

**Civil Service Council (CSC) Meeting
November 2, 2004
APPROVED**

Present: Vicki Bryan, Martha Burk, Pam Burress, Tammy Carlson, Paul Collins,
Steve Lancaster, Christa Lawhun, Melody Palm, Tom D. Ryan, Pat Schnitker,
Jan Jolynn Staley, Elaine Thoennes, Jack Wylie
Absent: Julie Caplinger, John Moss, Theresa Sanchez, Doris Shaw, Marcia Strum,
Dave Turner,

Martha called the meeting to order at 12:05. A Thank you note to President & Mrs. Bowman for hosting dinner was passed around for signatures.

Approval of Minutes— Minutes for October 19, 2004 were approved as amended (Christa/Vicki)

On-going

- **Bus Trip Nov. 13**— 47 reservations have been paid to date. Committee members have been meeting via email. Council approved up to \$40 for water/snacks for participants (Christa/Jan). Council approved changing the \$20 drawing prize for one winner on each bus (approved 10/19/04) to approval for up to \$20 per bus for the drawing, with details and number of winners to be determined by the committee. (Christa/Pat)
- **Monical's Night Nov. 23**— Flyers have been distributed to council members. Anyone can use the flyers, which will also be available from the website. A message will be sent out on the listserv closer to the date.
- **Holiday Party Dec. 4**— Details for the photo form aren't finalized yet. Christa will continue working with the photographer. Remaining items include gift bags and wrapping up details.
- **Council of Councils Report**— Steve passed around materials received at the meeting. Tom Morelock gave a very interesting presentation including the E-testing process. The Director of SURS indicated that the retirement system is doing well, and regaining investment ground from the downturn during the 1980's. Since the meeting, Bill Brady has been appointed as member of retirement study committee.

A representative from Northern Illinois expressed concerns about a Congressional bill that, if passed, will require universities to meet an "affordability index." While the goal is to keep education affordable, if the bill passes as it is, it would be very difficult to meet. If universities fail to meet the index, they would be prevented from receiving certain federal money. Steve emphasized the need for staff and citizens to be informed and in contact with our representatives and let them know our opinions.

- **OpenLine**— Pam asked about the standard abbreviations for ads in the Openline. Sometimes the text-box of abbreviations takes more space than the ads would with the text written out. The council approved a motion accepting the editor's discretion for information in the Openline (Vicki/Jan Jolyn). There was discussion about including the full text of Monicals flyer in the November issue. Christa will check with Monicals about whether size is critical. Volunteers may need help to stuff the issue if the full page is used as an insert.
- Martha shared copy of Northern Illinois University CS newsletter. They've indicated their council reads our Openline at their meetings. It was suggested that Martha write a note or greeting to include in the next issue.
- **Human Resources**— Tammy learned yesterday details of the mail order pharmacy program for Quality Care, Health Alliance Illinois (not HMO), OSF Winnebago, and Health Link OAP. Details about the program and additional information will be sent to those affected by the program. Program applies to maintenance medications only (those taken on regular basis). By mail order, participants receive a 3 month supply for 2 co-payments. A memo of understanding between the governor and legislators allows participating Caremark pharmacies to contract for the same arrangement. HR will be contacting local pharmacies and will keep a list on their website.

- **Annuitants Discussion**— Discussion continued from the 10/19/04 meeting on the suggestion to add an Annuitant member to the CSC. Communication lines should be established first before considering formalizing with “positions.” The annuitants could be invited to send a regular guest and see how both CSC/Annuitants feel after a trial period. Any CSC constitutional amendment could potentially go out with the election mailing. The Annuitants Association is very strong, and communicates with legislators. They’re a valuable voice for all campus staff and faculty. A motion was approved to contact the Annuitants Association and suggest they consider sending a regular representative to our meetings, with reciprocal participation from CSC (Steve/Vicki). Martha will follow through and report back what she finds out.

Other Business

- Steve suggested that periodically (perhaps quarterly?) the Openline include email addresses for legislators, representatives, SURS, State CS sites. These should also be updated on the CSC website. See partial list below. Christa will also include in listserv messages.
- Ira Schoenwald would appreciate people checking out the SUCSS Class Status Notices site, and sharing through the site “contact us” option.
- Vicki gave a brief update on reaccreditation. The steering committee met with the Board of Trustees, and presented the document. It’s still in draft form, being finalized, and available online. The document has been in making for 2-3 years. The chair of the site visit team will be on campus two days in late November. The site visit team will be at ISU Feb 14-16.
- Christa asked about the status of the petition for renaming a building in honor of Bob Monniger. Martha will be talking with Pres. Bowman next week.
- Steve Lancaster has been appointed as the CSC representative to the University Team Excellence Awards Committee.

Reminders

- Bus Trip - Nov. 13
- Monical's Night - Nov. 23
- Holiday Party - Dec. 4
- Preferred Customer Shopping Night at K's - Dec. 5
- Deadline for next 2 OpenLines -Nov. 2, Dec. 7
- Food Drive - after the first of the year

Web Sites

- State Universities Civil Service System: <http://www.sucss.state.il.us>
- SUCSS Classification Status Notices: <http://www.sucss.state.il.us/cpm.asp>
- Annuitants: <http://www.annuitants.ilstu.edu>
- Civil Service Council: <http://www.cscouncil.ilstu.edu>
- A/P council: <http://www.apcouncil.ilstu.edu>
- Academic Senate: <http://www.academicssenate.ilstu.edu>
- Human Resources: <http://www.hr.ilstu.edu>

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 p.m. (Christa/Vicki)

The next regular Civil Service Council meeting will be held Tuesday, November 16, at Noon in the Bone Student Center Spotlight Room