Thursday, December 13, 2007  
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.  
ADM 204

I. Call to Order

II. Introduction of Members

President – Kim Stanford  
Vice President – Karl Wing

APT  
Dave Smith  
Jim Cummings  
Joyce Colajezzi  
Bob Kizer  
Comm. Campus

Classified  
Megan Carlson  
Sandi Barclay  
Brenda Henderson  
Kim Stanford  
Comm. Campus

Faculty  
Bogdan Hoanca  
Anne Bridges  
Larry Foster  
Kate Gordon  
Andy Veh

USUAA  
John Roberson  
Karl Wing  
John Wilcox  
Robert Skulka  
Sonia Christenson

III. Approval of Agenda (pg. 1)

IV. Approval of Meeting Summary (pg. 2-4)

V. President’s Report (pg. 5-6)

VI. Administrative Reports

A. Interim Chancellor Ulmer (pg. 7-9)
B. Provost Driscoll
C. Interim Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Spindle
D. Interim Vice Chancellor of Advancement Olson (pg. 10)
E. Vice Chancellor for Student Services Lazzell
F. Vice Chancellor for Community Partnerships Carter-Chapman

VII. Governance Reports

A. System Governance Council
B. Faculty Alliance/Faculty Senate (pg. 11)
C. Staff Alliance (pg. 12-13)
D. APT Council
E. Classified Council
F. Coalition of Students/Union of Students
G. Alumni Association

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

A. Parking Service - Bob McDonnell
B. Health Care Cost

X. Information/Attachments

A. Assembly meeting changes:  
   January Meeting- 1/17/07 1-3:30  
   March Meeting- 3/20/07 1-3:30
B. Governor's Budget  
   http://www.gov.state.ak.us/omb/
C. Community Campaign  
   http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/communitycampaign/

XI. Adjourn
Thursday, November 8, 2007
1:00 - 3:30 p.m.
ADM 204

I. Call to Order @ 1:04

II. Introduction of Members

President – Kim Stanford
Vice President – Karl Wing

APT
- Dave Smith
- Jim Cummings
- Joyce Colajezzi
- Bob Kizer
- Comm. Campus

Classified
- Megan Carlson
- Sandi Barclay
- Brenda Henderson
- Kim Stanford
- Comm. Campus

USUAA
- Bogdan Hoanca
- Anne Bridges
- Larry Foster
- Kate Gordon
- Andy Veh


III. Approval of Agenda (pg. 1)
Approved

IV. Approval of Meeting Summary (pg. 2-4)
Approved

V. President’s Report (pg. 5)

VI. Administrative Reports

A. Interim Chancellor Ulmer
   - Put together tour of ANSEP Lab (Applied Science and Technology Lab)
     500 Biology majors
     60 Chemistry majors
     Isotope lab is the only one in Alaska- do work for private sectors
   - Been to Board of Regents and Board of University Foundation
     Next 2 weeks are the most critical for UA’s budget
     Messages from people in the community are the most helpful

B. Provost Driscoll
   Unable to attend

C. Interim Vice Chancellor of Administrative Services Spindle
   - Regents meet and approved budget request
   - Now it goes to Governor
   - Operating Budget:
     Preliminary Comments from Governor’s Office:
     Likes the Health and Engineering part of proposal
   - Capital Budget:
     #1 Priority: Renewal and Renovation
     Deferred maintenance
     BIOS Building (Fairbanks)
     Health Science Building
     - Statewide External Review Open Form last week
     After putting together report, it will be brought to Advisory Committee
     In January final report will go to President Hamilton
   - Athletics
     Men’s and women’s basketball teams both won game
     Shootout is over Thanksgiving Break

D. Interim Vice Chancellor of Advancement Olson (pg.10)
   - New accolades printed
   - Off the Grid Promotion
     Park at selected areas, take shuttle, and be entered into drawing to win bicycle
   - Two UAA commercials shown
E. Vice Chancellor for Student Services Lazzell (pg. 6-7)
   Written report submitted

F. Vice Chancellor for Community Partnerships Carter-Chapman
   • Unable to attend- John Dede attended- Performance Report & Community Campaign
   • Community Partnership now a part of Office of Academic Affairs
   • Performance ’07 Booklet printed (can also be found online)
   • Community Campaign Initiative started-
     Will run until the end of the year
     UBay auction will be starting soon- proceeds will go to campaign
     Incentive gifts- option to donate school supplies to Willow Crest School in their name
     This year (so far) 53 donator, last year- 147 donors
   • Difficult Dialogs grant to train faculty
   • Preparing faculty handbook- should be done by end of academic year
   • Books of the semester going well- having speakers this semester and spring semester

VII. Governance Reports
A. System Governance Council
   Has not met

B. Faculty Alliance/Faculty Senate (pg. 8)
   Forum for students and faculty on the IDEA instrument
   November 15 11:30 in Student Union

C. Staff Alliance
   Planning first trip in March with Legislature
   Statewide Student Success Steering Committee being created

D. APT Council
   Met November 2nd
   Talked about Health Plan
   John Dede came in to talk about Energy Policy and Sustainability Coordinator Network
   Dawn Evans discussed training programs
   Jumping into discussion on supporting employees and their community involvement

E. Classified Council (pg. 9)
   Health Care Plan discussions occurring about changes

F. Coalition of Students/Union of Students
   Formalized and agreed on Budget
   Bylaw amendments:
     Travel board
     Budgetary process
   Working on USUAA website
   Passed resolution regarding textbooks
   Elections are November 13th or 14th
   Thanksgiving Feast 11-3
   UNICEF donation boxes
   2 Senators went to ASGA Conference
   New administrative assistant
   Have started postcard campaign

G. Alumni Association
   Unable to attend

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business
A. UAA Faculty and Staff Association- Steve Rollins
   Membership based political action group
   Works outside the University
   Meet every Friday 7:00 am at Café Amsterdam
   Engaged in postcard campaign with Governors Office
   In the past had 300-350 postcards
   80 postcards sent in the first 2 or 3 weeks
Now up to 315 postcards
Email Steve Rollins at srollins@uaa.alaska.edu to receive a postcard

B. Facilities Update- Chris Turletes
   Slide show presented
   Will have this link on the Governance website

C. Energy Policy Documents- John Dede
   http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/governance/upload/Energy-Policy-Cover-Memo-10_09_07-2.pdf
   MOTION (Dave Smith) The UAA Assembly supports John’s endeavor of the Energy Policy as submitted.
   2nd Larry Foster
   Amendment to motion (Karl Wing): The UAA Assembly supports the UAA Proposed Energy Policy
   2nd Bogdan Hoanca
   Unanimously approved

D. Sustainability Coordinators Network- John Dede
   http://www.uaa.alaska.edu/governance/upload/Sustainability-Coordinators-Draft-Policy5.doc
   Concerns: more of an encouragement, this maybe overused, tracking staff service component, would this start others asking for time to help with other areas, perceptions from public or students.
   Financial savings from energy savings will increase.
   State funds both faculty and staff but only faculty have service component.
   Need to involve building managers and Dean’s Office staff
   Karl Wing would like to send it to USUAA
   Would like to have this back on Chancellor’s Cabinet and have it roll out in January
   Suggestion for Sustainability Pilot
   Suggestion to set up a video conference with someone from University of British Columbia

X. Information/Attachments

XI. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned @ 3:30pm
PRESIDENT’S REPORT TO UAA ASSEMBLY
December 2007

Prepared by Kim Stanford

Governance Leaders (December 4)

UAA Governance Leaders met December 4th. In attendance were Megan Carlson, Dave Smith, Bogdan Hoanca and myself. In addition to discussion of the Assembly agenda, we also had a discussion regarding Staff Development Day and the Chancellor’s Awards. We had received word that Chancellor’s Cabinet had raised the topic of looking at both of these events to see if they are working the way they should and perhaps looking at ways to rework them. Staff Development Day in particular tends to be near and dear to many staff and word of possible changes can create a great deal of concern. I have met with Chancellor Ulmer regarding this topic, and she has assured me that no decisions will be made at the Cabinet level without inclusion of governance. We discussed the possibility of a small brainstorming/discussion group, which will be pursued further after the holiday break. There is not an intention to eliminate SDD. Just a desire to make sure we are open to looking at the purpose of the day, what is needed, what may not be needed, etc. I will keep everyone updated! Regarding the Chancellor’s Awards, the Chancellor’s Cabinet will be preparing a recommendation which will then be vetted through governance.

BOR Reception (December 5)

Along with other governance membership and leaders, I attended a Board of Regents reception with UA and UAA leadership on December 5th. Although I actually did not speak with many of the regents, it was a good opportunity for further conversation between various governance members.

Commonwealth North Luncheon (December 6)

I was invited as a guest to attend the Commonwealth North luncheon on December 6th downtown. This luncheon involved the presentation of a recent report by CWN on the Permanent Fund, its history, and possible future. This is obviously of great importance to the university, as there may be opportunities for more consistent funding through endowments, etc. In attendance were various members of the Alaska legislature.

The report is available at the Consortium Library or from Commonwealth North (CWN charges a small fee). http://www.commonwealthnorth.org/

UAA Faculty and Staff Association

The UAA Faculty and Staff Association met most recently with Senator Hollis French. Senator French has been a supporter of the university, and I was encouraged by his desire to continue this support for UA and UAA, as well as his willingness to provide further leadership to the best of his ability. Information regarding some of the “key players” for the upcoming session:

Co-Chairs of the Finance Committee: Stedman, Hoffman, Meyer, Chenault
Needs-Based Scholarship support: Les Gara
Retirement topics: Stedman, Elton

Of course, it will be important for all of us to be in contact with our specific legislators, encouraging support for UA and the Governor’s budget to avoid further cuts. It was noted that the END OF JANUARY is a good time to go to Juneau if you desire, due to the short session (which will likely end up in a special session…or two).
Sustainability Update

I have received the following updates regarding UAA’s Sustainability efforts from John Dede:

Renee Carter-Chapman and Bill Spindle are working together to forward names to the Chancellor for members of a new, smaller, Sustainability Council that will serve as a resource to the forthcoming Sustainability Office. The office will begin by hiring an Admin Asst. in January to help with projects currently ongoing. Base funding for sustainability will be requested from PBAC in March, and recruitment for a full-time Director will begin in June.

Sustainability Coordinators Network Policy
- The policy was briefly discussed in Cabinet on September 10 and referred to Governance for review
- It was discussed at Classified Council on November 1 and approved
- It was discussed at APT council on November 1 and approved
- It was an information item at Faculty Senate on November 2 with opportunity for comment. No comments have been received
- Deans expressed concern about primary work getting done and suggested a clear link to demonstrable outcomes.
- It was discussed at UAA Assembly on November 8, and was not approved for the following reasons
  - Some members felt that all staff should be donating 2 hours per month to this issue, not just the Coordinators network. Shouldn’t this be everyone’s responsibility?
  - Some members felt if we established this policy for sustainability, we would open the door for similar 2 hour/month requests from other causes.
  - Student government wanted to look at this more closely to see its impact on tuition, fees and getting administrative work done. They now “have seen the proposal in their sustainability committee and a senator will be presenting to the committee tomorrow a formal review. We then will pass this through the entire assembly on Friday then get it to you Monday” - Marcus Welker (12/4/07)

Next Steps: Cabinet should discuss this policy again in January, after we have Student Government’s feedback.

Health Care

The Staff Health Care Committee continues to meet regularly with Mike Humphrey from UA HR. Our recent talks have focused on the proposed revisions to the benefits plan, with particular emphasis on pharmacy, preventative, and vision benefits.

State/Governor’s Office Information

State Files Suit Against Mercer (re: PERS/TRS)
http://www.gov.state.ak.us/news.php?id=771

Governor Palin’s Announcement Regarding Permanent Fund Savings Plan
http://www.gov.state.ak.us/news.php?id=769

Note: it is still unclear how “Investing $2.6 billion in the Education Fund to help fund public education in the future” affects UA. It is assumed that public education refers to K-12, but it is not specified. Nor has it been detailed as of this writing how this investment is to be implemented.
Dear Friends and Colleagues,

The highlight of November at UAA is always the Carrs/Safeway Great Alaska Shootout. It is a great event for both UAA and the Anchorage community. This year’s attendance topped 60,000 at all of the games combined. It was an especially exciting first Shootout as UAA’s chancellor!

The UAA women’s team second championship trophy in as many years inspired us all. The outstanding performance bumped the Lady Seawolves to 5th in the nation among Division II teams. Go Seawolves!

Last month I met with the faculty at the School of Nursing and was very impressed with how the School has stretched to meet community needs. Healthcare is a major part of UAA’s future and continued growth. I was recently at the University of Washington School of Medicine—they would like to get satellite locations on board and are considering Anchorage. This could really enrich our program and help our state.

The change of season brings some changes in the chancellor’s office. After more than six years serving three UAA chancellors, Denise Burger has been lured away by the Rasmuson Foundation. She will leave UAA on December 14. Tina Rhodes is the new Administrative Manager for the Chancellor’s Division. Pam Cravez is Special Assistant to the Chancellor for Communications. Many of you know Tina in her capacity as assistant to Jan Gehler at CTC, a position Tina assumed in 2001. Prior to joining the university, Tina provided high level administrative support and office management for a biomedical and technology firm and a manufacturing firm in California.

Pam is currently an adjunct instructor at UAA teaching Technical Writing. She is the founding editor of Art Matters, and formerly a writer for Senior Voice. Pam has published essays and commentaries in print and radio on a wide variety of topics. She also participated in the editing, writing, and research of several ISER reports as a consultant. An attorney by trade, a writer by passion, Pam received an M.F.A. in Creative Nonfiction at UAA.

At the writing of this newsletter, I am in Washington, D.C. serving as a committee member of the National Academy of Science’s Computer Science and Telecommunications Board. We’re here to address the challenges in maintaining accurate state voter registration databases. I appreciate the opportunity to represent Alaska on these national forums.
Q: Community partnerships are more and more important to UAA. How are we helping people learn about UAA’s science programs and how they might affect our businesses and community?

The response from alumni, business leaders and community members has been enthusiastic at the first two of three tours to showcase science labs and programs at UAA. Prof. John Kennish lead the tour of the Applied Sciences, Engineering, & Technology (ASET) lab on November 8. We also got a look at the Stable Isotope Laboratory that is dedicated to understanding ecosystem and biogeochemical processes in terrestrial and aquatic systems. One more tour in this very successful series is scheduled on December 7 to learn about how geology is used to study “Water quality issues and Research in Alaska”. If you would like to do a similar series to showcase your programs to the community, call Harry Need at 786-1010 or anhwn@uaa.alaska.edu for more information.

Q: What is happening with UAA’s Project Management Degree Program?

On September 21st UAA’s Project Management Degree became one of only 13 (at the time of this printing 14) accredited project management programs in the world. Dr. Jang Ra, Chair of the Engineering, Science and Project Management Department (ESPM) relayed on my recent visit with the ESPM faculty that the 18-month program is completely self-supporting. ESPM has an exciting global distant learning capability. Students in places such as Florida, Korea and Texas can participate in real-time courses through their computers and webcam.

Q: Did the Regents approve UAA’s budget?

In my last FAQs I told you we had submitted our budget request to the Board of Regents. I am pleased to tell you the Board approved our request. The Board set the following top three overall priorities for UA’s capital budget: one, repair of UA’s facilities (including roof replacement, electrical and mechanical upgrades, fire systems upgrades, etc. for UAA); two, Phase I of UAF’s Bio-Science Building, and the third priority on the capital projects list is UAA’s Health Sciences Building. The capital budget includes planning money for UAA’s sports arena, an engineering building addition, and a joint library/auditorium at Mat-Su. The budget also includes funding for a student recreation center and the next phase of student housing. The next step, getting the budget through the legislature, will require a lot of support from the community. Your voice can make the difference on whether we succeed. Please take a moment to contact your legislator to urge their support of the university operating and capital budgets.

Did you know that...

As of Thursday, November 29, 2007 at 2p.m. UAA Spring 08 registration shows:

- 566 classes have closed full
- 740 classes still open have three seats or less available
- 8,918 students have registered
• 93,150 credit hours were registered for

As always, thanks for all you do to make UAA a great university.

