I. Call to Order

II. Introduction of Members

( ) President - Kim Stanford
( ) APT
( ) Debbie Dickey
( ) Jennifer Jones
( ) Barbara Markley
( ) Bob Kizer
( ) Bobbie Weber

( ) Vice President - Jan Vandever
( ) Classified
( ) Megan Carlson
( ) Rebecca Jackson
( ) Cheryl Page
( ) Tania Rowe

III. Approval of Agenda (pg. 1-2)

IV. Approval of Meeting Summary – February 16, 2006 (pg. 3-9)

V. President’s Report (pg. 10)

VI. Administrative Reports
A. Chancellor Maimon
B. Interim Provost Gehler
C. Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Ejigu
D. Vice Chancellor of Advancement Lindbeck (pg. 11)
E. Vice Chancellor for Student Services Lazzell (pg. 12-14)
F. Vice Chancellor for Community Partnerships Carter-Chapman

VII. Governance Reports
A. System Governance Council – Bob Kizer
B. Faculty Alliance/Faculty Senate – Kerri Morris
C. Staff Alliance (pg. 15-16)
D. APT Council (pg. 17)
E. Classified Council (pg. 18)
F. Coalition of Students/Union of Students
G. Alumni Association
VIII. Old Business

A. UFB Energy Plan
B. Provost Search Update – Kim Peterson
C. Strategic Plan Update – Will Jacobs

IX. New Business

A. Commencement Update – Greg Protasel, Tami Choquette
B. Assembly Elections – Kim Stanford
C. Staff Development Day – Bob Kizer
D. Speaker’s Bureau – Larry Foster

X. Information/Attachments

A. 2006 Staff Make Students Count Award
   http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/studentscount/2006/factsheet.pdf
   http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/studentscount/2006/nom-form.pdf

B. Academic Freedom and Educational Responsibility
   www.aacu.org/About/statements

C. Chancellor’s Annual Awards for Excellence, April 7, 2006,
   Wendy Williamson Auditorium, 9:00 a.m. - refreshments,
   9:30 a.m. - program

XI. Adjourn
I. Call to Order

II. Introduction of Members

- President - Kim Stanford (APT)
- Vice President - Jan Vandever (USUAA)
- Classified: Megan Carlson (x)
- Faculty: Kerri Morris (x)
- USUAA: Anthony Rivas (x)
- APT: Debbie Dickey (Joyce)
- Classified: Rebecca Jackson (x)
- Faculty: Greg Protasel (x)
- USUAA: Damjan Jutric (x)
- APT: Jennifer Jones ( )
- Classified: Cheryl Page ( )
- Faculty: Suresh Srivastava ( )
- USUAA: Natalia Korshin ( )
- APT: Barbara Markley (Suzanne Browner for Barb)
- Classified: Tania Rowe (x)
- Faculty: Suzanne Strisik (x)
- USUAA: Luke Thomas (x)
- APT: Bob Kizer (x)
- Classified: Bobbie Weber (x)
- Faculty: Raymond Baker, replacing Danny Pace (x)
- USUAA: ( )

Guests: Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Ejigu
Vice Provost Tom Miller for Provost Jan Gahler

III. Approval of Agenda (pg. 1-2)

Approved.

IV. Approval of Meeting Summary – January 12, 2006 (pg. 3-7)

Approved as amended.

V. President’s Report (pg. 8)

- NORP going forward to BOR.
- Diversity and Compliance Office – Marva Watts interim officer.
- Consultant will be meeting with governance groups. Will form scope of services to see if all needs are met. We will have a chance to meet with consultant to see if all needs are met.

VI. Administrative Reports
A. Chancellor Maimon – Unable to attend – at BOR
B. Interim Provost Gehler – Unable to attend – at BOR

Tom:

- New programs instituted going well.
- Bachelor of Science in Engineering, 120 enrolled this year. Demand for that program, trying to cope with extra students.
- March 11, Arctic Winter Games, Kenai Campus, International Sporting event, with youth.
- Second Annual putting oil, gas and mining, Certification for fishing guides – Kenai river guides.
- Poem – submitted – prior issue of AK quarterly review.
- Curriculum – new programs reported before BOR meeting, Associate of Applied Science in Digital Arts, Graduate Certificate in Supply Chain Management under CBPP. The Digital Arts Degree was collaborated with the Art Department. Students can get an AAS in Kenai, and transfer it in. The credits count towards a BA in Art at UAA.
- Provost search, no candidates this week. Two other candidates coming, one next week, and one the week after.

C. Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Ejigu

- The men’s and women’s basketball teams are doing well. The men’s team may make it to regional tournament. Seven of the top 10 teams are from our regional conference. We beat a nationally ranked team ranked number 1.
- The athletic department has been working on fundraising, they have about $475,000 they have raised. Steve says they will hit the $1,000,000 in the next few months.
- Provost Search – It has been very smooth. We have great interest from national candidates. We have brought three already. They have performed quite well. This is a very key position for the University. It is a very diverse pool. No two candidates are alike with background and experience. We are looking at bringing back 1 or 2 for more discussions. The decision has not been made yet. We are looking at making a recommendation by mid March on this.
- PBAC – We have not succeeded on our intentions to communicate with the campus committee on PBAC processes. It has been our intention to let everyone know when we are meeting, what we have discussed, and what our recommendations to the Chancellor are. We have a
meeting March 3. The Provost search interfered with our meetings. We were going to meet every other Friday. At the next meeting, there will be very substantive discussion. It will include: what will major budget units be expected to present and what are our projected revenues for reallocation. That is one major decision we hope to make on the 3rd. We want to communicate to deans, vice chancellors and others to prepare their budget for the next fiscal year.

- Other issues, we have been granted $950,000 of $1.2 million of performance budget funds. That is about 80%. We received the award in the form of base dollars. We will continue to benefit from that in the future. We decided that given the uncertainties of our revenues, and what are our needs, in areas like engineering and education, should we distribute these performance funds in the manner we did last year? We decided to hold back until we looked at all needs of the University. We have a strategic fund in amount of $500,000 and decided how to distribute this between the community campuses. We decided to distribute that based on enrollment.

From the $950,000, we wanted to keep it clean by deciding that the community campuses would get their share from 19-20% based on enrollment and UAA 80-81%. We will say that they need to come up with a reasonable way to distribute the funds.

We have a University Facilities Board that has been very active for several years. Space is important. This means planning and allocating, utilization of space, and developing capital budget. It is a significant resource. We felt that PBAC should be involved in this. We felt this should be a subcommittee of PBAC. It did not have as much influence. Their recommendations have not been implemented. We need to institutionalize these kinds of decisions. When you look at who has what space, and when you look at what are we going to do with Engineering when Science moves out of there, we need to institutionalize it. We need to put it in the hands of a group that has budget and decision-making experience.

- Parking – Proposal we have been working on, meeting with student leaders, Bill has met with the cabinet, we just want to let you know what has been proposed. Give us as much feedback as you can.
• The corner signs, we are happy with. There are some people concerned with the advertisements on UAA Drive and Providence. The entire cost on designing, acquiring the corner sign was paid for by the 4 entities whose name is shown on the electronic board once in a while. I can understand, especially faculty, think that it is unnecessary commercialization of the University. It is a way of advertising athletic programs and events.

D. Vice Chancellor of Advancement Lindbeck

E. Vice Chancellor for Student Services Lazzell (pg 9-10)
   • Student Den – activity today, students can get connected inside and outside the classroom and contribute to campus life. Every Thursday at noon, Free pizza to students, faculty and staff. Next Thursday, Grammy nominated Linda Tillery and the Cultural Heritage Choir, free lunch.
   • Second annual honoring ceremony Rita Blumenstein will be honored.
   • Enrollment up over 2% overall.
   • Headcount up, now we have more students coming, if they are taking part-time classes, or just getting started, we can offer them an educational opportunity to get a Certificate.
   • FASFA Frenzy – February 23.
   • PBAC partially funded Rita Blumenstein day, honored at the 2nd Annual Honoring Our Wisdom Keepers event February 18.
   • Offering peer advising course by PBAC money.

F. Vice Chancellor for Community Partnerships Carter-Chapman

VII. Governance Reports

A. System Governance Council – Bob Kizer - next meeting February 23 – nothing to report since last meeting.

B. Faculty Alliance/Faculty Senate – Kerri Morris – Wait List functional – problems GER first 60 hours.

   Linda Lazzell - Student Academic Support Committee working with Enrollment Services. Wait list in Fairbanks manual. Once a course is full, the course is shut down. Faculty has to call students to see if they are interested.
C. Staff Alliance (pg. 11)

Governance regulation still working through system. Ad hoc committee made some changes. It will go to Jim Johnson and Roger Brunner. Then it will go to the System Governance Council for approval by February 23. I will pass it on as an information item.

Faculty Workloads – looking at a system that can be linked with Banner.

D. APT Council (pg. 12)

Bob – most of the meeting was taken up by Will Jacobs reviewing strategic planning. There were a lot of people dialing in from community campuses.

E. Classified Council (pg. 13)

Kim – Becky has been working hard on the Staff Development Committee. We talked about Staff Development Day workshop ideas. Becky got input from APT Council.

Kerri – Gebe mentioned wanting to involve faculty more in staff development.

Becky – I have contacted faculty who have wanted to be presenters. We have one doing a motorcycle safety workshop. We have some teaching fad diets, or whatever we are interested in.

Kerri – Maybe you could contact someone on the Sustainability Committee about the walk across campus to talk about the green spaces.

F. Coalition of Students/Union of Students

Raymond – We have elections coming up April 11 – 12 for student body. It will be competitive this year, based on student feedback. All positions filled. We are talking about expanding.

Leadership Conference on March 23-24. We are trying to get more student involvement in groups like this. We are trying to get a Sustainability Committee in USUAA on Faculty Senate.
We do have a couple of referenda. The Concert Board may have a few items they have not approached us yet on.

G. Alumni Association - No representative.

VIII. Old Business

A. Wellness Report – Erika Van Flein

We can only do so much to control our costs. Cost shifting can only go so far. The one solution we can do something about is the factors. We can do the health risk assessment and see what the health risk factors are. It is only as good as the people who take it.

In Fairbanks, we have a considerable amount of smokers. It has to do a lot with the fact that if people take the assessment, people will be told they have to quit smoking.

Given that, we got a good result back, in general, and over all, employees, and their spouses, really aren't out of the norm. We are slightly better than what Larry has in their database.

We do have a significant number of people with multiple risk factors. People with more than 6 of these factors have high health care costs.

We wanted to find out, to identify, low hanging fruit, things easy to target, what would be, IOI, what are known to cause high costs in the plan. Consider stage of readiness for change.

Maybe a smoking prevention plan at this time is not a good idea. If the smokers are not ready to quit, this would not be a good time to implement a plan.

Cardiovascular disease, inactivity, and stress (top three risks). If we can get people to participate in a more active lifestyle, parking farther away in the parking lot, taking the stairs, getting people more active, it has known effects on helping cardiovascular disease. We are more stressed, 67% compared to 69% in Summex database.

What is next? We need help from Governance to get these programs off the ground. We want to get people to make these changes that can get integrated into their lifestyle. We
are convinced this is something we need to do to improve the lives of our employees. The HRAs will be done in the Fall.

Suzanne Strisik – Reducing stress and depression, interested in doing workshop.

Presentation:
http://www.alaska.edu/hr/benefits/thaw/PDF/premera_uak_hra_mgmt_presentation_2006.pdf
Report:
http://www.alaska.edu/hr/benefits/thaw/PDF/uak_management_report_1227.pdf

IX. New Business

A. Parking Services – Bill Spindle

Bill presented parking presentation.

B. UFB Energy Plan

Send comments to Larry Foster e-mail aflmf@uaa.alaska.edu, ext. 64868.

X. Information/Attachments

A. 2006 Staff Make Students Count Award
http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/studentscount/2006/factsheet.pdf
http://gov.alaska.edu/staff/studentscount/2006/nom-form.pdf

Fact sheet with time lines and nomination forms – asked to nominate students – March 15 deadline – Can contact Pat Ivey to nominate or Kim.

B. Academic Freedom and Educational Responsibility
www.aacu.org/About/statements

Linda – Chancellor on Nationwide committee that drafted this policy statement. Brought to this campus for review and discussion. She felt is was very user friendly. This is for people to look at and get feedback.

