

Committee Updates (April 5, 2023)

Campus-Wide Updates:

- Last chance to [submit nominations for Staff Excellence Awards](#) coming up on Saturday, April 1. Wrap up your nominations by April 1. ***Time sensitive***
- Public Testimony - May 23, 4-5pm: Public testimony provides the university community and all Alaskans the opportunity to talk directly with regents. Each caller will have two minutes to offer thoughts, feedback, or updates on topics or issues related to the University of Alaska system. Public testimony is held in advance of the full board meeting. To testify, please call 1-866-831-8713 between 4 p.m. and 5 p.m. [Click here for guidelines and tips on providing public testimony](#). Written testimony is also accepted via emailing ua-bor@alaska.edu. To listen to public testimony via livestream: alaska.edu/bor/live/.
Board of Regents meeting - May 25-26, all day: Tune in via livestream: alaska.edu/bor/live.
Keep in mind that all BOR meetings are open to the public and recorded (excluding some executive sessions). If there was a topic of particular interest that you were sad to have missed, be sure to check out the [BOR Agenda Archives](#). Meeting documents are available at the [Board Docs page](#).
- Staff Council Elections are coming up in May. [Nominate yourself and your colleagues](#). Positions that are available include:
 - Ketchikan Member-at-Large
 - Juneau Member-at-Large
 - Vice President
- Commencement is right around the corner. Can you believe it?!? There are already [Eventbrite registration for Juneau Commencement](#), a [Sitka Eventbrite page](#), and plans underway.
- The survey for Great Colleges to Work For is open until March 31st. If you received the survey, please fill it out for Chancellor Carey, IE Director Kristen Handley, and everyone involved in collecting feedback from staff.
- UA HR made some changes to the Performance Evaluation Process - check out their “condensed, user-friendly version of the performance evaluation process” in [MyUA](#).
- Save the date for Staff Recognition and Development Day on Friday, May 12!
- July 1, Dr. Palmer assumes a new role as UAS Chancellor.

President’s Update (Jon)

- Finalized longevity pin award order. Thanks Alison Krein for your amazing work with us on this project.

Vice President’s Update (Michelle)

- I haven’t seen any nomination packets for the [Staff Make Students Count](#) award yet. Don’t forget, nomination packets are due by April 28th.

- All of Staff Council, and Beverley Keefe (thank you, Beverley!) are working hard on planning Staff Recognition and Development Day. Thank you, Traci, for taking the lead on organizing our planning sessions!
- I asked someone from HR to join our Staff Council meeting next week to talk about open enrollment. Be sure to come to the meeting to ask any questions you have about benefit changes for next fiscal year.

UAS Title IX Committee (Jessi)

- No update at this time

Web Strategy Committee (Katie)

- Jennifer Gross and Alison Krein are heading up the website management team while the search for a new Web Master continues

Chancellor's DEICS Committee (Courtney MacArthur)

- Student Almería Alcantra (SGUASJC SJ&E) visited to update DEICS on a survey they put out which asks about discrimination.
- Results may be shared with DEICS Campus Climate subcommittee
- Committee opened a standing invitation for the "Guests" section of each DEICS meeting to SGUASJC SJ&E
- DEICS co-chairs will be in touch with SJ&E committee before each meeting
- EAB: Lingít character inclusion
- We discovered that EAB script doesn't allow for use of accents and non-English lettering. Courtney and Amanda Triplett are in contact with the Rep to see if their programmers can address the issue.
- UAS Student Registration form may be updated to reflect more options, Nathan Bodensadt can work with Trisha Lee and other registrars to make sure we are collecting the right IPEDS data while looking for ways to make students' identities more seen.
- DEICS Sitka faculty representative will remain unfilled for this Academic Year
- Juneau Student Activities Board is sponsored Black History Month event
- Retreat scheduled March 31 to work on priorities including drafting the annual report to the Chancellor
- Per email from Staff Council, Bylaws subcommittee reviewed process for adding committee positions and determined that a 2/3 majority vote would be needed to add a position.
- Committee voted 9-0-1 to add a 16th position (15th voting position)
- Vote: 9-0-0 to allow outside members to participate in DEICS subcommittee work, provided that: a DEICS member is chair of the subcommittee; the full committee is notified
- UA HR insurance premium for 9 month employees was discussed

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

- Open Enrollment season is just around the corner and runs from April 17-May 6. Medical, dental, and vision will now be unbundled. This means you can elect just medical, just dental, or any combination of the three! Please note that since this is such a big change, all UA employees in a benefited position are required to submit an open enrollment form. Reach out to Human Resources at ua-hr@alaska.edu for more information.

Staff Alliance General Meeting (Jon)

- Nominations are open for [Staff Makes Students Count](#).

Upcoming Employee Trainings

- Remember to claim your LinkedIn Learning license to take advantage of the professional development opportunities available in LinkedIn. [Request a license](#) by filling out the form. Recently there was a survey sent to current LinkedIn Learning license holders. Here is what your colleagues have to say about these training opportunities:
 - Hello! Thank you to the University of Alaska for providing LinkedIn Learning. The variety and quality of courses is excellent especially in the categories of: emerging technology; Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility (DEIA) expansion; communication skill building; software learning; goals development; and personal growth. As I type this I have 98 courses saved. As time in my job allowed, or if it's been a course I can listen to as I work, I've completed 12 courses. I have enhanced several of my skills and expanded my knowledge. I also recognize the merit of preparing for a future that even the futurists are guessing at. Thank you
 - It has been wonderfully helpful for expanding my knowledge and for developing existing knowledge. I've been using it to learn new tools and new methods of tools I already use. I've also been using it for learning theory in areas where I knew I could use more context.
 - I have been learning javascript slowly through the course I picked. My time is limited for learning but I try to do at least a bit each week.
 - I have particularly enjoyed using the license as a background training while working. Specifically Oz Du Soliel's Excel series.
 - Thank you for providing this resource!
- Contact Ryan Sand for training requests or safety equipment. Recently Risk Management & Safety did de-escalation training with the Registrar's Office. They also covered Narcan (naloxone) application, general first aid responses, emergency evacuation, and other safety procedures. Request safety and emergency management training for your team at any time.
- Wednesday, March 29, 12-12:45pm
 - **Supervisor Lunch & Learn Program** via Zoom (*link is sent in email directly to a Supervisors list. Contact UA-HR if you did not get the link and are a supervisor*)

The UA HR team is pleased to invite supervisors to join the interactive Lunch & Learn Program designed specifically for you. In each session, UA HR will provide updates and supervisors will have the opportunity to ask HR related questions. Representatives from each UA HR team will be present including Talent Acquisition, Operations, Labor & Employee Relations and Benefits and Compensation.

These 45-minute Zoom sessions will be held at noon on the last Wednesday of each month.

- Wednesday, April 12, 9-1030am
 - **MyUA Performance Evaluation Training**
[Sign up at MyUA](#)
The Performance Evaluation process has been updated in MyUA. This training will review the changes made to the system, and include a step by step tutorial on completing evaluations through MyUA. Preparation for evaluations, the supervisors role and who to contact for questions or issues will also be covered.
- Wednesday, April 19, 2-3pm
 - **HR Coordinator Training: Preparing for Fiscal Year End**
[Sign up at MyUA](#)
During this course, the UA HR Operations team will cover the changes & transitions that occur during the fiscal year change. Items will be presented that impact HR Coordinator tasks and employees in their departments.
- Friday, April 21, 11am-12pm
 - **Responding to Behavior That Makes You Feel Uncomfortable**
[Sign up at MyUA](#)
Most people have at some point been subjected to unexpected behavior that is unwelcome, such as behavior that is aggressive, lewd, provocative or socially inappropriate. This may occur in the workplace, at social gatherings or in public venues. In many of these instances our ability to respond effectively is often compromised because of fear, confusion and/or inexperience in addressing unwanted behaviors. This course examines the nature of unwelcome behavior, as well as how and why we respond the way we do, and offers insights into how we can be prepared to effectively respond in the future when confronted with unwelcome behaviors
At the end of this workshop, you will be able to:
 - Understand the variety of unwelcome behaviors and the possible motivations behind them
 - Describe the obstacles commonly faced by those attempting to respond
 - Identify effective techniques for setting limits on unwelcome behaviors
 - Describe avenues for getting support after experiencing an unwelcome episode
- Wednesday, April 26, 12-12:45pm
 - **Supervisor Lunch & Learn Program** via Zoom (*link is sent in email directly to a Supervisors list. Contact UA-HR if you did not get the link and are a supervisor*)
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updates and supervisors will have the opportunity to ask HR related questions. Representatives from each UA HR team will be present including Talent Acquisition, Operations, Labor & Employee Relations and Benefits and Compensation.

