

Committee Updates (May 25, 2022)

Campus-Wide Updates:

- Please provide feedback if you attended our final candidates for the Director of Admissions position at UAS:
 - Dash Hillgartner
 - Emily Ferry

President's Update (Eric)

- The Legislature has passed a budget, which includes a 2% increase for staff - it's on the way to the Governor.
- Juella Sparks, the Staff Alliance Chair is retiring. She will stay on through June to ensure a smooth Staff Alliance transition.
- President Pitney seems lukewarm about the proposal of a "Common Table". This would be a venue where the administration, faculty and staff could all meet together.
- The next governor will be appointing 3 regents
- UAF, UAA, and SW did not select anyone for the Staff Make Students Count award. Statewide will keep the nomination period open a little longer for those campuses. I suggested that if they don't get any nominations, then UAS is happy to send on more nominees - we received four great nominations, and wish we could honor all four.

Vice President's Update (Michelle)

- Mae and I are serving on the new UA HR Customer Service Focus Group. Spoke is being discontinued later this year. The goal is to provide a more user-friendly, customizable, and streamlined customer experience - no more unwanted automated notifications; improved knowledge base search experience; integration with existing UA HR website.
- If you have any feedback about your experience with HR customer service, please reach out to myself or [Mae Delcastillo](#).

UAS Title IX Committee (Jessi)

- No new updates

Web Strategy Committee (Eric/Colin)

- Colin going off-contract for June
- Final stages of old site page rollover
- Continued improvement for web page in support of search engine optimization
- Looking forward to summer projects starting in July

Master Planning Committee (Colin/Andie)

- [Final draft](#) being sent to BOR

Chancellor's DEICS Committee (Kimberly Matsuura/Kayti Coonjohn/John Ingman/Math Trafton)

Members received an update from the Office of Equity and Compliance regarding complaints outside of Title IX, including a Discrimination Form, and a brief overview of a UAS Reporting for Discrimination as they relate to Title VII and Title IX.

Their office worked with UAS Webmasters to put together a new homepage for Equity and Compliance. [You can view the recording here.](#)

Members, Vacancies and Recruitment:

Members discussed the need for vacant positions to be filled including 2 Staff and 1 Faculty. While Jessie and Steve have actually resigned, I announced today that I was accepted to law school for the Fall 2022 semester, and will be leaving at the beginning of August 2022.

In the meantime, I volunteered to be the Staff Co-Chair, which was unanimously accepted by our committee. Another vote was taken for Faculty Co-Chair, and Math was nominated, accepted, and unanimously approved to continue in his current capacity.

Members took a moment to recommend other staff and faculty they thought would be fitting for the committee, and it was recommended that Math reach out directly to Chancellor Carey for direct Faculty/Staff Appointments. It's possible the voting could happen in August, or before via a virtual poll, so the new members could be present with us for our initial Fall meeting.

Summer Schedule:

Members discussed the desire for a retreat in either July or August. It was requested that Math follow up with the Chancellor for funding and support. Members X'unei, Louisa and Carin volunteered to coordinate this planning, with Carin as the "chair."

Summer meetings will take place for the DEICS. We will continue to meet on the last Friday of the month. The times monthly times were voted on, and have adjusted to be from 11:00a - 1:00p (as reflected in the calendar invites).

It was determined that the DEICS would not meet in June.

Subcommittees:

- **Bylaws Committee:** Has not met yet
- **Campus Climate:** Has not met yet. Wished to start discussing the topic from Jessie re: Blind Grading Systems, whether to bring back the Power and Privilege Symposiums, etc.
Expressed a desire to include diverse communities on campus, including Alaska Natives, Filipino, Latinx, etc.

- **Action Plan:** Hasn't met yet. Discussion on the difference between this committee and Campus Climate. Action Plan will convey and directly advise leadership groups on campus.
Prior to taking initiatives forwards, this group will run their focus ideas and recommendations by the DEICS as a whole, and the DEICS will vote to accept or reject.
- **Cultural Class Requirements:** Hasn't met yet. The committee members agreed to take on the task of reviewing the required training suggestion.
- Suggestions included the creation or commission of training videos and tools to be shown and given during convocation or other staff/faculty resource areas.
- **Website:** Committee met to discuss what the website would look like. What kinds of links and statistics to be added to the website were discussed.
- [Answers from the Office of General Counsel](#) were shared with regards to members internal to UA vs external to UA. [Here is a link to the summary of the discussion and action items.](#)
- **Staff/Faculty Workshops: Decolonizing Our Spaces:** Met to discuss initiatives through CELT called "Decolonizing our Spaces", which will be about an hour and will include breakout groups.
This will be sent to all UAS Faculty and Staff. The time will be spent talking about what we're doing at an individual level to decolonize our spaces.
Meetings will take place through the entire Fall 2022 semester, and help create a support network. [Here is the link to join, if you would like.](#)

Staff Health Care Committee, Staff Alliance (Jessica, Traci)

- If you are participating in the [UA Wellness Program](#), remember to sign into [Prevention Cloud](#) and check your points to make sure you qualify for a \$600 wellness rebate. Biometric Home Test Kits are available through your Prevention Cloud account.
- All employees, spouses, and FIPs enrolled in the UA Choice Health Plan are eligible for the Wellness Program rebate payout.
- [TouchCare](#) is available to help you to navigate your health care benefits
- [Deer Oaks](#) provides support in helping to maintain a healthy work/life balance
- [Talkspace](#) is Permera's Virtual Behavioral Health program offered to employees and their families - this can be a great alternative to going to see someone in-person
- [LifeWorks](#) provides additional legal, financial, and grief counseling services
- The new fiscal year brings changes to our health plans (to be rolled out over the next five years)
 - The number of points required for the Wellness Program rebate is increasing
 - Increased opportunities to earn points in the Wellness Program.
 - Some Wellness Program activities will change from 1 to .5 points
 - Possibly adding orthodontia to HDHP and CDHP
 - Possibly including outpatient dialysis solutions for the Yukon network.
 - Upcoming changes to the Preventive drug lists on our health plans.
- [FY 2023-26 University of Alaska Cost Estimations](#)
 - Projected cost increase for insurance plan

- [FY 2022-Q3](#)
 - Utilization Review
- Next committee meeting will be in August

Ad Hoc Committee (Kim)

-

Staff Alliance General Meeting (Eric)

-

Sitka Update (Kim)

Events

-

Personnel Changes

Campus Concerns

-

Ketchikan Update (Jessica)

Events

- Employee Headshots on May 26th from 1pm to 3pm (drop-in) in the Ziegler Building Conference Room
- UAS Ketchikan will have an information booth set up at the Blueberry Festival on August 6th

Personnel Changes

- Angie Goffredi is our new Career Education Coordinator and Welding and Power Tech Lab Manager
- [Evan Porter](#) is our new Maritime Power/Tech Lab Assistant
- Alischa Dale is our new Maritime Trades Program Coordinator starting June 6th
- Christopher Boss is our new Term Assistant Professor of Maritime Transportation starting August 14th

Campus Concerns

-

Juneau Update (Traci)

Events

- [Grant writing workshop](#) (virtual 3-part seminar) open for UA employees May 23-25. Registration closes on May 20.

Personnel Changes

- The Bursar's Office is working on listing the Lead Cashier position.
- We are glad to welcome Timothy Eby to the UAS Facilities Services Planning & Construction Team. Timothy is a Mechanical Engineer with 8 years of experience working on projects all throughout Alaska. He is currently working for the school district in Sitka and will be coming to Juneau the first week in June 2022. This position has been empty for several months and work is piling up. Timothy has a great attitude and we feel he will make significant contributions to our FP&C team. Welcome aboard Timothy!
- Christina Ibias has returned to UAS as our Food Services Manager. Her first day back was May 2. Welcome back Christina!!
- Angie Steeves is now 100% in the Chancellor's Office.
- Director of Admissions-Interviews have been conducted and we hope to have an offer coming soon.
- [Rural Admissions Counselor](#)-we are recruiting for this position and hope to have the position posted by May 8.
- There are two vacant positions at the Registrar's Office for our [Student Information Specialist](#).
- Dining services are short staffed at this time so we are looking for a cooking crew to help out starting next week through May 15th. We are still seeking two cooks for dining services. Spread the word if you know anyone that would be a good fit and looking for a job.
- Jennifer Sweitzer has accepted an offer to be the Associate Director of Financial Aid. Congratulations Jennifer!
- Jackie Wilson, Dean of Students, has accepted a position outside of UAS. Jackie's last day will be June 3rd. The [Dean of Students](#) position is posted. Congratulations Jackie!
- Deb Rydman, our Career Service Coordinator and VA School Certifying Official, will be leaving UAS in June. Safe travels Deb! We wish you all the best.
- Welcome Haley Reed to the Arts and Sciences Department. Haley's first day was May 2.
- Interviews are being held for the School of Education Academic Advisor position this week and next. We hope to have an offer soon.
- If I have missed anyone, please let me know and I will happily add them to the next committee update.

Campus Concerns

- Staff Compensation
- We need more peanut butter cookies.
- Call for volunteers. Are you ready to show your UAS pride by helping with the Fourth of July parade? [Sign up today to join the July 4 Parade Committee.](#)

Upcoming Employee Trainings

- [Getting a Good Night's Sleep- Sleep Essentials](#)

- Available on Demand Starting Tuesday, May 17th
- [Getting Comfortable with Conflict - A Leadership Guide](#)
 - Friday, June 17th, 11-12pm
 - Hosted by Deer Oaks
- [Staff Performance Management Guide for Supervisors and Non-Supervisors](#)
 - Tuesday, June 21st, 2-3pm
- [Exploring Nature- Finding Yourself Through Nature](#)
 - Available On Demand Starting Tuesday, June 21st
- [Coaching Conversations for Supervisors and Non-Supervisors](#)
 - Thursday, June 23rd, 11-12pm
- [Setting Up Faculty Academic Year Assignments](#)
 - Wednesday, July 13th, 2-3pm
- [Understanding Adjunct Assignments](#)
 - Wednesday, August 10th, 2-3pm
- [Diversity and Inclusivity](#)
 - Wednesday, September 14th, 2-3pm
- [Ready to Extend An Offer, What's Next?](#)
 - Wednesday, October 12th, 2-3pm