C. Faculty Association update. They wanted me to let everyone know the postcard campaign will be starting in the next few weeks.

D. Governance office will be starting search for Governance Assistant.

XI. Adjourn
PRESIDENT’S REPORT TO UAA ASSEMBLY, MARCH 2006
Prepared by Kim Stanford

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

• PBAC
  Planning Budget Advisory Council (PBAC) scheduled to meet March 10th. We are in the process of developing distribution plans for both the $950,000 from Statewide Performance Based Budgeting funds (go to base) and the $500,000 in UAA’s Strategic Opportunity funds (one time). It is hoped that PBAC’s recommendation will be finalized at the March meeting for Chancellor Maimon’s approval. We will also be planning for budget presentations by each of UAA’s budget units, as we did last year, as part of the FY07 budget process.

• PROVOST AND VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS SEARCH
  The search is progressing well. Five candidates visited the campus from late January through end of February. Each candidate presented a public lecture and was also available at an open forum for the UAA community. All feedback forms are due back to the search committee by Friday, March 3rd. The committee will then meet soon after that to discuss recommendations to be forwarded to the chancellor.

• FACULTY ASSOCIATION
  I have been attending Faculty Association almost every Friday as a staff representative. The Association scheduled Jack Frost and Mark Begich as recent guests. The Association is gearing up for the next postcard campaign, which should come out in the UAA community in March, so keep your eyes open, request your postcard(s), and be sure to get them in the mail to show your support for University of Alaska and UAA!

• GOVERNANCE OFFICE STAFFING
  The search has opened for the Administrative Assistant position in the Governance Office. Review of applications will take place starting this week.
UAA completes its first-ever capital campaign: UAA’s development team successfully raised nearly $13 million (exceeding the $12 million goal). We celebrated this success with the Campaign Steering Committee and key donors on Feb. 1, 2006 at a dinner at the Atwood Mansion.

UAA has launched a new daily electronic newsletter called Green and Gold Daily. All students, faculty and staff receive this daily newsletter, which is a new and improved version of News Digest. Submissions are welcome and may be sent to the same address, aynews@uaa.alaska.eu

New Hires in Advancement: We are pleased to announce the addition of two new colleagues in the advancement department: Tami Choquette joins us as the Special Events Manager (since Feb.) and Julia Martinez will start on April 6 as the Annual Giving Manager.

Spring is always a busy season for events and we are working with a number of schools, colleges and departments to publicize an enormous array of events on campus, including theater, dance, art, public lectures (Paul Cantor, Jared Diamond, Dr. Francis Collins) and a Mayoral Debate that promises to be the event of the campaign.

Commencement plans (May 7, 2006) are well underway. We will communicate additional details as they become available and the event date draws nearer.

The next issue of Accolades is due out this month: look for the cover story on the Culinary Arts and Hospitality Division. Inside the issue we have featured highlights from around the campus. Planning for the fall issue will begin shortly and we welcome story ideas that spotlight faculty and student success and excellence across the campus. Ideas should be sent to megan.olson@uaa.alaska.edu

# # #
Academic & Multicultural Student Services Division

Accomplishments

- Educational Opportunity Center enrolled 137 students into postsecondary education for spring 2006 semester, 119 (87%) of these students enrolled at UAA.
- Student Support Services has 85 students enrolled.
- AHAINA Student Programs initiated a meeting between AHAINA, ANSEP, ML&P and TRIO programs exploring the potential to expand the ANSEP program to other underrepresented groups (African-Americans and Hispanics) in the Service District: East, Bartlett and West High School.
- The third annual Reel Eyes showcase of films by and about individuals with disabilities continues throughout March with film showings in Anchorage, Mat-Su, Soldotna, and Kachemak Bay. See http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/dss/information/reeleyes.cfm
- Native Student Services co-sponsored with ANPsych, the Diversity Action Council, and a number of community organizations the 2nd Annual Honoring Our Wisdom Keepers event held at UAA. This year’s event honored traditional Yup’ik healer and cultural bearer Rita Blumenstien.
- Willy Templeton, Director of Native Student Services, has joined the local planning committee for the 36th Annual National Indian Education Association Conference that will be held in Anchorage from October 19 to 22, 2006. He will be working on the Convention’s College Strand.
- New Student Orientation sponsored the First Wisdom Wednesday with 168 students participating. Students were given bottles of water with tips for staying healthy.
- The staff of New Student Orientation has been collaborating with recruiters to visit four area high schools and present mini-orientation sessions “Jump Start” to seniors beginning UAA this fall. Approximately 176 students have participated.
- Faculty Advisor Training was held by Bobbi Weber, Counselor with the Advising and Testing Center. This session provided advisor training to the Mat-Su campus.
- Linda Morgan, Director of Advising and Testing Center, participated in Fall Preview Day by serving on a panel discussion for parents.

