

**Staff Council Meeting
February 15, 2007**

Members Present: Rita Fuller, Gwenna Richardson, Jeri Cary, Cynthia Rogers.

Members Absent: Heather Swanson

Guests present: Nicole Duclos, Bobbi McCoy,

Approval of January meeting minutes

Jeri moved to approve minutes of the January 2007 meeting. Gwenna seconded and the minutes were approved by all present.

Adoption of agenda

Cynthia moved to adopt the agenda. Jeri seconded and the agenda was adopted unanimously.

Item 1: April Staff Council Retreat and Elections

Rita reported that she is still working on retreat planning. The group agreed that scheduling two days would be best, with an eye to the flight schedule limitations. Jeri offered to get more information about Schaible House as a possible place to stay. Rita and Jeri will confer on the list of UAS administrators to invite.

Item 2: Tips for Legislative Advocates

Rita provided the link to the Support UA <http://action.supportua.org/systemua/tips.html> web site. There were some glitches with initial emails that came out asking us to use this site. One point was that it's more effective to modify the subject line and introductory paragraph of any "form letter" before sending it. Rita also reminded us to **remember that you should not use any UA resources for political uses.** This includes using your University email account, so please use a private account (hotmail, gmail, etc.) when contacting legislators.

The Staff Alliance "Cookie Brigade" meeting with legislators in Juneau is scheduled for April 3-4. Cynthia Rogers will be attending in Rita's place. Speaking in support of the university's budget request is the main message. Rita will be sending some brochures about the Sitka campus, and asked if equivalent information was available for Ketchikan.

Item 3: American Healthways Presentation name changed to Healthways

Rita reported that the Staff Alliance viewed a presentation from American Healthways, which has a contract with the University to provide disease management services for employees with certain types of chronic illnesses. The PowerPoint presentation is here: [http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/Univ_AlaskaStaffAlliance_Feb_07v4\(2\)_files/frame.html](http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/Univ_AlaskaStaffAlliance_Feb_07v4(2)_files/frame.html)

Concerns were expressed that our insurance claims are being analyzed to identify employees with these types of conditions. Since we are in the "opt-out" model, employees are automatically enrolled in this program unless they specifically ask to be excluded. Staff expressed a desire to know what they are opting out of, and how it is done.

Item 4: Open for comments and suggestions for next year's Staff Council.

Gwenna noted that Cathy LeCompte has been appointed Acting Director of the Ketchikan Campus until June 30, 2008.

The next meeting was scheduled for March 15, 1-2 p.m.