

Rural Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes of February 6, 2009

Present: Jennifer Youngberg, Byrd Norton, Juella Sparks, and Liz Recchia

Excused: Jennifer Elhard and Ashley Munro

1. Call to Order – Liz called the meeting to order at 1:33 pm.
2. Discuss Theme(s) for Committee to Focus on this Year
 - a. Consistent Annual Training in Current Field--Not discussed since there wasn't any action or very many people at the meeting.
 - b. Cost of Living Differential--Not discussed since there wasn't any action or very many people at the meeting.
 - c. Creating a Strong Rural Voice with UAF--Not discussed since there wasn't any action or very many people at the meeting.
 - d. Special Topics Workshops for Staff--Liz reported that she only heard back from Jennifer Elhard in terms of requested topics. The top three choices from Northwest Campus were health benefits, distribution of university budget, and training in different distance delivery modes. The group decided to try to set up an audioconference presentation on March 6 from 1:30-2:30pm on distribution on university budget. Juella suggested contacting Pete Kelly, who works closely with the legislature on behalf of the university. He would know a lot about the university budget. Liz agreed to email him and Juella said that she would mention something to him as well. Juella also suggested contacting Maria Russell who works on the Advocacy Committee and maybe we could partner up with them. Liz also agreed to make contact with Maria Russell.
3. E-Learning-- Not discussed since there wasn't any action or very many people at the meeting.
4. Staff Recognition Award-- Liz reported on behalf of Ashley that she forwarded on the award committees suggestions from the last rural affairs meeting to Jennie Carroll. Jennie was okay with the timeline of things but since the award money comes from the director's donations, she wants to check with them. Ashley thinks that the deadline might need to be pushed back to March 27 but is waiting to hear back from Jennie. Once she does, the awards committee will work on sending out announcements about the award.
5. Other--
 - i. Liz reported that she received a letter of resignation from Jennifer Denslinger at Bristol Bay. Jennifer is working on finding a replacement from the campus.

- ii. Juella asked Liz to email the rural reps on the graduations dates at each campus. Right now staff council is scheduled for a face-to-face meeting in April and May. She was thinking of having the face-to-face meeting on May 12 so that staff council can come in on May 11 for staff recognition day. Liz said that she would try to get those dates before staff council's face-to-face meeting on February 20.
6. Next Meeting: March 6, 2009 at 2:30pm---NOTE THE CHANGE IN TIME!!! THIS IS TO ACCOMMODATE OUR WORKSHOP ON THE DISTRIBUTION OF UNIVERSITY BUDGET. WE HOPE TO BE OFFERING THAT FROM 1:30-2:30PM!
7. Adjournment—The meeting was adjourned at 2:05pm.