Staff Council Rural Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 5, 2011         10:00 AM

Present: Brad Krick, Susie Baird, Sara Battiest, Bryan Uher, Ashley Munro, Richard Machida, Kerissa Brady, Travis Brinzow

Not Present: Robert Mackey, Ben Tucker, Joseph Hickman

1. Called to order by Brad Krick at 10:08 AM
2. Cont’d discussion on the Peggy Wood award and Staff Recognition subcommittee:

   Ashley Munroe informed the group that she had received six nominations for the award – the most ever received so far – and the deadline for nominations is April 25th. In previous years, the subcommittee had been made up of members of the Rural Affairs committee who had not been eligible for the award. Brad moved that the committee continue with the Staff Recognition subcommittee as last year. There was a second.

   Bryan Uher said that the award should be voted on by members from outside the Rural Affairs committee. This year’s reconfiguration of the award means that some staff who are on the Fairbanks campus are eligible for the award and/or might know staff who have been nominated. Susie Baird said that it might be too late to get an outside committee approved, but recommended that we table the discussion for now and consider changes for next year’s award. Ashley said that this award was a cash only award and not strictly within guidelines. However, there is a possibility that a foundation account will be set up. There was general agreement that this discussion should be tabled and continued for next year’s award.

   Vote for continuing with a Staff Recognition Subcommittee proceeded, with the vote unanimous to continue with a subcommittee for this year’s award. Brad asked that volunteers for the subcommittee email Ashley.

3. Staff Appreciation Day: Ashley told the committee that funds were available for rural sites to plan their own events for that day. Staff in Anchorage, Dillingham, Kotzebue, Nome, Seward, and Soldotna are planning events (example: gardening day, pizza party, etc.) There is no explicit restriction on use as long as the money is spent for a staff-only event. Reports on the events will be brought back to the S.A. committee and can be provided to Rural Affairs. Susie noted that last year’s event had been extremely popular; Ashley responded that they definitely want feedback. Ashley said that OIT will not be doing webstreaming, but that the Chancellor has indicated there will definitely be a solution. One event per hour (this is an estimate) will be streamed for off-campus staff –
volunteers to help choose events are welcome. It was also suggested that an evaluation form be provided to rural and distance staff so they can provide feedback on the event. Brad asked if sites that were not given money for an event this year will still be able to request money for an event. Ashley said that it was too late for them (Juneau and IAC) to receive money, but that they are welcome to hold events.

4. Brad will use Google Calendar to schedule meetings, in addition to email. He will also send out invites four weeks or so in advance, instead of two, to help with scheduling.

5. The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM