

**UAF Staff Council Advocacy Committee**

**FY16-17 Annual Report**

**Committee Members:**

- Kara Axx, Chair
- Alexander Chisum
- Carrie Santoro
- Dean Ojala, jr
- Susie Frei
- Karina Gonzales
- Lesli Walls
- Brianna Pauling
- Jami Warrick
- John Smelter
- Christina Thompson (former)
- Constance Huizenga (former)
- Phil Jacobs (former)

**Purpose of Advocacy Committee:**

1. Organize events and functions to help make the public aware of the value of University staff as well as students and faculty.
2. Organize events and functions that increase staff morale and awareness of the University.
3. Focus on on-boarding, mentoring and communications within Staff Council and public relations with the UAF community.

**Meeting Schedule:**

Monthly on the second Tuesday from 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. in the Murie building room 130 and over hangouts.

**Accomplishments:**

UAF Volunteer Day has been an ongoing process for the past several years. The current leadership is on board conceptually and planning is about to start! Volunteer Day will start with one day in the fall and one day in the spring with employees taking either annual leave or LWOP to participate. Planning will include finding organizations that can handle what we are hoping will be a large influx of volunteers at one time.

Online Forums are being planned for use by UAF staff as an informational exchange for work related tasks. We are hoping to use Google Communities as a platform for the exchange. The Advocacy committee has started testing the platform and hopes to have communities start rolling out next year. The thoughts behind this process is that employees from across campus will have access to each other to use as

resources to compete job related tasks and that possible mentorships may form organically from this process.

Food Drive for the Bone Builders program is scheduled to kick off the first week of May. Employees are collecting single serving quick, easy prep meals and snacks for local area youth to be distributed by several organizations in the community, including the Fairbanks Food Bank and Joel's Place. In the fall of this year the committee will investigate conducting a similar drive for school supplies for local area youth.

Advocacy committee members booked an hour at the KUAC Fall Fundraiser Phone Bank and plan to make a reoccurring event annually.