Statewide Administration Assembly
Highlights
September 11, 2013

The following is an overview of the SAA September 11 meeting. All meetings are open to the public, and statewide workers are encouraged to contact their governance group to address workplace concerns, policies, and other matters affecting statewide staff. If you have any questions, please contact SAA President Dory Straight at dory.straight@alaska.edu.

The next SAA meeting will be Wednesday, October 9, at 10 a.m.

Bully Awareness Training

The UA administration provided Fairbanks, UA Statewide employees a training about bullying awareness on September 10-12. The informative sessions defined bullying and provided the steps to take for victims and witnesses of bullying in the workplace. Plans are to include the training as part of the supervisor training and new employee orientation. Anchorage will receive training later once room logistics have been worked out.

Pergola

In 2007, plans were made to raise money for a pavilion on the west side of the Butrovich Building. Plans included half the funds from employee fundraisers and half the funds from the president (Hamilton). The project stalled when cost of the proposed pavilion increased. Because of the high cost of completing the construction of a full pavilion on the newly cemented picnic area on the west side of Butrovich, SAA recently voted to build a pergola (an arbor or trellis-like structure) there instead. The cost of a pergola is significantly cheaper than a pavilion. President Gamble said that he would cover any deficit between the cost of the pergola and the total funds that have been raised to-date for the project.

Smoke-Free/Tobacco-Free Campus

Students approached UAA to move to a smoke-free/tobacco-free campus. In April, a group of students testified before the board of regents in favor of the issue. In June, another group of UAA students testified to the board against it. The original group, with the aid of some faculty, went to Chancellor Case to request that UAA become smoke-free/tobacco-free. The goal is to have the Anchorage campus smoke-free/tobacco-free by 2014 and the rural campuses smoke-free/tobacco-free by 2016. President Gamble requested feedback from all of the governance groups on this topic.

WIN Protest

WIN For Alaska filed a protest against the RFP for an award to Healthy Roads. The procurement office reviewed the evaluation procedures and did not find any wrongdoing on behalf of UA, so it was decided UA would go forward with the award of contract to Health Roads. WIN for Alaska filed an injunction with the Alaska Supreme Court to stop the contract award. A final determination is pending.

Compensation

Staff Alliance submitted a proposal to President Gamble requesting a potential employee compensation increase in the range of 2% to 3.5%. Staff Alliance is forming a committee to provide projections focused on longer range planning (2-3 years) for compensation.

Performance Evaluation

SAA still seeks feedback on the proposed performance evaluation form. A sub-committee transpired to review the form and process, to gather feedback, and to shape constructive suggestions for President Gamble. Please visit SAA's homepage to participate in our survey:
http://www.alaska.edu/governance/saa/performance-evaluation/

Safety Training

The Health Safety and Environmental (HSE) department within Risk Services has been working on an RFP to provide online regulatory safety training. Due to circumstances beyond their control the RFP process was delayed and will not be completed until the 2014 calendar year. Despite the delay, regulatory safety training for 2013 must still be completed by December 31st. HSE will be offering options for statewide employees to complete their training in October, November and December. There are 4 trainings at this time that employees are required to take. More information will be available soon regarding the training offerings.