



Staff Council News • Meeting #299 • February 12, 2019

Hello UAF! Welcome to your monthly Staff Council update!

Events

National TRiO Day at UAF

Thursday, February 21, 12-2 PM

Wood Center, MLL - Cake will be served!

Learn what TRiO programs are all about and what this day means to students who benefit from their services!

Brown Bag Lunch: Dealing with Difficult People

Friday, February 22, Noon-1pm

Gruening 301

Video Conference: [video.fairbanks5](https://video.fairbanks5.com)

Pin: 0024

Knowing how to deal with difficult people is an important skill. Learn to stay calm, deescalate conflict, and maintain your dignity even when dealing with the difficult people in your life.

Poker Flats 50th Anniversary Celebration

Saturday, March 9, 8PM - Midnight

Free Shuttle from campus!

Open Forum: Staff Morale

Tuesday, March 19, 1-2 PM

Announcements

Res Life is removing the 3 in-class credit hour enrollment requirement for housing, due to overwhelming student feedback.

OIT finished upgrading the video portal [Lecture Capture](#). Instructors who teach remotely can use it to record their lectures.

Safety Minute

Do your part to help stop the spread of germs during flu season! Higher levels of stress can lead to weakened immune systems; please remember to wash your hands and prevent sickness in your areas!

Chancellor's Remarks

Chancellor White has started a weekly leadership column on Fridays in the Cornerstone. Each Vice Chancellor will contribute one communication once per month. The Cornerstone will also include a budget communication every Wednesday.

The goal is to keep an open dialogue and transparent communication on budget items as the legislative session moves along.

Accreditation at UAF

Accreditation site visits, by Northwest Commission, occur every 7 years, and is scheduled for this September at UAF. Accreditation is based on 5 core themes, defined and selected 10 years ago. At that time, the accreditation process was changed from an accounting sense to a "what is your mission, can you meet your mission, and how can you demonstrate it?" sense.

To read more about accreditation at UAF, please see our [Accreditation](#) page.

Use of Annual Leave vs. Leave Without Pay (LWOP)

At Chancellor's cabinet, a comment was received about supervisors asking their employees to use LWOP to save money on their budgets, however department budgets do not work in this way.

Supervisors cannot approve more than 10 days of LWOP per year, and employees should not be taking LWOP if they have annual or sick leave available.

Guest Speaker: Sterling Steward, Athletics

Sterling Steward, UAF Athletics Director, has a vision for athletics at UAF: to develop program that is highly competitive and can giving back to UAF. Athletics is

aiming to function in the black in five years, and to be able to hand over scholarships to students in need. Athletics needs the whole UAF community to support athletic programs: come to games, encourage athletes, wear the brand!

Further, Athletics would like to see full community involvement with UAF sports, to include representation in as many local businesses as is possible. Athletics is changing their ticket vendor, allowing them to reduce ticket prices for games. Please feel free to [email Sterling Steward](#) with any ideas you may have in integrating Athletics into the greater UAF and Fairbanks communities!

1st Gen AK Project

The [Nanook Diversity and Action Center](#) is partnering with [Student Support Services](#) for the [1st Gen AK Project](#). This project is working to celebrate first generation college students, and helping to build community among first generation students. In so doing, the project aims to inspire and motivate first generation students to achieve their graduation goals.

ASUAF Updates

ASUAF wants to encourage staff to have students bring any concerns they may have to ASUAF directly. ASUAF meets on Sundays at 4:15pm until finished, and the ASUAF office is open every day 9a-5p in Wood Center. Currently ASUAF is working alongside Residence Life to advocate for students struggling to keep up with rising residence fees, and potential increases in light of budgetary concerns.

Texting UAF Students

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is a federal agency created to regulate interstate communications for the purpose of assuring safe and readily available wire and radio communication nationwide. Current FCC regulations ban the use of mass text messages which are similar to auto-dialers, used by most commercial spammers, unless your audience has specifically given consent to receive messages, or the messages are for emergencies.

If your department sends mass texts out to students without checking to make sure that the student has opted in to receive messages from UAF, you may be inadvertently breaking FCC regulations.

Please contact [Martha Mason at OIT](#) if your department sends out mass text messages, so that we can be sure UAF is always adhering to FCC regulation.

UAF News and Information: Grapevine

The [Grapevine](#) is designed to dispel rumors, correct misconceptions and clear up misunderstandings about UAF topics of a general nature. It is run by UAF University Relations, and in many cases, questions put forth are answered directly by a dean or director within the applicable area.

Always feel free to contact your Staff Council Representative to have an item or issue brought forward for discussion.

The members of Staff Council are the voice for non-represented staff across the UAF community. Staff Council acts as a change agent and brings concerns and issues up for consideration.

[Find my representative!](#)

Check out the [Staff Council Facebook Page!](#)

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

- Jessica Allard, Staff Affairs Chair

Staff Council's Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 12, 2019 • 9:30 AM - Noon