

UAF Staff Council President's Report, February 2012

Face-to-Face Meeting in February

I would like to welcome both new and returning members to the February staff council meeting and offer an especially warm welcome to our off-site representatives. I am looking forward to a new year with some new faces to add to those returning and hope to continue to work to build a strong and vibrant staff council community.

Orientation

Plans are underway for our new staff council member orientation that will be held in conjunction with our February 17 meeting. This will be a face-to-face meeting in the Wood Center Ballroom with our off-site representatives and will follow a breakfast with Chancellor Rogers at his house 7:30-8:30am. All Staff Council representatives and alternates are welcome to join us for orientation. I encourage returning members to participate and join us for both informational sessions and informal discussions.

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. The internal listening session for staff members took place this week and was well attended by approximately 50 people. Staff council was well represented by both current and past representatives.

Feedback from request for information about Staff Council: With the conclusion of elections and participation from our new members, I have spent a considerable amount of time thinking about how to energize this council, increase our visibility on campus and maximize our effectiveness. I have asked you your input and have received limited responses (4) but thoughtful ideas on what we are doing well as a council and what we need to improve. A synopsis of the results will be included as an attachment to this report.

System Governance Reorganization

Pat Ivey, a long time university employee and current executive officer for system governance, has announced her retirement this month. Pat has been a mentor and friend to many staff governance leaders. Members of student, faculty and staff governance groups are working with Vice President of Academic Affairs Dan Julius to ensure a smooth transition within the governance office.

Staff Appreciation Day

Staff Appreciation Day will be held Wednesday, May 16, 2012. This is an important staff event and will take all of us working together to ensure that the day runs smoothly. Please consider volunteering to help and make sure to add this to your calendar!