Upcoming Events

- Student Support Services will host Learning Skills and Strong Interest Testing March 16 beginning at 12:30 p.m.
- AHAINA is partnering with the Honors program to host the campus-wide Prestigious National Scholarship workshop in AHAINA Multicultural Center the week of April 3-7 from 2:30-3:30 p.m.
- Early Bird Orientation will be held April 7. This is the first summer orientation program for new students entering UAA this summer or fall.
- Northwest Association of Special Programs Spring Conference will be May 21 – 24. Helen Trainor, UAA TRIO Programs Director, and Phil Dirks, TRIO programs at Portland State University will be co-chairing the conference. The University of Washington and the University of Idaho will be offering two federal trainings in conjunction with the conference.

Enrollment Management Division

Accomplishments

- New admission website was posted. The new web site coincides with the separation of web applications for admission that will assist us in automating processes.
- Student Financial Aid hosted the second annual February FAFSA Frenzy—FAFSA’s filed through the end of February up 26% from last year and 101% from February 2004.
- Records filled two Publications positions enabling the production of 2006 summer and fall schedules.
- Ted Malone, Director of Student Financial Aid, was invited to attend a national student loan forum sponsored by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators to discuss the future of student loans.

Upcoming Initiatives or Major Activities

- Financial Aid and Records will be implementing new statewide imaging system.
- Financial Aid has begun processing 06-07 financial aid applications.
Student Development Division

Did You Know

- The Student Leadership Transcript program helps students highlight their leadership accomplishments. Students often include their leadership transcript in internship, scholarship, and employment applications. Ten students established new transcript accounts in February.
- North Hall staff display 18 residents’ pictures and bios in the 1st floor lobby every 2 weeks to help community members put a name with a face. Feeling welcomed in North hall helps with student success and retention.
- Club Council recognized the Women in Engineering club on February 17.
- Student Health & Counseling Center Mental Health NPs staffed an outreach display on eating disorders in the Residence Halls over dinner. Estimated impact: 40 students.
- UAA Campus Life in conjunction with the Anchorage School District, EAFB, and the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce, mailed over 6,000 mailers to UAA graduating seniors and ASD juniors and seniors informing them about the City-Wide Career and Job Fair on Saturday, March 11 in the Student Union. Over 70 employer representatives are expected and a variety of workshops are scheduled.
- UAA’s Career Services Center houses a library named the “athenaeum”, with over 1,000 books to meet career information needs and six computers for students use. The athenaeum is available to students for study and research, but is also a great place to hangout and take a break.
- The new Arts Potpourri in the Student Union Den is ‘the’ place to spend your Thursday lunch hour! In the past month, UAA students have performed (UAA Guitar Ensemble and the Jazz Ensembles), as well as Grammy nominees (Linda Tillery), and internationally known concert performers (Perlman and Schmidt).

Accomplishments

- The Last Frontier Student Leadership Conference was a huge success! 143 UAA students and 12 UAF students registered and an additional 15 students volunteered. Conference participants chose from 20 workshop topics and many received in individual leadership coaching sessions with leadership expert Dr. Laura Osteen from Florida State University. Many participants commented that the conference was “awesome” and “the [workshop] information was exactly what they needed.”
- Residence Life celebrated National Residence Advisor/Peer Mentor Appreciation Day.
- Residence Hall Association (RHA) sponsored a Fur Rondy parade float celebrating the legend of the Seawolf.
- Residence Life staff conducted fire drills. Approximately 400 residents participated in Fire Safety Night in The Commons. Activities included fire safety trivia contests, bunker gear competitions, fire safety demonstrations, and a memorial for victims of college housing fires. Thirteen Anchorage Fire Department and Alaska Injury Prevention Center staff members facilitated the event.
- Main Apartment Complex staff members completed their five nightlong series of safety programs in the MAC Shack. Topics included moose safety, sexual health, sexual assault, domestic violence, and depression. MAC staff members indicated an average of 35 MAC residents participated each night.
- The East Hall Honor’s floor staff sponsored a Valentine’s for Vets program, making Valentine’s cards for local area veterans that were delivered by staff member. This event supports the awareness of UAA as a public square.
- Resident Coordinator Heather Stalling continues coordinating student staff member recruitment. Residence Life staff completed individual interviews for 65 new candidates and 25 current staff members applying to return.
- Student Health & Counseling Center staff received in-service training for respiratory protection and fitness testing for the N95 respirator; used for potential airborne infections.
- Student Health & Counseling Center staff dispensed 500 new cold care kits to students with cold symptoms.
- Forty-one people attended health education sessions on Wednesdays in February. Topics included: acupuncture, healthy coping in grief and loss; gender communication, and international travel.
- Nicky Thude is a new Family Nurse Practitioner at the Student Health & Counseling Center.
- To better serve students, the Student Health and Counseling Center will remain open until 6:45 p.m., Monday through Thursday, beginning March 6 until the end of the semester.
- Concert Board is working with USUAAA to present a “Big and Better Shows” fee referendum for on the April ballot. Concert Board is also planning the Big Cover Up show in late April and is very close to announcing the next BIG show for April 3...stay tuned!
- Student Media Board, The Northern Light, and KRUA 88.1FM student leaders are in discussions to revitalize the two entities and better use resources to accomplish their goals. Plans for improved staffing and cross training are expected for FY07.
- Career Services Center hosted the Engineering and Sciences Extravaganza. Over 40 employers met with students from engineering and sciences degree programs to network and recruit for job and internship openings.
Employers from BP had a successful day interviewing UAA students.
Assistant Director Lindsay Washek and Employer Relations Coordinator Devon Rust presented to AHAINA staff and students information regarding internships and other services offered by the Center.
Career Services Center Assistant Director Lindsay Washek and Employer Relations Coordinator Devon Rust met with University of Alaska Southeast Career Services representatives to provided informational training regarding operating a career center.
Student Health & Counseling Center Associate Director, Carol Montgomery, met with Susan Wiley, the new counselor/Disability Support Services co-coordinator at UAS to collaborate and share information to help her start a program in SE.

Upcoming Initiatives or Activities
- The Economics Clubs and University Advancement co-host a Mayoral Debate on March 29 in the Wendy Williamson Auditorium. John Tracy of KTUU Channel 2 News is the moderator.
- Banff Film Festival is 7:00 p.m. on March 10 and 11 in the Wendy Williamson Auditorium. Tickets are available at the Student Union Information Desk and through CarrsTix.
- At 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 15, Outdoor Adventures Series presents *Alaska Outdoor Safety* with UAA’s Associate Vice Chancellor of Budget and Finance, Soren Orley, who is also with the Alaska Mountain Rescue Group and Daryl Miller, Denali National Park ranger.
- March 27 and 28, Career Services Center Assistant Director, Lindsay Washek, will be giving a presentation to UAA Nursing students on resume writing, interview skills, and relevant information.
- Slam Poet champion Maya del Valle will perform at 7:30 p.m., on Friday, March 31 in the Student Union Den.
- Upcoming topics for our health education Wednesday series include: Safe Spring Break Display, March 15; and for National Nutrition Month, Nutrition and Diet on March 29.
- Career Services Center hosts an Employer Expo from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., April 4 in the Student Union.
- UAA faculty selected 60 Student Showcase applicants to be considered for participation in the 2006 Student Showcase conference scheduled for the April 6 and 7. Among the 26 finalists that were chosen to present at the conference were three students from Kodiak College.
- USUAA general elections are April 11 and 12. Students vote for the following positions: President, Vice-president, Senators, Media Board representatives, and Concert Board representatives.
- In collaboration with Women’s Studies faculty, Resident Coordinator Kim Miller is planning a women’s history movie series in the residence halls. Faculty will lead discussions after each film every Wednesday throughout the month of March. Contact the Department of Residence Life for specific times and locations, 751-7444.
- Upcoming topics for the Student Health & Counseling Center Health Education Wednesday Series include: safe spring break display, March 15; and for National Nutrition Month, Nutrition and Diet on March 29.
- The Student Commencement Speaker and Student Leadership Honors committees screen applications beginning March 6.
Staff Alliance Report to UAA Assembly
March 2006 - Prepared by Kim Stanford

