



Staff Council News • Meeting #300 • March 12, 2019

Hello UAF! Welcome to your monthly Staff Council update!

Events

Staff Morale Open Forum
Tuesday, March 19, 1-2 p.m.
Wood Center

Brown Bag Lunch: Managing Change
Wednesday, March 20, Noon-1 p.m.
Gruening 301

President Johnsen’s State of the University Address
Tuesday, March 26, 1-2 p.m.
Wood Center Ballroom
Livestream:
<http://www.alaska.edu/pres/sou>

Inaugural eSports & Gaming Summit
Hosted by SOM
Saturday, March 30, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Wood Center
Free gaming, prizes and food, as well as keynote speaker Jimmy Chan from Twitch. Registration closes on 3/15!

Announcements

Inside Out hosted approximately 150 – 200 students and their parents on March 8th. [UAF’s Centennial video](#) was shown at the event, emphasizing how UAF started, and where we’re headed for the future.

Poker Flat Research Range’s 50th Anniversary celebration was a hit! Over 800 people attended the event, and public support for the range was very outspoken by attendees.

Safety Minute

This is a very high stress time for many of us at UAF. Take care of yourselves and look out for others!

Chancellor’s Remarks

Planning Initiatives: Strategic Enrollment is our approach to enrollment at UAF. It includes entire all of our campuses in their entirety to engage with students from high school all the way through their UAF experience.

Budget: Legislators are confident that we will not end at Governor Dunleavy’s proposed budgetary number. The Board is endorsing UAF in Juneau to maintain the university budget at its current level.

Accreditation at UAF

UAF is preparing for a site visit September 23rd - 25th, 2019 by NCCU accreditors. UAF uses a peer evaluation system, where there is no “hard line to meet”. We define our own core themes and benchmarks on our mission fulfillment. Ultimately, the accreditors are looking to see that we, as an institution, are serving our students well by meeting our benchmarks.

UAF’s Core Themes

- C (connect)
- R (research)
- E (educate)
- P (prepare)
- E (engage)

Accreditation is measured in two ways: regional and programmatic. Regional accreditation is the overall UA institution’s accreditation. Programmatic accreditation is separately held by each accredited school and college within each MAU. Accreditation is important because it enables students to say that they have graduated from a quality program, promotes transfers across UA, and allows for UA to receive federal funding.

Local high school students have reported deciding not to enroll at UAF, or UA in general, this fall because they are worried about accreditation, stemming from UAA’s School of Education losing their accreditation. Since UA’s institutions are separately, programmatically accredited,

UAA's accreditation does not affect UAF programs. Further, because programmatic accreditation is program specific, one school or college's loss of accreditation holds no bearing on the accreditation of another school or college within UAF. This is the same at UAA and UAS. As a part of our strategic enrollment processes, it is important for all of us to ensure that future students fully understand accreditation at UA.

To read more about accreditation at UAF, please see our [Accreditation](#) page. Questions about accreditation can be directed to UAF's Accreditation Liaison Officer, [Alexandra Fitts](#).

Nanook Diversity and Action Center Safe Zone Training

The Nanook Diversity and Action Center is now conducting "Safe Zone Training". According to the Center:

LGBTQ folks sometimes question whether they will feel safe, welcomed, or supported in a new environment. Displaying "Safe Zone" stickers can help an organization communicate to others a commitment to creating LGBTQ-inclusive environments.

The goal of a Safe Zone training isn't to change a particular space, but to create people who are invested in creating safe and affirming environments wherever they go, and providing those people the skills and knowledge they need to do that.

For more information or to schedule a training for your department, [submit a Safe Zone Training Request!](#)

2019 Pathfinder Awardee Named!

Congratulations to Robin Brooks for being named the 2019 Pathfinder Award winner!

The Pathfinder Award is an annual award established in 2012 to honor one outstanding UAF staff member who exemplifies the compassion and dedication to student success demonstrated by Kay L. Thomas.

Upcoming Award Nomination Deadlines!

- The [UAF Staff Make Students Count Award](#) nominations are due Friday, March 15!
- The [Chancellor's Cornerstone Award](#) nomination deadline is March 22nd.

Don't miss your opportunity to nominate someone!

Advocating for UA

Those interested in advocating for the University of Alaska, and all education across our state, may find the links listed below helpful:

[UA advocacy](#) | [UA Government Relations Twitter](#) | [UAF advocacy](#) | [K12 outreach](#)

Please remember to advocate on your own time, using non-UA resources.

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, April 9, 2019 • 9:30 AM - Noon