Wishing you well,

PS Staff and Faculty

Please be sure to mark your calendar to join me for the staff and faculty holiday gathering on Friday, December 14 at 3:00pm in the dining room at the Gorsuch Commons. A special program is being planned that promises to deliver a few surprises!
UAA Assembly Report

- **Phonathon fundraising record** – The student callers of UAA's Phonathon team shattered another semester's record, raising more than $60,000 through outreach to UAA alums. The final night of Phonathon for this semester was December 6.

- **New hires in Advancement** – Jeff Oliver has been hired as our new Electronic Media Specialist. Some of his duties include podcasts, Green & Gold Daily and office tech support.

- **Media updates** – A few interesting UAA things covered in the media this past month, including Dean Ronald Spatz on AK for the 25th Anniversary of AQR. Chancellor Ulmer was also interview by Rhonda McBride on KTUU and by Steve Heimel on "Talk of Alaska."

- **Engineering speaker series** – University Relations worked with the Dean Rob Lang's office on the promotion of the Engineering Speaker Series event featuring Ed Harris of Texas A&M.

- **New weekly electronic newsletter** — We have just completed the design of a brand new weekly electronic newsletter called "Seawolf Weekly." This electronic new newsletter will contain information on upcoming events, news & highlights, research updates and a fascinating fact about UAA. Primarily designed for an outside audience, this newsletter will be sent to UAA advisory boards, the Board of Regents, and any other individual wishing to receive it. To get your name added to the list, please e-mail Jeff Oliver at anjbo@uaa.alaska.edu.

- **The UAA Alumni Association** – On Thursday, November 29 the last of the 360 Degrees on the Pendulum was purchased! The next steps include installing signage about the Foucault Pendulum in the Consortium Library and planning a dedication and ceremonial gifting of the Pendulum from the Alumni Association to the University this upcoming Spring.

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Faculty Senate President’s report to UAA Assembly
Bogdan Hoanca
December 10, 2007

Faculty Senate actions
At the December 7, 2007 meeting, the Faculty Senate discussed a new framework for evaluating teaching. Student evaluations using the new IDEA instrument would be supplemented by several other ways of documenting effective teaching, including course syllabi (and course portfolios); peer evaluation; participation in and delivery of workshops on best practices in teaching; academic advising and advising of student clubs and organizations. The Senate endorsed the general framework presented; to finalize the new definition of teaching excellence, the committee will need to do additional work and to seek broader faculty input.

The Ad-hoc Committee to revise the Constitution and Bylaws held an open forum to finalize the proposed changes to the Senate Constitution and Bylaws. A final list of proposed changes is included in the Senate agenda, available online. The faculty at large will select which of these changes to approve in Spring 2008.

Extended campuses
Kerri Morris and Bogdan Hoanca visited with PWSCC faculty on 11/9. There is frustration among PWSCC faculty with their having to be part of our Promotion and Tenure process even though they are independently accredited. We invited them to work more closely with us through the governance process to represent their needs.

Student evaluations
In cooperation with USUAA, the Faculty Senate organized an open forum on the pros and cons of posting student evaluations of faculty online. Although only a small number of students attended, the group had a long and productive discussion. Faculty are supportive of posting relevant portions of the student evaluations online, although they pointed out areas where this could backfire if not done properly. Students were invited to take control of the process and to set up their own site with faculty evaluations, using or following the model of one of the online sites with this mission.

Student Success
The Student Success Task Force requested by the Faculty Senate last Spring has now been convened. The Task Force met on November 30 to decide on an agenda for the year. At this first meeting, they heard a presentation from Gary Rice on relevant data about student success. Among the tasks they will undertake this year will be an inventory of existing activities supporting student success and a focus on advising and placement. The Task Force will be meeting monthly and will present a final report in May.

A statewide counterpart of this Task Force was convened by Vice President for Academic Affairs Dan Julius. This group will first meet on December 19 in Fairbanks.
Staff Alliance

Health Care
The Staff Health Care Committee continues to meet regularly with Mike Humphrey from UA HR. Our recent talks have focused on the proposed revisions to the benefits plan, with particular emphasis on pharmacy, preventative, and vision benefits.

Child Care Needs Assessment
The Staff Alliance Family Friendly/Child Care committee is conducting a needs assessment for child care in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau. A pilot survey was distributed in November to refine the survey tool. The revised survey will be made available online to all faculty, staff, and students in early 2008.

Integrated Advocacy
The Integrated Advocacy committee has completed its campaign to advocate to the Governor on behalf of the university. We will meet again when the governor’s budget is announced. Many groups will visit the legislature in the spring, including the Coalition of Students, Staff Alliance, and several alumni groups. Staff Alliance’s trip will be February 27-28.

Classified Council

Winter Clothing Drive
Our Ad Hoc Events Committee is coordinating a winter clothing drive to collect gloves, scarves, hats, and mittens for Willow Crest Elementary and Covenant House. The drive will conclude on December 14th. If you would like to donate to the drive, there are collection boxes in Rasmuson Hall, Cuddy Center, Fine Arts, Professional Studies Building, Gordon Hartlieb Hall, Administration/Humanities Building, and the Gorsuch Commons.

December Meeting
Mike Humphrey from UA HR attended the meeting to answer questions about the proposed changes to our health care rates and benefits. We also discussed ways to improve Staff Development Day and the Chancellor’s Awards for Excellence.

Kodiak College Visit
I was in Kodiak for my primary job in November. While I was there, I met with Kodiak staff and their student body president to discuss health care, advocacy, and other governance issues. It was a fruitful meeting, and I think we are all more informed as a result of it.

Board of Regents

December Meeting
I attended the December Board of Regents meeting in Anchorage. My public comment (attached) was about Staff Alliance’s work with UA HR on the Health Care Committee.

System Governance
President Hamilton and Pete Kelly gave updates on the budget outlook. They indicated that there appears to be support from the Governor’s office for funding health, engineering, and research requests. We expect the governor’s budget to include some funding for Renewal & Renovation, but not any funding for new buildings. Capital budgets from the legislature do sometimes include projects that were not on the governor’s budget, so the advocacy efforts for those new projects will continue.

The Coalition of Students intends to advocate for needs-based financial aid when they visit with legislators in the spring.
December Board of Regents Public Comment

Good morning, President Hamilton and members of the Board of Regents. My name is Megan Carlson, and I am the Chair of Staff Alliance, which is the governance group that represents all the staff in the University of Alaska system.

I am often asked, particularly by people unfamiliar with the university system, what governance is. I've spent the past few years reflecting and refining my answer. To me, governance serves three important functions: disseminating information from a centralized group to a diverse population of employees across the state, organizing campus- and system-wide efforts, and providing a conduit for communication between administrators and employees.

I would argue that the third function of governance is the most important. Governance gives a voice to all of the people represented by governance groups. Governance is mechanism for University of Alaska administrators to communicate with employees and students and receive feedback to help in making decisions. This communication and respect for governance input has helped to refine proposals and identify problem areas early in the approval process. It also empowers employees to take an active role in the university, which I feel boosts overall employee morale.

While I am pleased to report that governance has historically had a great relationship with campus and system administrators, there has been a persistent blind spot in the area of health care. Negotiations between the university and three employee unions have tended to drive decisions on health care costs and benefit plans. Staff Alliance expressed serious concerns that non-represented staff, who compose two-thirds of the employees at the university, have not had a voice at the table when these decisions are made.

As a result, a Staff Health Care Committee was formed in October. We in Staff Alliance feel that this committee was a long time in coming. The committee, consisting of two staff representatives from each main campus, meets regularly with Mike Humphrey, who is the university's Benefits Director. In the past few months, this committee has worked to find compromises that keep health care costs reasonable for both the university and its staff. We recognize that the governor's office and legislators have voiced concerns about funding requests for increasing health care. We have spent considerable time communicating with our separate governance groups and returning to the committee to deliberate about the most effective ways to modify our benefits plan to control costs while ensuring that our best employees can afford to continue working for the university.

This process has been a great example of the way governance groups can effectively work with university administrators to produce results that benefit us all. Thank you again for your time.