



Minutes
Staff Alliance Meeting
Friday, December 20, 2024
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.

[Zoom Meeting](#)
ID: 85927232796
Passcode: 969981
(Please mute unless speaking.)

Empowering UA Excellence Through Staff Success.

Voting Members:

Austin Cranford, Vice President, UAS Staff Council - Chair, Staff Alliance
Monique Musick, Vice President, System Office Staff Council - Vice Chair, Staff Alliance
Derek Bastille, President, UAF Staff Council
Tara Borland, Vice President, UAF Staff Council
Genevieve Bright, President, System Office Staff Council
Kelly Donahower, President, UAS Staff Council
Andrea Miller, Vice President, UAA Staff Council
Brandon Mckinney, President, UAA Staff Council
Ashley Morehouse

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Adopt Agendaal
Adopted
3. Approve [Minutes of the November 15, 2024](#)
Approved
4. Guests and Public Comment
 - 4.1. Chad Hutchison - post election outlook
The Governor approved the Compensation Request from the Board of Regents.

Deferred maintenance will still be a challenge. It will be in the discussion and negotiation phase. There is a 21 personal majority in the House with a 19 member minority in the House. There has been a lot of feedback given after Vice Chancellor Nettie LaBelle-Hamer resigned. Governor Dunleavy wants to use the university to boost the population of Alaska. Governor Dunleavy seems to have changed his perceptions of the University and we are in a much better space than 5 years ago. Chad is always available if anyone has questions, please reach out to him.

4.2. Kim Washburn - new UAF/SO HR Business Partner

Comes to the University with a lot of experience in human resources. She is coming from the mining industry and is looking forward to working with all of us.

4.3. [Public Comment Form](#)

There are no comments at this time

5. Executive Update(s)/Meeting(s)

5.1. Monthly with President Pitney & Memry Dahl - December 6

We are glad to hear that most of the Compensation request was funded by the Governor.

6. New Business

6.1. Appointment of Wayne Mowery as General Counsel

December 16th was appointed. He had been serving interim.

6.2. ALRA|Organizing guidance - GC follow-up

The General Council sent an update to Staff as to what to say for solicitations for Staff to become union organized.

6.3. FY26 budget - [FY26 University of Alaska Budget Overview vs. Gov Budget](#)

6.4. JHCC vote on health plan changes

Medical care costs have increased. There is a new Wellness Program that puts more focus on preventative screening and healthier people cost the University less. At the beginning of the year 2025 there will be a formal response to the recommendations.

6.5. New [software procurement](#)

We had to do an inventory of our software. The status is that of the procurement processes of the National Science Foundation and other federal agencies. They actually result in audits of our internal procurement processes. This software review process is a shared responsibility between OIT and procurement. We also had 2 internal audits by the chief audit executive, Nikki who found

we were failing at maintaining our software vendors appropriately. We have a working group compiled of procurement OIT representatives from each campus that all talk about these issues

6.6. Empower Alaska Incentive Program - [website](#)

This will launch in the new year. The Empower Alaska Incentive is a pilot program meant to provide a way to recognize the essential role our employees play in advancing UA.

7. Ongoing Business

7.1. [UAOnline Upgrades](#) - teams evaluating timesheets, student profile

7.2. Title II - Digital Web Accessibility - WCAG 2.1 AA standard by April 2026 - applies to all digital content produced or hosted by UA, including websites, online courses, multimedia, and any other electronic resources

7.3. Institutional Compliance Program

7.3.1. [Compliance Chats](#)

8. Committee Reports

8.1. Joint Healthcare Committee/Staff Healthcare Committee

8.1.1. Staff Health Care Committee

8.2. Ad Hoc Staff Total Compensation Advisory Committee

8.2.1. Establish new membership/charter

8.3. [Staff Development Fund Committee](#)

8.3.1. Additional representation

8.3.2. Fall 2024 Tuition Fee Support Results = 667 Credits/126 Employees

8.3.3. Spring 2025 Professional Development Support

8.3.3.1. Q1 = 24 Employees, Q2 = 26 Employees

8.4. Employee Feedback & Assessment Committee

9. Old Business and/or Items of Reference

9.1. [FY26 Compensation memo](#)

9.2. [FY25 Staff Development Funding Request](#)

9.2.1. Staff Development Committee

10. Staff Council Reports

10.1. UAA - Has updated their bylaws. There are no longer co presidents and co vice presidents. Andrea Miller is the Vice President. We are working with the Faculty Senate to do joint Governance Events.

10.2. [UAF](#)

10.3. UAS

10.4. SO – There was a good effort to do a gingerbread house event but was cancelled due to heavy snowfall.

11. Announcements

11.1.

12. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned.