



# Staff Council News • Meeting #284 • September 11, 2017

## Upcoming Events!

### **Board of Regents Meeting**

**9/14 and 9/15:** Click here to view the [agenda](#). The meeting will be [webcast](#). The **FY19 budget** will go to the Board of Regents November 19<sup>th</sup>.

### **Staff Volunteer Day**

UAF will likely partner with United Way of Tanana Valley for the first event. Stay tuned!

### **Staff Council Open House**

Come learn about Staff Council! The first Open House will be held at the end of September, and will be hosted by Residence Life. More details soon!

### **Indigenous People's Day**

The celebration will be October 9<sup>th</sup> from 3-9pm. Festivities start with a blessing at the Troth site, followed by a walk to Wood Center. At 4pm there will be drumming and singing. There will be two discussion panels: one with students and faculty, and one at 7PM with community leaders about the significance of celebrating Indigenous communities. There will likely be vendors and artist tables at the Wood Center as well as dancing and singing!

## **Hello UAF!**

Welcome to your monthly Staff Council update!

## **Health and Benefits!**

There are many under-utilized benefits that UA offers, including some easy ways to save money for yourself and for UAF. Here's a partial list:

- Sign up for electronic Explanation of Benefits (EOB) at [Premera.com](#); all you need is your ID card. The EOB is the ~5 page mailing received after a doctor visit that explains what's been billed/paid. It costs UAF a lot of money to mail these out so please consider signing up for electronic delivery instead.
  - Premera offers a free, confidential 24-hour NurseLine Service for advice, reassurance, answers. NurseLine helps you determine where and when to seek services; just call 800-841-8343.
  - New Employee Assistance Program provider: Deer Oaks
    - Call (888) 993-7650, anytime 24/7
    - [www.deeroakseap.com](http://www.deeroakseap.com), and use the username and password UofA
      - Mobile app is iConnectYou, use code 124773
      - In-person, short-term counseling: up to 10 sessions
      - Advantage Legal Assist: free 30-minute consultation with a plan attorney, 25% discount on hourly fees
      - Advantage Financial Assist: telephonic consultation with financial counselor for debt, budget, planning help
      - Work/Life Services: help finding pet sitters, event planners, home repair, tutors, moving services, etc.
      - "Take the High Road" reimburses members for cab or ride hailing fares if incapacitated (up to \$45, once per year)
  - Healthyroads has become a little more flexible, for example if your FY17 biometrics had 3 out of 5 measures "within range," you only need to do the PHA this year

Find more information on these benefits and much more, at <https://www.alaska.edu/benefits/>.

## **Strategic Pathways Phase 3**

President Johnsen will update the Board of Regents this week and there will be an additional round of public comment opportunities before implementation.

## **Staff and Faculty Representation on the Board of Regents**

The Resolution in support of adding Staff and Faculty Regents to the Board needs a legislative sponsor, which is being secured that so that the discussion can move forward.

## **Chancellor's Comments**

The new Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Keith Champagne, will start no later than Dec 4<sup>th</sup>. Susan Henrichs will be retiring next year and the recruitment for a new Provost will begin soon.

## **Staff Council's University Advocacy Developing Staff Mentoring Process**

The University Advocacy committee has been working on forming Google Communities to build resources for staff mentoring where staff can ask questions from the wider UAF community and receive answers directly from people who do similar functions.

## **Title IX**

While UAF has met all Office of Civil Rights deadlines so far, it is getting more challenging to keep up with the investigations and meeting compliance due to staffing issues. This is a high priority item, and continues to be worked on.

## **UAF Risk Register**

The UAF Risk Register is a list that the Chancellor keeps which prioritizes the top issues facing UAF, and each year this list is shared with Statewide Administration. There is a working group currently overhauling the Register, and morale will likely be one of the top issues for this year.

## **Staff Council Representative Nomination period open 9/15 to 9/30**

There will be a Google form link sent to all staff, and anyone we represent can nominate for available At-large and even-numbered Staff Council Units. Not sure who the even-numbered units are? Check it out [here](#)!! Elections will be through OrgSync and will start approximately the last week of October

## **Staff Council unit review**

This review will occur over the winter and early spring. We're converting to grouping by D-level instead of TKL, and some staff may experience a shift in their unit numbers.

## **360 evaluations for Staff**

Staff Affairs did not support 360 evaluations for staff and may survey the wider staff body for their input in the matter. They are drafting a Resolution opposing the proposed changes to the leave policy. They are working on a list of ADA related problems around campus and potential solutions, including the location and accessibility of the current DEO office. There will be a "button" to report any ADA issues on the facilities and HR websites very soon so that issues can be fixed (i.e. snow removal).

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To review the official Staff Council meeting minutes, read the agenda and handouts, or to hear the official recording, please visit the [Staff Council website](#).

- Jessica Allard, Staff Affairs Chair