

# Staff Council Rural Affairs

## September Meeting Report

### 9/3/2013

**Present:**

Jeannette Altman (Chair), Sara Battiest, Christian Beks, Kirsten Bey, Travis Brinzow, Emily Hemenway, Deb Jeppsen, Adam Kane, Richard Machida, Evelyn Pensgard, Greg Simpson, Ben Tucker, and executive members Brad Krick, & Nicole Dufour

**Excused:**

Sara Battiest, Deb Jeppsen, Evelyn Pensgard

**Kay L. Thomas Pathfinder Award**

This award honors Kay Thomas, a soft-spoken lady who gave over twenty years of herself to ensure Alaska Native student retention and success in their university studies and experience. Kay is blessed with the gift of humility, grace, and compassion, a person who does not seek praise or accolades. Through her compassionate and highly effective guidance and academic advising skills, Kay impacted the lives of over 2,000 students at the University of Alaska. Kay retired from the Department of Alaska Native Studies and Rural Development (DANSRD) in January 2012.

Our committee is interested in making staff on rural campuses aware that this award is accepting nominations in the near future. Jeannette sent an email to Cathy Brooks, who will notify us when the nomination period opens and will also send us flyers to distribute on our campuses.

**Weekend Pay for Rural Campuses**

Following up with the discussion with Chancellor Rogers in August's Staff Council meeting: how does a UAF employee make up time on weekends? Is it flex time, or another informal avenue? What about overtime? The rules governing this seem to be open to interpretation. We will be researching this and bringing information back to the October meeting.

**Motion Crafting – Alternate vs. At-Large**

Discussion continued; the spirit of the proposed amendments are agreeable, but there is concern about how they will be implemented. It is proposed that seats 2 & 4 are elected with even numbered years/units, and 1, 3, & 5 are elected with odd numbered years/units. Currently there are no alternates in Units 2 & 4, so by default odd-numbered unit alternates will finish out their terms. We will continue work on the wording of the amendments outside of regular meetings in order to be prepared for the September 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.