Staff Alliance met March 7, 2006. Information and updates included:

*GOVERNANCE REGULATION
The Governance Regulation has not been reviewed by Jim Johnsen and other members of Statewide Administration that the ad hoc committee has relied upon for vital feedback. Jim expects to work on this and provide feedback within the next two weeks. The Regulation will then go to Staff Alliance for approval at the April 4 meeting and then on to System Governance Council at the April 25 meeting.

*ADMINISTRATIVE SHIFT AT UA STATEWIDE
Effective March 20th, Jim Johnsen will take on the role of Vice President for Administration. Beth Behner will be the Vice President for Faculty and Staff Relations, with a search to be conducted for her replacement as Director of Labor Relations.

*SPRING RETREAT
Staff Alliance will travel to Juneau April 4/5 for the Alliance’s Spring Retreat. This includes a Staff Alliance meeting as well as appointments to meet with legislators and deliver cookies as part of the group’s “Cookie Brigade.”

*BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING INFORMATION
Links to Capital Planning and Facilities Management Policy and Regulation Revisions resulting from the March 1, 2006 Business Council meeting were provided for informational purposes.

*RETIREMENT UPDATE (taken from Lisa Sporleder’s Chair’s Report)
The NORP plan as it is offered to new employees on July 1 will offer staff an employer contribution 2% higher than if they selected PERS 4. But PERS 4 does offer a Retirement Health Account, even if accessing the State’s retiree health plan with that account is prohibitively restrictive. The University hopes to add some kind of retirement health benefit to the NORP plan within a year or so. The speed that can happen depends upon the type of account chosen. One type that could come up to speed fairly quickly because all management would take place external to the university would be the VEBA plan offered by a company called Emeriti. Emeriti offers a retirement health option called a VEBA, which stands for Voluntary Employee Benefit Association, and has two parts. The first part is a non-discriminatory employer-contribution to an account. That means that everyone gets the same dollar amount, regardless of salary. Other types of health accounts accrue contributions based as a percentage of employee salary, which work against most of the staff we are here to represent because staff usually do not have salaries as high as faculty members, yet they will likely have similar health expenses after retirement. There is also a second part to the VEBA, an option on the part of the University to put a discretionary sum into an account for an individual. This method can be used as an enticement to accept a job or to retire, or as a bonus for whatever reason a bonus is required that normal steps might not be able to accommodate. Just how are they managed? Emeriti has partnered with Fidelity and Aetna for different parts of the plan that it offers higher education institutions and non-profits. All accounts are managed by Fidelity and are invested in Fidelity’s Freedom Funds. The employee may choose which Freedom Fund to invest in, or the default age-related Freedom Fund will be selected if a choice is not made by the employee. For example, if the employee is 35 years old and makes no fund selection, the money would be invested in a fund designed for 25-40 year olds. As employees age, money would go into the age-appropriate fund for their current age. The age-related funds are invested according to the risk advised for a person of that age, so as a person ages, the default fund would get progressively less risky. With this system, even the default fund is a pretty good deal. If an employee wishes to more actively manage their health account money, they may do so from within the Freedom Funds group.
Emeriti’s other partner, Aetna, offers post-65 health care plans (MediGap) to qualifying retirees with Emeriti VEBA accounts. The university, within some limits set by Emeriti, sets the qualifying restrictions for its employees. Currently, Aetna offers five different options. Four incorporate two levels of health care and two levels of pharmacy benefits. The fifth is a pharmacy-only plan. All fulfill Medicare Part D requirements. They were also open to the possibility of offering a pre-65 plan if investigation proved such a plan was worthwhile for them to offer. The health plan options are offered on a group basis, using all of Emeriti’s customers as the base group, which is larger than the group of the State of Alaska, and therefore, more cost-effective plans might be offered by the VEBA than by PERS and TRS. Further, PERS and TRS offer access only to one plan, and Aetna offers choice to Emeriti. Another good surprise was the fact that Emeriti offers an open enrollment…the retiree may annually change the plan he or she is enrolled in to accommodate changing health care needs. All in all, I was quite impressed by Emeriti and the VEBA plan it offers.
APT Council Report
(From March 2, 2006 Meeting)

