

UAF Staff Council President's Report December 2011

Elections

We are looking forward to welcoming new members of staff council at the January meeting. There are currently a significant number of seats that remain unfilled, and despite recruiting phone calls and email notices there appears to be a lack of desire to get involved. Strategies for increasing the visibility and effectiveness of staff council remain an issue for our group, and the current leadership is looking to lead some brainstorming sessions on possible alternative organization structures.

February Orientation

Plans are underway for new staff council member orientation that will be held in conjunction with our February 17 meeting. This will be a face-to-face meeting with our off-site representatives and will follow a breakfast with Chancellor Rogers 7:30-8:30 am in the Wood Center Ballroom. Juella and I will be asking many of you to participate in the orientation and welcome suggestions for sessions and topics.

General communication strategies

Despite an attempt to get the word out to contact the Board of Regents and the Governor's office this semester we had minimal direct communication to either party. We continue to strive to communicate effectively with our constituents and give a voice to staff at UAF.

Face-to-Face Meeting in February

We look forward to welcoming our off-site representative on February 17th for our February meeting and orientation after enjoying a breakfast hosted by Chancellor Rogers. Nicole is busy working out the travel details.

President Gamble's listening sessions

President Gamble and his Strategic Direction Team have been visiting campuses around the state to get feedback about university issues. Please plan to attend the internal listening sessions at the campus close to you. More details will be posted in January <http://www.alaska.edu/shapingalaskasfuture/listening-sessions/>.

Governor's budget

Please see the attached sheet with information on the current status of the Governor's budget.

Interested in your thoughts...With the conclusion of the elections, I have spent a considerable amount of time thinking about how to energize this council, increase our visibility on campus and maximize our effectiveness. If you have ideas along these lines please contact me – I would love to hear your suggestions!

Happy holidays and best wishes for a peaceful and happy winter break!