



**Staff Alliance
Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2015
10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

Meeting was called to order and roll call taken at 10:06 a.m. by Chair Faye Gallant.

Members Present

Faye Gallant, Monique Musick, Nate Bauer, Liz Winfree, Gwenna Richardson, Kathleen McCoy, Kolene James

Adoption of Agenda

Gwenna moved to adopt, Monique seconded. Passed with no objections.

Adoption of Past Minutes

July 11, 2015 minutes: Nate moved to adopt, Gwenna seconded. Passed with no objections.

August 18, 2015 retreat minutes: Nate moved to adopt, Monique seconded. Passed with no objections.

Chair's Report

Faye Gallant

Leave share regulation changes are still in motion. Staff Alliance has had a lot of input. Faye will take any additional comments through Friday, Sept. 18.

The Board of Regents meets Sept. 17-18 in Juneau. The chair encourages attending via video/livestream from campuses. Faye discussed her Board testimony and report. Monique suggested adding language in support of provosts proposed policy adjustment on common calendar language.

Members discussed pros and cons of the Staff Alliance chair traveling to all BOR meetings. First meeting is in Juneau, April is TBD, but rest are in Fairbanks and Anchorage, so travel not as difficult. The group agreed there is value in having the chair present at all meetings to develop a connection and relationship with BOR members, as well as consistent messaging.

Committee Reports

Most committees are just getting up and running. Members expect to make connection between this meeting and next Staff Alliance meeting on Oct. 13.

Committees are:

- Staff Health Care: Kathleen and Gwenna
- Compensation: Faye, Liz and Gwenna
- Core Values: Monique and Kolene
- Governance Process: Monique, Faye and Tom
- Morale: Gwenna and Kolene
- Review vs. Grievance Task Force: some general discussion about the recent furlough changes (replacing grievance process with review process) and much older discussion dating to Juella as chair, about the grievance process in general. Monique will check the record and report back. Tom remembered that there was interest in connecting with Erik on oversight during the furlough process and those affected by these new policies.
- System Governance Council: Monique and Faye; to meet sometime this semester.
- Student Services Council: Nate and Tom; Tom will check with Morgan on whether updated representation has gone out from the Governance Office.
- Tuition Task Force: Monique and Faye will follow up with Morgan.
- JHCC: Gwenna and Kathleen, Monique as alternate. Next JHCC meeting set for Sept. 25. Vendor Fair in Anchorage in November.
- Common Calendar: Monique is writing a piece on Common Calendar for the Statewide Voice so provided some updates. Spring break 2016 has been aligned. By fall, six of the eight points will be aligned: start date, breaks, end dates, withdrawal date and finals will be aligned. Not yet aligned: common course blocks and common fee payment dates. Provosts will address the BOR on the common course language in Board policy.

Staff Alliance Blog

Monique researched options and suggests transferring the WordPress blog to a webpage on the alaska.edu server, which would give all Staff Alliance members access to the blog. She will pursue an OIT ticket to get this done. In the meantime, she will maintain the blog posting through the transition.

Agenda Items for October Meeting

Faye will work to make a standing item for Jim Johnsen to connect during Staff Alliance meetings, mainly for him to provide a short report, as well as a chance for some back and forth. Concurrence from members this is a great idea.

Update on SW Transformation Team

Tom gave report on status. Jim Johnsen should have final report by end of day Sept. 15 and will then update the Board at its Sept. 17-18 meeting. Report in entirety will be distributed to SW staff, taking comments from Monday Sept. 21 through Oct. 2.

The following week, President Johnsen will meet with direct reports, key staff and the Transformation Team to go over the feedback and review the directives to his direct reports. Another draft of the report will be done by the end of October with revised recommendations. That will go to the Transformation Team and the Summit Team on Nov. 3. The president again will update the BOR at the November budget meeting. Decisions will start to be made in December. Implementation will occur from Jan. 1 to June 30, 2016. An outside firm will handle implementation, but not decisions. Faye will keep Statewide Transformation Team on the agenda for October.

When posted, the Transformation Team report and updates will appear online at: www.alaska.edu/swbir/transformation-team

Faye will add to the agenda each meeting a round table opportunity for general discussion, campus updates. A few of the updates that came forward were:

- Monique: the new BOR member is Deena Paramo from Mat-Su, a school superintendent with a degree from UAA. She replaces Mike Powers, who is now interim chancellor at UAF.
- Faye: UAF is kicking off its new chancellor search. Chancellor approved annual group of staff community workdays to strengthen ties between the university and the community.
- Kathleen: mentioned UAA's new engineering building and the update of the 1978 Wells Fargo Sports Complex, both now open.
- Gwenna noted that new dorms in Juneau opening, named after former chancellor John Pugh.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 11:31 a.m. by Gwenna and seconded by Nate.