

# UNIVERSITY of ALASKA

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## Staff Alliance

### Draft Minutes (Approved 9/23/08)

Tuesday, September 9, 2008

12:30pm-2:30pm - audio conference

Fairbanks site: 109 A/B Butrovich Building

Bridge # 1-800-893-8850, pin # 4236369

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Heather Swanson, Chair, Staff Alliance and President, UAS Staff Council  
Juella Sparks, Vice Chair, Staff Alliance and President, UAF Staff Council  
Megan Carlson, President, UAA Classified Council  
Paloma Harbour, Vice President, Statewide Administration Assembly  
Bobbi McCoy, Vice President, UAS Staff Council  
Julia Martinez, President, UAA APT Council  
Martin Klein, President-Elect, UAF Staff Council  
Jason Davis, President, Statewide Administration Assembly

Others Present:

Jodi Shaver

Pat Ivey

Mike Humphrey

2. Adopt Agenda

<http://gov.alaska.edu/Staff/minutes/2008/08-0708.pdf>

MOTION: Moved by Paloma Harbour, seconded by Megan Carlson passed without objection as amended.

“The Staff Alliance moves to approve the agenda as amended for the September 9, 2008 meeting. This action is effective September 9, 2008.”

3. Approve August 7-8, 2008 minutes

Tabled for next meeting.

4. Compensation

4.1 History of Current Step and Grid System

Pat stated that the grid system was created to narrow the steps, provide stability and assurance that employees would receive a raise.

4.2 Step Increases and COLA grid adjustment options

<http://gov.alaska.edu/SAA/20083-27FAQCOLAStepSuspensionFY09.pdf>

<http://www.alaska.edu/bor/policy-regulations/>

Megan stated that the 4.5 % grid adjustment for next years budget still stands as of now but the committee is looking into options.

She also stated that they are considering that, in order for step increases to occur for an employee, it would have to be tied into merit or their duration of employment. The committee's homework from the last meeting was to create a list of concerns with options along with a timeline that will be discussed at their next meeting. The task force meets next Friday to create a brief for the Beth Behner to present to the Board of Regents meeting that will take place on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> in Anchorage. The group is in the brainstorming process and will suggest that they keep FY10 budget to maintain a grid adjustment approach.

Megan, Juella and Jason will write up talking points for the September Regents meeting for Heather to take for her presentation after their next task force meeting as well.

5. Benefits

5.1 Educational benefits regulation changes

<http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/2008-08-13.edbenefit-final.pdf>

<http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/2008-08-29.draftCPM.pdf>

<http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/2008-08-29.tuition-noncreditwaiverform.pdf>

<http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/2008-08-29.UA-approvedList.pdf>

Juella stated that she noticed that the Certified Public Managers courses that are given at TVC are not listed as being offered this fall which is ironic to the list of approved courses for the tuition waiver list. She stated that she will get in contact with someone at TVC and Corporate programs and let us know what they say in regards to this. Heather also stated that it would be nice if some of UAS's professional development courses were offered as well since there was not one on the approved list. Heather will have Cynthia Rogers contact Juella.

6. PERS Voluntary Savings Program

<http://www.state.ak.us/local/akpages/ADMIN/drb/forms/pers-voluntary-savings-plan.pdf>

The PERS Voluntary Savings program is a program that the PERS system has that allows you to pay into the program and receive an annual 4.5 % return. It's very similar to the 403 b programs that the University already offers. The Human Resources department is currently trying to coordinate Banner to allow the program,, but they don't have an estimated date for when it will begin. You can setup an account through the PERS system but not through the University as of yet.

7. Comments

Paloma stated that Steve Rollins contacted her to tell her that the Governor postcard campaign has already begun and that their goal is 500 postcards. He would like to know if Staff Alliance would like to participate again this year to help him reach the goal. Juella stated that UAF is beginning they're own campaign for the first time this year to mimic the UAA version. Paloma would like to hold a legislative advocacy meeting this month to get a head start this year.

8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 1:32 PM