

System Office Staff Council Agenda

Monday, January 12, 2026

9:00am

Zoom:

<https://alaska.zoom.us/j/89316265720?pwd=VE8veHpiTXdYSVRvdEhnSWJpVDN4dz09>

Meeting ID: 89216265720

Passcode: 597537

Representatives:

~Nicole Goff (2024-2026) FY26 President
~Genevieve Bright (2025-2027) FY26 Vice President
~Hailey Jo Moyle (2025-2027) Secretary
~Rebecca Catlin (2025-2027)
~Sarah Belmont (2024-2026)
xChelsey Okonek (2024-2026)
~Ari Sudbeck (2025-2027)
~Jeremiah Youmans (2024-2026)
~Logan MacDonald (2025-2027)
~Chris Triplett (2026-)

Alternates:

Vacant

Governance Support:

Noel Romanovsky

Guests:

Agenda:

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
 - a. Review and Adopt Agenda
 - b. Review and Adopt November Minutes
 - i. [December Meeting Minutes](#)
2. Guest Comments
 - a. New member

- b. Brian Smentkowski (ongoing hold- sometimes can attend, sometimes has calendar conflicts)

3. Public Comment:

4. New Business

- a. Trainings and Eval Reminders
- b. Cost of UA Benefits Comparison Request- Staff Alliance
- c. UA President Retirement Announcement
 - i. President Search timeline & listening sessions
 - ii. UA Presidential Search Process Update: Recruitment Officially Opened
- d. Guest speakers you would like to see this semester?
- e. JHCC Update on Evicore (Genevieve)
- f. SOSC is currently looking for another representative-please reach out to Nicole Goff (or any member you are connected with) with interest or to nominate someone
- g. UAS Higher Education Policy and Administration Graduate Certificate

5. Ongoing Business

- a. (PAUSED) Branding - relate it to the mission/vision statement (updates?)
 - i. Likely need to postpone this conversation
 - ii. Lower priority due to current events

6. Reports

- a. President's Report
 - i. Monthly meetings with Brian Smentkowski, Vice President and Chief Academic Officer
 - ii. Staff Alliance (Genevieve, Nicole)
 - No December meeting to report on
 - Next staff alliance meeting scheduled for January 15th
- b. SOSC Committees
 - i. Morale/Events Committee (Ari, Genevieve, Rebecca, Nicole, Hailey Jo)
 - ii. Awards Committee (Nicole, Genevieve)
 - iii. Staff Development Day (Ari, Nicole, Hailey Jo, Genevieve, Rebecca)
 - iv. Nominations Committee (all)
- c. Staff Alliance Committees
 - i. Compensation Committee (Nicole)

- Compensation [Memo](#)
 - [Compensation Memo Update as of 8/22](#)
- ii. Staff Development Fund (Raina, Noel, Genevieve, Sara)
 - Professional Development Support:
 - a. Q2: October 1–December 31 = Review 2nd week of January (due to holidays)
 - b. This support is good for any activities occurring within the next 12 months, and is for up to \$500 per employee, while the funds last.
 - c. [Application Link](#)
 - Tuition Support:
 - a. Application period: November 17, 2025 - January 5, 2026
 - b. Submit a fee scholarship request here by: January 5, 2026
 - c. a Tuition Waiver is no longer necessary.
- iii. Joint Healthcare Committee (Raina/Logan/Rebecca schedule TBD - Monique to hand off)
 - + Staff Healthcare Committee

d. Other Committees

- i. Employee Feedback and Assessment Committee (formerly known as Staff Engagement, Employee Experience) – Chelsey
 - Updates - See email from Pres. Pitney with links:
 - a. <https://www.alaska.edu/hr/training/experience.php#reports>
 - b. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1WSq-kaLtsh-gS_TiuGGI4Uer7KY8ZD9F/view
- ii. UA Accessibility Workgroup (VACANT-previously Monique)
 - Working to become an officially recognized committee
 - a. Group meets every two weeks
 - Training offered jointly between UAA/UAF
 - a. <https://www.alaska.edu/news/system/2024-UA-disability-services-free-virtual-training.php>

7. Old Business:

- a. Compensation [Memo](#)
- b. Institutional Compliance Program
 - i. [Compliance Chats](#)
 - The latest series covers research ethics and compliance
 - ii. [UA Compliance Leadership for Supervisors Training](#)

8. General Updates and Reminders

- a. Events and New Updates:
- b. News and General Info Links:
 - i. [Capitol Report](#)
 - ii. [UA News Center](#)
 - iii. [System Office Bulletin](#) (replaced by System Office Intranet)
 - iv. [Upcoming HR Trainings](#)

9. Local Issues & Updates

- a. Anchorage
 - i. Interim Chancellor will continue until at least end of fiscal year
- b. Fairbanks
 - i. Chancellor Search Committee has changed- using WittKieffer, a nationally recognized executive search firm (same as UA President)
 - ii. Hold on Provost search until permanent Chancellor is named
- c. Juneau
 - i.
- d. System Office
 - i. President Search beginning in December, President Pitney retiring in May

10. Department Updates, Issues, and Kudos

- a.

11. Agenda items for next meeting:

- a. Future guest speakers:
 - i. Kim Washburn, UAF/SO HR Business Partner, University of Alaska Human Resources
 - ii. Community campus guest speakers?
 - iii. IT topics?
 - iv. Luke
 - v. Chad
 - vi. HR
 - Compensation
 - Benefits
 - Educational Incentive Program
 - vii. Margo
 - Supervisor training
 - Onboarding training

12. Closing Comments

- a.

13. Adjourn

Resources:

- [SOSC Meeting Recordings](#)
- [Constitution and bylaws](#)
- [Regents' policy and university regulation](#)
 - [03.01 - Faculty, Staff and Student Governance](#)
- [System Office org chart](#)
- [Governance basics presentation](#)
- [Chairing a meeting](#)
- [System Office staff numbers](#)
- [UA News Center](#)
- [System Office Bulletin](#)
- [SO Intranet](#)
- [System Office Intranet](#) - new alaska.edu/System leadership overview video - contains meeting highlights plus announcements, deadline reminders, and fun stuff happening.
 - [BOB site](#)
 - [Butrovich site](#)