

Staff Council Minutes September 17, 2009

Attendees:

Cynthia Rogers, President
Daniel Garcia, Secretary
Kent Kay, Member at Large
Gwenna Richardson, Vice President, Ketchikan
Betty Thornhill, Sitka Members at Large
Marsha Squires
John Pugh

Adopt agenda

Discussion of Staff Council purpose: moving issues from staff to administration and advocate for the University.

Servant Leadership concept was introduced.

Staff Alliance

- Next retreat set for March 16-17, 2010 in Juneau.
- August 3-4, 2009 retreat in Fairbanks. Cynthia Rogers, Heather Swanson and Gwenna Richardson participated.

Year in Review 2008-9 childcare and family friendly policies

- Integrated advocacy – includes members from all councils (student, faculty and staff groups).
- Joint Health Care Committee - Information to management about staff concerns.
- Search for new UA President.
- Election of Staff Alliance Chair, Maria Russell and Vice Chair Russell Presley

Committee Assignments:

- Gwenna Richardson – Human Resources
- Cynthia Rogers - Business Council Liaison
- Heather Swanson – JHCC

Staff Alliance Meeting was September 8, 2009.

- Looking at incentive program ideas, \$300K budget. In the past money was offered for signing up and for health assessments.
- Discussion of WIN program.

Dependant Audit Proposal.

- 3-8% of dependants on health plans are actually not eligible due to a variety of reasons including dependants age-out and ex-spouses not removed. Kent suggested this audit be done at open enrollment time. There is a dependant eligibility form that can be used.

Wellness program audit.

- JHCC has contract to get wellness program audited. Fall River Consultant will look at our contract and tell us if we are getting a good deal.

Healthcare Plan design changes for FY2011.

- Decisions by this December on any new vendors.
- Pharmacy Plan looking at generic option.
- Sitka pharmacy is now on board with Caremark
- When generics are not available, should discounts on co-pay be given?

Business Council meeting August 27, 2009, 4 hour meeting.

- Staff compensation – chancellors will recommend to BOR for a 3% increase from staff pay.
- No longer have step system now we need to ask legislature for across the board increases.
- Unions get 3.2-4% increase.
- Cost of living is not going down anywhere.
- Marra Russel will be at next BOR meeting to try to hold the line at 3.5% and try for 4%.

IT Executive Council

- Automation report – IT will set up a website showing ITEC projects, where they are going and provide ability to comment.
- Outsourcing Banner is not likely now.
- Carol Griffin and John Pugh are on ITEC and make decisions on what to automate.

President search committee.

- UAA and UAF getting visits, UAS will be videoconferenced.
- Beginning September 29, 2009

Board of Regents meeting in Juneau September 24-25, 2009.

- There will be time for public testimony.
- There will be a reception with a faculty showcase.

Marsha Squires described the encouragement team:

- Created to improve morale by giving kudos to colleagues through recognition and reinforcement.
- Employee anniversary cards.
- Staff Recognition Board: Did you know.... Heather took postings and placed them in Nessies News.
- Worker Bee awards, where supervisors give atta-boys, didn't fly.
- Random acts of kindness award – Card with small gift.

- Brainstorming – consider change location of bulletin board
- Needs new members.

Goal Setting talk with John Pugh last month.

- Community engagements – bring others to campus, bring the campus to others.
- October 3, 2009 day of Caring – Keni Campbell coordinating United Way to help a group at their location, changes from year to year.
- Building regional cooperation and community.

Campus Reports

Juneau – Kent Kay

- Variety of Joint Use Facility upcoming activities.
- Travel log – Global Connections sponsored Travel Log presentations by anyone who wants to present in the Fireweed Room.
- This Saturday September 19, 2009 is Coastal Cleanup Day in Juneau with Turning the Tides.

Ketchikan – Gwenna Richardson

- 640 students enrolled, 55-60 full time. Distance class materials are mailed out.
- Rainbird trail project coming together, grant writing being worked on to fund trail.

New Faculty members

- Neil Nickerson – Marine Transportation Assistant Professor
- Jim Sealand – Fisheries Professor
- Teeg Warlen – English Professor

Sitka – Betty Thornhill

- Sitka campus had campus wide open house with 300 attendees, demonstrations of welding, totem carving, ceramics, nursing, etc.
- Constitution Week – 10 question quiz.
- 9/24/09 Healthy Snack
- 10/2/09 Potluck for August –September birthdays.
- 10/16/09 Wellness break

Next Meeting: October 15, 2009