

Rural Affairs Committee Report for Staff Council Meeting #226

The committee met on Tuesday, March 6 to discuss:

- 1) The committee chair position: Brad will continue on as chair and is open to a new chair or a co-chair if there are any members who are interested.
- 2) Advising for rural students during the summer. There are issues with students not being able to get advising during summer when campuses are closed and/or advising staff are off-contract. This might also affect other services, like test proctoring. Apparently, some campuses solve the problem by staggering their staff to ensure there is always coverage. The committee will likely have some additional information about this next month and be talking about it again at our April meeting.
- 3) We also discussed staff contracts in general, and if it is still useful to the university given that we do so much more business during the summer and online. One suggestion was that staff should be year-round unless there is a specific reason for a 9 or 10 month contract.