

Meeting Report – Rural Affairs

March 2013

Tuesday, March 5, 2013

10:00-11:00am

In Attendance:

Jeannette Altman (Chair), Sara Battiest, Kirsten Bey, Travis Brinzow, Deb Jeppsen, Adam Kane, Brad Krick, Nicole Dufour

Excused:

Benjamin Tucker, Chris Beks, Ashley Munro, Richard Machida, Evelyn Pensgard, Juella Sparks, Claudia Koch

Note – first successful Google Hangout was employed for our meeting!

Report:

Feedback Loops

How do smaller organizations safely address concerns when it is more likely that the people involved could be involved in the “feedback loop?” In the absence of a university ombudsman, the UAF Grapevine was identified as a good way to ask broad questions regarding HR, dispel rumors, clear up misunderstandings. For more personal employee/HR issues, the committee was directed to Mae Marsh (Office of Diversity and Equal Opportunity).

At Large Seats/Abolition of Alternate Seats

There is reason for concern with the at-large seats – while anyone can run, the smaller campuses may not have the numbers to elect a representative when faced with the voting population of other, larger units. Could there be at-large seats earmarked for rural campuses? Can there be a representative for each campus? This committee will continue this discussion in April and craft a motion. All Staff Council members and interested staff are welcome to attend.

Travel Proposal

We have begun discussing strategies to reach the most amount of rural staff on our proposed visit

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 10:00 am