

## Rural Affairs Committee Report for SC Meeting #221

Committee Chair: Brad Krick

Rural Affairs met on Tuesday, Oct 4 and Wednesday, Oct 5. It was primarily a discussion meeting. The group discussed COLA/geo differentials, staff participation in academic advising, an item about a hybrid vehicle used at the Chukchi campus, and the university can help rural staff stay healthy.

Discussion on COLA centered on Brad's emails from the UA compensation director. He was told that the university matched the state in most cases and that the university was reviewing recent changes made by the state. Brad said that he would email the compensation office again with more questions from the meeting.

Discussion continued on the possibility of staff participation in the review of the general education curriculum. One committee member said that curriculum development is a faculty issue and not a staff one. Another committee member said that if there was a place for staff participation, it would be worth exploring. Discussion was tabled until a future meeting.

The meeting ended with a discussion of health program for rural staff, especially about whether or not they are accessible and if there was anything more we or the university could do to ensure that rural locations get the same options.