

ATTACHMENT #3  
UAF STAFF COUNCIL #201  
October 14, 2009  
SUBMITTED BY ASHLEY MUNRO AND LIZ GUTHIER

Advocacy Committee Meeting Report  
October 6, 2009

**Staff Tours:** The first staff tour of the year went well, despite the late announcement send out on the staff list-serve. The proposed calendar for the year is as follows:

September: UAF Walking Tour (Sept 15<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>)  
October: LARS  
November: Cold Climate Research Center  
December: Museum  
January: Discovery Lab  
February: SRC & Patty Center  
March: Hutchison Career Center  
April: Tanana Valley Campus  
May: Greenhouses (as part of Staff Appreciation Day?)

Back-up or summer plans would include the professional kitchens and library at CES. Transportation for most of these will be an issue. We will ask for shuttles from Transportation Services.

**Staff Appreciation Day** is May 19, 2010. We will start discussing plans and activities after the October 19<sup>th</sup> follow-up with the Chancellor.

The committee would like to research the **activities from previous years**. Most of the committee is new to Staff Council or to Advocacy. Nichole will help by looking at past reports.

**Regular meeting times** have been set. We will meet the first Thursday of every month at 9am with the exception of November. Our next meeting will be October 29<sup>th</sup> at 9am in the Kayak Room.

Communications Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting Report  
October 5, 2009

**Staff Council Member Survey results:** We were very disappointed in the number of replies to the survey. Only 12 staff council members took the survey, which has been open since Sept 21. The committee has decided to extend the survey through mid-November. We will announce this at the next staff council meeting and send out a reminder email. The committee would like to ask for Martin or Maria to push for members to complete the survey.

From the current results, it is clear that more advertisement is needed. We will discuss more options after the staff survey is completed. The Committee concluded that the public does not feel welcome for several reasons and we will request that the public comment portion of the agenda be moved to the beginning of the meeting, directly after roll call. This will be put forth at the Admin Committee meeting on October 6, 2009.

**Meeting Flyers:** Although a flyer with the fall's scheduled meetings was sent out, the committee concluded that a new flyer should be created each month. Bryan Uher has created a template and volunteered to create the new flyer. He has requested that a letter of introduction from Martin Klein, along with a photo, be included in this first flyer. Bullet points and keywords of agenda items will also be used. A brief recap from the previous meeting and call in information will be included. The new times for public comment (if approved) will be advertised. Bryan can have the new flyer ready in time for the October meeting if we can get him the requested information.

**Staff Survey:** The Committee concluded that the staff survey should be sent out as soon as possible. We made minor changes to the existing questions. We hope to open the survey mid October. The survey will be sent out again in October of 2010 to measure our success.

**Regular meeting times** were discussed, but not decided. Monday afternoons seem to work for most of us. Martin mentioned that the committee would not need to continue year after year. We decided that we would probably need to meet through spring for consistency and then re-assess after the October 2010 survey results are generated.

## Rural Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes of September 14, 2009

Present: Jennifer Elhard, Marianne Freelong, Martin Miller, and Liz Recchia

1. Call to Order – Liz called the meeting to order at 9:02 am
2. Goals for Upcoming Year – The group reviewed last year's goals to assess whether they were finished or should still be focused on this year.
  - a. Cost of Living Differential--Liz mentioned that at the last meeting the committee decided to write a letter to the president and chancellor, encouraging them to look into the cost of living issue. Martin said that he had spoken with the chancellor and heard a new and interesting reason for why there is hesitation to address the cost of living issue. If statewide addresses this issue with the legislature it brings up why the cost of living for Juneau is so high, which helps to fuel the argument for supporters of moving the state capital from Juneau to Anchorage. The committee decided to keep this issue as a rural affairs goal this year, to monitor the status, and offer up support when the issue does arise.
  - b. Consistent Annual Training in Current Field--The committee decided that a lot had been done this past year concerning training and word had been spread. Jennifer suggested getting a procedure set out so that information on training could be spread to all faculty and staff. Martin suggested that instead of trying to do this, that the committee encourage employees to join Cornerstone where there are reminders on training opportunities. The committee decided that this is something to be removed from goals for the upcoming year.
  - c. Creating a Strong Rural Voice within UAF--The committee decided to send out the letter that Marianne wrote last year to the chancellor and all the departments within UAF. This issue will remain on the goals list for the upcoming year.
  - d. Special Topics Workshops for Staff--Liz reported that there was a workshop presented on the university budget last year. Topics of interest still remaining from last year include health benefits and retirement planning. Discussion focused on whether there are presentations already available so that efforts aren't duplicated. Jennifer said that she would contact Jennifer Youngberg to see what is already offered.
3. Meeting Times For the Upcoming Year--Since there were only 4 people at the meeting, no regular meeting time was set. Instead, Liz will send out a Doodle again to arrange the October meeting. Marianne said that early morning meetings before 10 are easier for her to attend.

4. Election of New Committee Chair--There wasn't enough people at the meeting to vote on a new chair. Liz decided to send out a firmer email to encourage everyone to come to the next meeting so that this can be decided. Liz explained that she needs a year off from being in charge because of her new job promotion. It's a little too much to be in charge of a committee.
5. Other--NONE
6. Next Meeting--Sometime in October; be on the lookout for a Doodle.
7. Adjournment--The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 am.