Reports
A. President – See Staff Alliance and University Assembly Reports.
B. Staff Alliance – 1.) Director of Faculty and Staff Development at Statewide is being hired. 12 Applications have been received. 2.) New Optional Retirement Plan for employees hired after July 1, 2006 that includes a 12% employer contribution and 8% employee contribution will go before the Board of Regents for approval. 3.) Consideration is being given now the Wellness Survey by Summex is complete on what priorities and initiatives should occur to mitigate health risk costs. 4.) Changes to Employee and Dependent Education Benefits have been dropped now due to new information showing that dropout rates are actually lower for students paying for the courses of which the opposite had been claimed.
C. University Assembly – 1.) Vice Chancellor Ejigu spoke to the intent of the PBAC Committee to distribute a recent $950,000 allocation from Statewide as strategic investment. He also spoke to the need for better communications, especially through a website, of the budgeting process. There also were plans to use the University Facilities Board, as a subcommittee of PBAC for facilities allocation decisions. 2.) An overview and discussion of a new parking proposal was given by Director of Business Services Bill Spindle.
E. University Facilities Board – No Report. Board did not meet.

Old Business
A. Topics for Staff Development Day Workshop Input Requested

New Business
A. New Parking Proposal Overview/Discussion
   Ann Soper, Director of Parking, offered an overview of several new proposals being discussed for Parking for next year. Proposals included increasing just the parking fees or keeping parking fees at current levels and adding a transportation fee for all students. Discussion was had that the increased parking fee would disproportionately impact staff as staff are not typically the users of the shuttle bus system and people mover system, seen a primary driver of the increased costs. A motion was made and passed for the APT President to contact Director of Business Services Bill Spindle of APT’s objection to the increased fees and in favor of the transportation fee for all students.
B. UAA Assembly Attendees
   A request was made for another member to act as an Assembly Attendee Alternate due to Barbara Markley resigning and Jennifer Jones inability to attend the Assembly as the primary appointees. Liz Downing of the Kachemak Bay Campus volunteered to be an alternate.
C. Staff Alliance Meeting Juneau – April 4th and 5th
   The APT President will attend Staff Alliance meeting in Juneau to lobby the legislature on University issues.
D. Upcoming APT Elections
   Highlighted a need to organize for upcoming elections forthcoming in May for APT Council.
E. Legislative Budget Update
   An e-mail correspondence was read from Pete Kelly through the UA Governance Office regarding progress and status of the University’s budget. The e-mail basically stated that the legislature was working through tax issues currently and until it was understood what funds they had available to spend the decision on budget issues would have to wait until later.

Information Items
A. Assembly Meeting – March 9th
B. Staff Alliance Meeting – March 14th
Classified Council met on March 2, 2006 (regular meeting)

- **COMMUNITY CAMPAIGN**
  John Dede gave an update regarding the UAA Community Campaign. Work will be done to restructure the campaign for next year, and governance is an important part of the planning and communication.

- **PARKING PLAN**
  Ann Soper gave a presentation to the Council regarding discussions and factors related to possible revision to the Parking plan.

- **ELECTIONS**
  Classified Council elections will take place in May. All current members with terms expiring need to notify the Governance Office soon regarding their intent to run again or not. Call for nominations will go out soon. Council members should also consider whether they wish to run for an office. It is recommended that Council hold discussions regarding succession options and the ability for someone to learn the position before being elected into an office.

- **Information Items** included: Provost & Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Search, Chancellor’s Awards, Staff Make Students Count Awards