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- Wednesday, May 9, 10-11:30am
 - **MyUA Performance Evaluation Training**
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- Wednesday, May 17, 2-3pm
 - **HR Coordinator Training: Setting Salary/Initial Offer**
[Sign up at MyUA](#)
This course will provide an overview of initial salary placement including the factors to consider when making an offer. We will discuss how to customize offers for each candidate that are competitive and work within our salary schedules. Expected Outcome: Understand how knowledge, skills and abilities impact salary placement, along with the applicant's career stage. Learn how to use salary quartiles and market medians for initial salary placement.
- Friday, May 19, 11am-12pm
 - **Staying Engaged and Advancing Your Career as a Remote Employee**
[Sign up at MyUA](#)
Working remotely has many advantages for both the employer and the employee. It's important that anyone working remotely understands ways to maximize those advantages and yet not be forgotten when looking to advance a career. Working remotely is not about eliminating the cost of daycare or pet care and not about the ability to do household chores during the week. Although the setting may be different, remote employees are expected to put in the same hours as those in the office. This workshop is designed to provide you with steps for maximizing productivity, being engaged and recognized and contributing to the organization remotely.
- Wednesday, May 31, 12-12:45pm
 - **Supervisor Lunch & Learn Program** via Zoom (*link is sent in email directly to a Supervisors list. Contact UA-HR if you did not get the link and are a supervisor*)
The UA HR team is pleased to invite supervisors to join the interactive Lunch & Learn Program designed specifically for you. In each session, UA HR will provide updates and supervisors will have the opportunity to ask HR related questions. Representatives from each UA HR team will be present including Talent Acquisition, Operations, Labor & Employee Relations and Benefits and Compensation.

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Sitka Update (Katie)

Events

- Lynne Johnson and Lucas Tempel visited to lead a series of workshops centered on fundraising for UA Foundation funds (March 27)
- Herring Film and Potluck event (March 30)
- Student Government is hosting a Pizza Party for the campus (April 6)
- Chancellor Carey's farewell visit (April 13)
- [Sitka commencement](#) will be held Friday, May 5.
- Student Government sponsored whale watch for the campus (TBD)

Personnel Changes

- Welcome Christine Galiza! Our new Administrative Assistant

Campus Concerns

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Ketchikan Update (Jessica)

Events

- Ketchikan commencement is Saturday, May 6.

Personnel Changes

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Campus Concerns

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Juneau Update (Traci)

Events

- UAS Alumni & Friends Scholarship auction is back! Join Alumni & Friends on Saturday, April 1 from 5:30-7:30 at the UAS Egan Library. Tickets available at: uas.alaska.edu/alumni/events.html

- Writing Your Climate Story: A Generative Workshop - April 5, 1:45-3:15 at the Glacier View Room or via Zoom

[Register regardless of participation format](#)

Students, community members, faculty, and staff, are invited to join Jason Davis, the Director of [The Climate Stories Project](#), for a 90 minute climate story generation workshop. During the workshop, participants will learn about climate storytelling and why it's important in forging a meaningful response to climate change. Participants will begin crafting and sharing their stories during the

workshop. Writing Center members will be in attendance to aid participants polish their climate stories post-workshop.

- Juneau Campus Advisory Council Monthly Meeting - April 10, 12-1pm: Regular monthly meeting of the [UAS Juneau Campus Advisory Council](#). [Join Zoom Meeting](#) or by phone: (669)900-6833 Meeting ID: 853 7094 2758 Passcode: 995914
- Spring Carnival is just around the corner on Friday, April 14.
- May 7, 11am-12:30pm: Annual Native Graduation Celebration
- [Juneau commencement](#) is Sunday, May 7
- Monday, May 8 - Retirement Celebration for Chancellor Karen Carey
- Friday, June 30, Open House in the Chancellor's Suite. Come say goodbye to Chancellor Carey between 1-5pm

Personnel Changes

- The Development Office has 1 personnel change: after 35 years in fundraising and 30 years at UA, Lynne Johnson will be retiring on 28 APR. There is currently an internal recruitment for my position
- UAS Carpenter, Jose Islas, will be moving on to new and more exciting challenges! Jose has worked here at UAS Facilities services for more than 10 years and will be missed. He has worked on many of the remodel and improvement projects on the Juneau campus and has literally left his mark with his excellent craftsmanship. Next time you see a straight line, smooth wall or perfectly mitered corner cut, take a moment to remember Jose Islas and wish him the best in his next adventure.
- UAS Facilities Services still has several openings on our crew to keep our campus running smoothly and looking good. Please direct your friends looking for a good job with great co-workers and fantastic pot-lucks to apply at <https://careers.alaska.edu>.
- Associate Bursar position is posted. First round of review is April 3rd.
- Sean McCarthy has been selected as the next Director of Residence Life. Congratulations Sean!
- Savannah Carter in Financial Aid will be heading to Nevada. We will begin the process of filling the Financial Aid Technician position soon. Savanna, you have been a valued member of our team!
- Dash Hillgartner in Admissions will be leaving for Oregon. We will begin the process of filling the Director of Admissions position soon. Dash, you have been a valued member of our team!

Campus Concerns

- Facilities Services is still looking for more staff to join our grounds crew. If you know of someone that may be interested, please have them apply on the [Careers website](#).
- Staff compensation

- Finding childcare has been exceptionally challenging post pandemic. Are there any partnerships available that can be formed with the university and child care centers?
- Staff Recruitment has been difficult. Is there anything we can do to promote our benefits to help attract applicants?