature. During our Alliance meeting we shared information and discussed items such as the non-retention resolution and the increase in health care premiums. The Joint Health Care Committee is to meet the 17th or 18th to set rates for the coming fiscal year.
- HR Council – This committee met March 3rd. Highlights include; Mike Hostina reporting on the developing process on copyright infringement (DMCA "Take Down" Notice for Employee), Beth Behner reporting that employee health care premium rates will be set in mid-March by Joint Health Care Committee and that the cost projections were low by \$6.7 million. There is a \$9 mill in over-recovery to offset some of the increase. Some of the under projection is due to increases in wellness expenditures. Jeannine Senechal asked for input on the Executive Employee evaluation forms and reported on the Staff Compensation Task Force. Kris Racina raised concerns about moving to a merit-based salary increase and the current state of evaluations at the university.
- System Governance Council – This group last met March 3rd but because of a conflict with the HR Council I did not attend. As it turned out there wasn't a quorum (even if I'd attended) and they did not meet.
- Faculty Senate – Met on the 2nd. My report to this group is noted below.
- Staff Compensation Task Force – This committee met February 23rd (see attached) and will meet again on the 19th. Please see the attached working document on recommendations coming out of this task force and make comment to me at fnjs@uaf.edu as soon as possible.
- Pre-Staff with Chancellor Rogers on the 6th. We discussed the following with chancellor: a report on our meeting with Kris Racina as UAF HR director, discussions on a mediation program or ombudsman, confirmed our nominee for his Planning & Budget Committee, passed on feedback on the Supervisor Training Program, delivered a budget request for Staff Appreciation Day and gave an update as well. Chancellor Rogers asked that we attend his Cabinet meeting on the 30th to talk deans and directors about how to encourage participation in Staff Appreciation Day.

Report to Faculty Senate on 3/02/09

We held our last meeting on February 20th and meet again March 20. Actions and issues include:

- New representatives' orientation
- Mtg w/HR director on the 5th
- Appears to be new life in the mediation program. There is a meeting tomorrow.
- Faculty and Staff Association

Staff Alliance just got back from our annual advocacy trip to Juneau. We met with many legislators and sat in on floor sessions and committee meetings. I think there is a strong likelihood of multiple appropriations again this year.