

Staff Council Rural Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

October 5

Excused Absent: Sara Battiest, Pips Veazey, Richard Machida, Evelyn Pensgard, Ben Tucker, Mary Sue Dates

Meeting started at 11:15

- 1) Cont'd Discussion on COLA: Brad reported on information that he'd received from UA's Compensation Director, Jeannine Senechal. Jeannine told him – given the current differences between UA employee and state employee geo diff – that someone is looking at our current geo diff.
- 2) Con't discussion on staff participation in the review of the General Education curriculum: the concern is that staff perform academic advising and so might have input in the review. Bryan said that advising is different from the review because advising involves helping to select classes, not what the classes should be. If the goal is to improve advising, there are avenues to do that that don't involve academic advising. Ashley said that she thought we needed more info, but if there is a way to staff to participate, then we have a way in.
- 3) Brad shared information about a recent purchase of a hybrid vehicle at the Chukchi campus, and info he'd received from UAF Transportation about purchasing for the rural campus and
- 4) Better ways to help rural staff stay healthy: Bryan said that the WIN program came to his campus and that they offer the same services to rural sites via audio conference and face-to-face appointments. Ashley said that they do IHPs over the phone. Robert said that part of the problem is that some of the rural campuses don't have a way to diet or exercise more because some of the facilities are at UAF. Ashley asked if we could buy equipment for home gyms or a rebate similar to a gym membership rebate done by the JHCC. Brad asked if there are state programs that the University could support? Ashley asked what happens to the old equipment at the SRC. Brad said he would email this person when they hire a new director.
- 5) [Placeholder for Robert's remarks]

The meeting ended at noon.