



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

Minutes

Staff Alliance

Tuesday, September 6, 2016

10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

[Google Hangout](#)

Audio call-in: 1-855-280-1855

(Please mute unless speaking.)

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Following technical difficulties, the meeting came to order at 10:15 a.m.

Voting Members:

Nate Bauer, Vice President, UAF Staff Council 2016-2017

Faye Gallant, President, UAF Staff Council 2016-2017

Kolene James, President, UAS Staff Council 2016-17

Eric Johnson, President, SAA 2016-2017

Chrystal Warmoth, Vice President, SAA 2016-2017

Liz Winfree, Co-President, UAA Staff Council 2016-2017

Staff:

Morgan Dufseth, Executive Officer, System Governance

Members Absent:

Gwenna Richardson, Vice President, UAS Staff Council 2016-17

2. Adopt Agenda

Eric moved to adopt the agenda as present; seconded by Chrystal. The agenda was adopted without revision.

3. Approve July 21 Retreat Minutes

[Reference 1](#)

Liz moved to approve; seconded by Kolene. The July 21 minutes were approved as presented.

4. Public and Guests Comment

None given.

5. Chair's Report

Nate Bauer

Nate noted he met with President Johnsen the previous week and discussed furlough notifications and a response to governance's concerns about the revised grievance process. They also discussed the president's use of strategic investment funds. The funds are currently going to hiring additional Title IX investigators and development officers at each of the campuses, and also a new President's Professors program. The president also plans to increase the focus on recruitment of adults in Alaska with some college credit but no degree. Nate also noted he would like to encourage staff to participate in the public testimony before the Board of Regents (now being held via distance).

6. Staff Alliance Committee Reports – Morgan asked campus reps to send her names of new members for the Alliance's internal committees.

- 6.1. Staff Health Care Committee
- 6.2. Compensation Committee
- 6.3. Governance Process Committee
- 6.4. Morale Committee

7. External Committees

- 7.1. System Governance Council – not yet active; waiting for student representatives
- 7.2. Student Services Council – have not met recently
- 7.3. Joint Health Care Committee – Chrystal reported the JHCC has met but is still working to finalize their meeting schedule for the remainder of the year. They did receive some brief updates on Healthy Roads, Premera, and the Health Coalition.

8. New Business

8.1. Staff Emeritus Process and/or Guidelines

[R04.04.070](#) & [R04.07.095](#)

Alliance members discussed the lack of a defined process to nominate staff for emeritus status. Liz noted UAA had worked on a process and noted she would share that with other members. Ultimately, the Alliance would like to publish a simple reference guide for the process—nothing in regulation or anything too restrictive—just a short guide for members of the UA community to help them as they work through the process.

8.2. Strategic Pathways Phase II Staff Representative Recommendations

[Reference 2](#)

Members agreed to send names of current governance representatives who are interested in serving on Strategic Pathways Phase II review teams to Nate by Friday, Sept. 9.

- 8.2.1. Community Campuses
- 8.2.2. Health
- 8.2.3. Fisheries
- 8.2.4. Human Resources
- 8.2.5. Institutional Research

8.2.6. University Relations

8.2.7. Student Affairs

8.3. Meeting schedule

Morgan explained the current Alliance meeting schedule (first Tuesdays) directly conflicts with Summit Team meetings. In order to invite members of the Summit Team to Alliance meetings, the Alliance will need to change its meeting time.

Eric moved to change the meeting schedule to first Wednesdays; seconded by Liz. There were no objections and the motion carried. Alliance meetings will be on the first Wednesday of the month.

9. Ongoing Business Topics

9.1. Furlough Process

[Reference 3](#)

Alliance members discussed the recent changes to furlough regulations, which included notification to governance of furloughed units. To date, the Alliance has not been notified of any furloughs, despite several units at UAF being approved for furlough. Morgan agreed to reach out to UA HR to get a better sense of their notification plan.

9.2. Grievance Response

The President's Office provided a response, supported by a review by UA General Counsel, that the current regulations were sufficient to create a fair and unbiased review process without being overly restrictive, and still allowing for situational flexibility. Nate noted it would still be good for the Alliance to keep an eye out for any staff using the layoff review process, to ensure they receive adequate support.

10. Agenda Items for October Meeting

10.1. Wellness program at UA

11. Roundtable discussion

12. Adjourn

Eric moved to adjourn; seconded by Chrystal. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.