University of Alaska System Governance 2025 Yukon Drive P.O. Box 757780 Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-5000



Phone: (907) 450-8055 Fax: (907) 450-8002 www.alaska.edu/governance/

MEMORANDUM

Date: November 29, 2021

To: Pat Pitney, UA Interim President

From: Juella Sparks, Chair, UA Staff Alliance

Re: Status of Systemwide Councils

For several years, Staff Alliance was invited to send a representative to each of the 11 Systemwide Councils. As recently as September 2019, Staff Alliance submitted the names of staff representatives to serve on these councils. This membership was greatly valued as a way for staff to have knowledge of, and have the opportunity to contribute to, initiatives and discussions that directly impact staff. Knowing and understanding how and where decisions are made throughout the system is a key part of effective shared governance, and having staff representatives on these councils is a valuable step towards that.

In the last year and a half it has become unclear to Staff Alliance whether some of these Councils still exist and if they are still meeting regularly. We formally request 1) confirmation of which of the Systemwide Councils still exist, and 2) that Staff Alliance retain a seat on each of them. We'd also like to ask that the Councils resume posting their agendas on their public websites.

This is a list of the systemwide councils as they were known in 2019:

- Summit Team
- Business Council
- Community Campus
- Development & Alumni
- Facilities Subcommittee
- Information Technology
- Student Services
- Human Resources
- Institutional Research
- Research
- University Relations

A list of the systemwide councils Alliance understands are no longer formed and/or operational:

- Information Technology
- Human Resources

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- Institutional Research
- Research
- University Relations

Thank you for your consideration.

cc: Paul Layer, VP Academics, Students & Research Noel Romanovsky, Governance Support