

Rural Affairs Committee Report for Staff Council Meeting #227

The committee met on Tuesday, April 10. We discussed:

- 1) How the proposed Staff Council re-organization might affect rural representation. There were concerns raised about a reduction of the number of rural representatives. There was also a question about how the number of rural representatives on the 17 member group would be calculated: how many members of the group would have to be rural reps?
- 2) Face-to-face meetings: It was suggested that if the reorganization does take place, then we should fly rural reps in for SC meetings more often than twice a year. We discussed budgetary concerns – even if we have fewer members who would be coming in for a face to face meeting, there may still be budget issues with having more face-to-face meetings. Some members suggested that perhaps funds could be found from represented departments or grant money.
- 3) A member asked if there was any kind of communication from Staff Council that told staff who we are and what we do. The Communications committee has been working on such a message, based heavily on our webpages's 'About Us' section. Someone suggested that such an email could include a link to MarySue's blog. Brad will take the suggestion to the Communications group.