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Minutes

UAF STAFF COUNCIL MEETING #218

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

8:45-11:00 a.m.

Wood Center Carol Brown Ballroom

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

Members Present:

MACKEY, Robert
BAXTER, Jodi
UHER, Bryan
GONZALEZ, Debbie
HANSEN, Kala
HOFFMAN, Megan
HOUSTON, Shawn (Nichole Kloepper)
NEWMAN, Gary
TUCKER, Ben
DATES, Mary Sue
KOCH, Claudia
WARD, Jennifer
HORNE, Naomi
SUNWOOD, Kayt
VEAZEY, Pips
HAVEL, Brad
WEINANT, Robin
KUIPER, Forrest (John Clendenin, Jr.)
SHAFFORD, Carol
KRICK, Bradley

Members Present: (cont'd)

WHEELER, Walker
BRINZOW, Travis
BENDER, Gary
MACHIDA, Richard (Britton Anderson)

Members Absent:

PENSGARD, Evelyn
BATTIEST, Sara
SIMMONS, Carolyn
LEAVENGOOD, Heather
DEARINGER, Dawn
WILLIAMSON, Anne

Non-voting/Administrative

Members Present:

KINNE, Ginny, Alt
WILLIAMS, Catherine, Alt
RUSSELL, Maria, President
GRIFFITH, Margo, Vice President
KLEIN, Martin, SC Past President
UMPHENOUR, Shelbie

QUORUM PRESENT

- A. Approved as amended, Staff Council Agenda Meeting 218, Wednesday, June 22, 2011
- B. Approve Staff Council Minutes #216, Wednesday, April 20, 2011
- C. Approve Staff Council Minutes #217, Wednesday, May 18, 2011

2. **STATUS OF PENDING ACTIONS**

- A. Motions Approved: None

B. Motions Denied:

1. Motion 2011/215/3 Motion relating to smoker surcharge.
2. Motion 2011/217/1 Motion relating to Employee Tuition Waiver.
3. Motion 2011/217/2 Motion to request a Healthcare Task Force

Note: These motions can be resent; the denial was due to the approach and procedures. The procedures followed the Staff Alliance pattern and we were asked to return to our established Staff Council procedures.

Motion to readdress and forward all three motions as requested was passed at this time.

C. Motions Pending:

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Amy Koffman from APEA gave an update on their progress of organizing the union for supervisors. Last week APEA received an updated list of all Statewide, UAA and UAF supervisors from HR, the list has approximately 600 supervisors so far.

4. OFFICER REPORTS

The yearend summary report was presented by Maria. President Gamble denied Motion 2011/217/1 requesting no tuition waiver benefits be changed before 2012. Staff Alliance recommended a change with the recommendation that the discussions reconvene in early fall of 2011.

Vice President Margo Griffith reminded everyone that Statewide has the website set up so everyone can be informed on the Union progress. Regarding the ConSova dependant audit; the university received a list of approximately 200 non-compliant employees. The university is contacting all the non-compliant employees and working with them to resolve the problems. A full report of audit costs is expected in July.

WebTime entry is moving forward with hourly and non-exempt beginning in August and exempt employees in October.

At this time Margo presented Maria with a certificate of appreciation for everything she has accomplished this past year as President of the UAF Staff Council.

At this time Maria polls the Staff Council as to their desire to hold a Staff Council meeting in August. It is the desire of Staff Council to hold a meeting in August. The meeting will be held on August 31, 2011; location to be determined.

5. GOVERNANCE REPORTS

A. Cathy Cahill, President, Faculty Senate

We will not have a Faculty Senate Report; Cathy Cahill was unable to attend the Staff Council meeting today.

B. Mari Freitag, President, ASUAF

We will not have an ASUAF Report; Mari Freitag was unable to attend the Staff Council meeting today.

6. GUEST(S)

A. Brian Rogers, UAF Chancellor

Chancellor Rogers is excited about the 2011 Summer Activities. We have more than 20 summer programs that bring high school and junior high school students to the campus, getting them interested and excited about attending UAF.

There will be a lot of construction going on this summer causing some disruptions. The good news is that we are addressing some long standing facilities needs this summer. The Life Sciences, the Greenhouse, the Energy Technology Facility all under construction and off campus, the R/V Sikuliaq, construction is moving very quickly. And over the next decade we will have a significant amount of deferred maintenance taking place on the West Ridge. We are also moving forward with the permitting on the combined heat and power plant.

The challenges in the coming year will be the impact of the healthcare costs for our employees beginning July 1st. How do we moderate the healthcare cost inflation so that we don't continually shift the cost to the employee? The second challenge will be compensation in general; with the legislature now funding 50% instead of 60% we will have to raise revenue or reallocate. The third challenge is deferred maintenance; the president wants to proceed with issuing bonds for deferred maintenance; the challenge with that is that we would have to make internal cuts to pay for the debt service on those bonds.

The good news is that our enrollment for the fall is up. We are doing the outdoor education center with ice climbing and a snowboard training park and other activities, trying to create some buzz that also draws students. We are looking at privately funded new student housing. We are working on a pilot project with the Cold Climate Research Center to build student housing on a piece of permafrost for research.

The floor was opened for questions and healthcare cost issues was discussed at length. There were suggestions to create an ad hoc committee to find opportunities the university could offer our staff to improve health and save on personal health care.

B. Pat Pitney, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services

Pat thanked Maria for her superb leadership during the past year. Pat spoke about our operating budget and the funding provided by the legislature. She told us that we were provided with a modest 2.9 % increase for employee compensation and utility cost increases. We also received one time funding for the honors program and base funding for the Alaska Center for Energy and Power alternative energy programs.

Questions were presented regarding how department were selected to receive funding and Pat explained that monies were allocated to departments at a unit level. That would be the school, college or division. They are evaluated by their ability to generate revenue and their fixed costs, and then they apply the performance based budgeting reallocation.

Pat does not foresee any additional pullbacks this fiscal year. The major pullback last year fixed some of our huge structural deficits and the things we had been dealing with for years. We are now in a solid fiscal position.

Pat answered other questions submitted by the Staff Council.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Staff Affairs, Megan Hoffman & Naomi Horne
Staff Affairs did not meet this month.

B. Rural Affairs, Brad Krick
The Rural Affairs final meeting for this fiscal year was held in May and the next scheduled meeting will be held in September.

C. Elections, Membership, and Rules, Walker Wheeler
EMR held one meeting since our last Staff Council meeting to discuss the question of whether or not the Staff Council membership want to allow non UAF staff members to serve as president or vice president. We would like to put the question to the council; do we want to clarify the constitution or by-laws to specify that Statewide OIT Staff Council members cannot serve as president or vice-president of Staff Council. Discussion followed. An informal vote was taken after much discussion and the decision was 19 votes to clarify the by-laws stating OIT Staff Council members cannot serve as president or vice-president and 5 votes opposed.

D. Advocacy Committee, Jodi Baxter
We have not held a meeting this month. We will have tours and Brown Bag lunches coming up in July and August.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Running for Vice President is Ashley Munro, Jodi Baxter and Juella Sparks.
Ashley and Jodi each gave a campaign speech. Juella Sparks sent her written speech because she was unable to attend due to other obligations. It was read aloud at our Staff Council meeting by Walker Wheeler.

The floor was opened for additional vice presidential nominations. No nominations were forthcoming and the floor was closed for vice president.

There was one candidate running for President and that was Pips Veazey.
Pips gave her campaign speech.

The floor was opened for additional presidential nominations. No nominations were forthcoming and the floor was closed for president.

Ballots were handed out, the vote was taken and the EMR Staff left the meeting to tally the votes.

9. *ad hoc* COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Staff Appreciation Day Committee & Longevity Awards,
Ashley Munro & Amy Bristor
The Staff Appreciation Day was a success. Amy, Ashley and Maria will be meeting over the summer. The Chancellor has asked for a Staff Appreciation Day report and there will be some changes for the future.
- B. Staff Make Students Count Committee
The award was presented to Jerry Phillips. He was presented with the award by President Gamble at the Board of Regents meeting in Anchorage.
- C. Staff Council Recognition Award Committee
The award was presented to Juella Sparks. It was presented to her at the Longevity Ceremony on Staff Appreciation Day by Maria Russell.

10. UAF EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Master Planning Committee (MPC), Gary Newman
Gary was unable to attend the last meeting. Notes will be posted on line.
- B. Parking Advisory committee (PAC), Shawn Houston
Shawn is not present today but the committee will not meet until the fall.
- C. Chancellor's Diversity Action Committee (CDAC),
Juella Sparks
The Campus Climate Survey data analysis will be ready by the end of the summer. CDAC has forwarded recommendations to the Chancellor for the EEO officer as well as a Diversity Officer. Earlina Bowden will retire as of September 1st.
- D. Student Recreation Center Board (SRCB), Carol Shafford
SRC Board has not met. Carol talked to Eric Ofelt, the Student Recreation Center name will be changing as well as structural changes.
- E. Chancellor's Planning and Budget Committee, Juella Sparks
There is no report at this time.
- F. Chancellor's Advisory Committee for the Naming of Campus Facilities,
Maria Russell
Chancellor's Advisory Committee meeting was postponed until July.
- G. Accreditation Steering Committee, Kayt Sunwood
Most of the Accreditation Steering Committee Reports are up on the web and we ask that you review the reports and send us your comments.
- H. Meritorious Award Committee, Maria Russell
- I. Technology Advisory Board Committee (TAB), Brad Havel
Brad had to leave the Staff Council meeting early. There is not a TAB Report.

