

Advocacy Committee Year-End Report
May 6, 2010

Committee Members: Ashley Munro (Chair), Dawn Dearing, Jodi Baxter, Jenny Day, Kathy Pedersen

The Advocacy Committee has lost most of the long time members. The role of the committee has been unclear, as have past activities. We spent a majority of this year working on building back membership and redefining our goals.

1. Staff Tours

We held the following staff tours this year:

September- UAF Walking Tour (2 tours)

December- Cold Climate Housing Research Center

April- KUAC

May- UAF Walking Tour (as part of Staff Appreciation Day)

We are currently planning the following tour over the summer:

June- Greenhouses

July/August- Botanical Gardens

June-Sept- LARS

2. Brown Bag Lunch Hour

This is an addition to the Advocacy Committee. This will be a chance for staff to attend a forum on a topic of our choosing and will fulfill the role of advocating to UAF staff.

We held the following Brown Bag Lunch Hour this year:

April 22- Health Care Changes, Mike Humphrey

This was successful, so we will offer a few more this summer. Our proposed schedule is:

June 16- Community Events

We will invite a few volunteer agencies and the Fairbanks Visitor's Bureau to speak about fun events happening in town this summer and volunteer opportunities for the family.

July 21- Family Friendly Campus

We will invite the Work, Life, Balance group and the Committee on the Status of Women to provide research information and updates for childcare issues in Fairbanks and UAF.

August 11- A Stress-Free and New Beginning

We will invite WIN for Alaska and Health and Counseling to offer suggestions and tips to remain "stress-free" at the start of a new semester and academic year.

September (or fall)- Communication

This would be an hour to discuss the resources that staff have to communicate with administration and provide information on utilizing those resources.

3. Family Fun Day

We wanted to offer a Family Fun Day this upcoming fall, but we realized that we don't have enough time or people to properly plan an event of this size. This fall, we will be discussing this event further to see if it is something that can be done the following year.

4. Communications

The Advocacy Committee has taken on the role of communicating to staff, which was formally the role of the Ad-Hoc Communications Committee. We are currently meeting this need through the above efforts.

5. Staff Appreciation Day

Staff Appreciation Day was formally included under the Advocacy Committee. Due to the increased size of the event, it now has its own committee.

6. 2010-2011 Suggestions

In the upcoming year, the Advocacy Committee would like to see the Staff Tour program continue, a monthly Brown Bag Lunch Hour to focus on hot topics and the addition of at least one more program, which could be the Family Fun Day.