- J. Bunnell House Advisory Committee, Walker Wheeler and Heather Leavengood
Bunnell House Advisory Committee did not meet in June.
- K. Work, Life, Balance Committee, Walker Wheeler and Heather Leavengood
Work, Life, Balance Committee did not meet in June.
- L. Intercollegiate Athletic Council, Pips Veazey and Heather Leavengood
Intercollegiate Athletic Council did not meet this month.
- M. Review of Infrastructure and Sustainability Energy Board, (RISE Board)
Mayanna Bean
Mayanna is absent today, so there is not a RISE Board report.

11. STATEWIDE EXTERNAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A. Staff Healthcare Committee, Carol Shafford, Richard Machida & Cat Williams
Since our meetings are now equipped with Video Conferencing it is nice to see the people we are meeting with from over the whole state. We will be meeting through the summer and our next meeting is tomorrow. There will be informational meeting held in the fall for the staff.
- B. Performance Evaluations Working Group,
Completed Current Assignment so there was no meeting.
- C. Staff Compensation Working Group, Robert Mackey III,
Staff Compensation Working Group did not meet.

At this time Maria gave Walker Wheeler the floor for the President and Vice President announcements.

Pips Veazey was elected President
Juella Sparks was elected Vice President.

Maria read the resolution that ratifies the election of Juella Sparks as Vice President of the UAF Staff Council for the 2011/2012 year by affirmation.

Maria read the resolution that ratifies the election of Pips Veazey as President of the UAF Staff Council for the 2011/2012 year by affirmation.

12. DISCUSSION ITEMS

Review Motion 2011/217/2 to clearly define the role of this task force. We had much discussion on the Task Force Motion. It was decided that the motion would be moved back to Staff Affairs Committee to rewrite and redesign the Motion to go forward.

ACTION

13. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of the Motion to ratify the elections.
- B. Approval of the Administrative Committee Motion to authorize the Administrative Committee to work over the summer on behalf of the Staff Council.

Maria read the resolution for the Administrative Committee to work over the summer for the Staff Council because it had not been sent out to the Staff Council Membership.

This resolution was moved forward and passed unanimously.

At this time Maria and Margo expressed appreciation for every member of Staff Council for their participation and work throughout this past year. There is a certificate of appreciation for each member of Staff Council for their participation.

Maria also thanked Walker Wheeler and Brad Krick for the Communications Workshop they put presented on June 21st. It was very informative and helpful. One of the ideas presented at that meeting was the creation of either an ad hoc or standing committee to address communications from members down to staff. There are many different avenues of communication and we would like to improve the communication both up and down. Would we like to create that committee at this time? Maria asked for those who would like to be on the committee to signify by raising their hand. Bradley Krick, Jennifer Ward, John Clendenin, Kayt Sunwood, Gary Newman and Robert Mackey all volunteered to be on the committee. A time will be scheduled for the committee to meet.

Maria also thanked Nichole Kloepfer and Joyce Stephens for their work as secretary of Staff Council. Maria also thanked Martin Klein for his help and advice. She also wanted to thank Margo Griffith for her work as the Vice President of Staff Council.

Margo expressed her thanks for the opportunity to serve as Vice President. Governance is so important and she thanks everyone for their participation.

At this time Maria officially passed the gavel to Pips Veazey.

14. ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION

15. ADJOURNED

Attachment 1

Elections, Membership and Rules Committee meeting
6/14/2011 Meeting Notes and Minutes

Invited: Brad Havel, Shawn Houston, Gary Newman, Kala Hansen, Joyce Stephens,
Walker Wheeler (chair)

In Attendance: Brad Havel, Shawn Houston, Walker Wheeler (chair)

The agenda was only focused on the implications of Staff Council's agreement to treat OIT as a continuous body for terms of representation on Staff Council. The alleged unintended side affect is that a non-UAF participant of council can qualify according to the Constitution and Bylaws for the Office of President and Vice President. Although we are not worried about the impact of a non-UAF person fulfilling the offices of President or Vice President, we agreed that this should be addressed in the Bylaws to remove any future confusion, if it is to be addressed at all. The original spirit of the Constitution and Bylaws only ever considered the possibility of a subset of UAF staff to be able to be on council and as a result, is not written to scope down who can be involved as a representative or officer.