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**Civil Service Council (CSC) Meeting  
February 7, 2006  
APPROVED**

Council members present: Martha Burk, Pat Schnitker, Linda Klawitter, John Moss, Jack Wylie, Jac Copes, Sarita Cox, Barb Arbogast, Steve Lancaster, Julie Caplinger, Jan Staley, Vicki Bryan

Ex-officio members present: Dave Turner, Jan Cook

Council members absent: Melody Palm, Ron Thompson, Tom Ryan

Guests: Dick Runner, Director of Facilities Planning  
Rick Kentzler, University Architect

Meeting called to order at 12:03 p.m.

Martha introduced guests Dick Runner and Rick Kentzler.

Dick showed a PowerPoint slide presentation concerning what is now being referred to as "the Gregory Street property", 270 acres which was formerly the University Farm. Both gentlemen shared that use of the property is still in the early planning stages for the actual usage.

The plan is to incorporate as much of the natural terrain in a bio-friendly manner as possible (sustainability); the property has natural drainage on three sides so creation of wet areas with ponds or lakes will greatly reduce the need for drainage infrastructure and will be less invasive to the land itself. Parking and distance (from the main campus) issues and expansion of the shuttle bus system would need to be addressed. One concept for the area was shown which included about 35% green space along with areas that would possibly be used for classrooms, academic support units, housing, retail, etc. It was repeatedly stressed that any and all use of this property would be University-related, although partnerships would be sought to help with funding. If Cottage Avenue were to be extended to Raab Road, the street would pass through the property in a meandering fashion (in order to slow traffic) but would have a large green space border. Ideally buildings would not be over three stories to be more sensitive to the land and the surrounding area. Because the plan for the property is very dynamic the ultimate use could include some of the ideas presented today shift in a completely different direction. Nothing has been decided at this time other than the commitment that whatever the development, it will occur with "sustainability" in mind.

Dick encouraged us to contact him, or Rick, with any suggested usages, concerns regarding various University and community impact concerns, etc. Dick is at 438-2143 [rccrunne@ilstu.edu](mailto:rccrunne@ilstu.edu), and Rick is at 438-8606 [rdkentz@ilstu.edu](mailto:rdkentz@ilstu.edu).

Several Council members expressed a variety of observations concerning site usage, positive ecological use of the land, and the impact development of that parcel would have on and with other areas and units of campus.

Previous minutes will be offered for approval at the next meeting when Melody Palm is present.

Steve Lancaster e-mailed legislative information to Council members after the meeting:

Marcia Strum sent information on the following website [www.illinoischannel.org](http://www.illinoischannel.org)  
This is a non-partisan, not-for-profit organization that posts unedited information on state legislative and public events activity. Steve has found it to be very informative, and requests the Council's approval to post this link on our website and add it to the list of address we have in the Openline.

Steve plans plan on composing a letter to go to the U.S. Senate Finance Committee. The letter will address the WPE and GPO and be based on the letter previously sent to our state representatives.

The Legislative Committee will regroup after surgeries and semester break absences interrupted our progress and communication.

No Human Resource representative was present.

Martha read a letter of response from Senator Barak Obama concerning the Social Security Government Pension Offset/Windfall Elimination Provision (GPO/WEP). This is the law that reduces the amount of Social Security payments for people who have also earned a Government (federal or state) pension. Obama is co-sponsor of a bill to repeal the GPO/WEP. This is Senate bill 619 (S.619).

Martha also indicated that we received several thank-you notes from scholarship recipients. Claire House sent a thank you note for our donation of the extra goodie bags from the Civil Service/AP Children's Holiday Party.

Upcoming activities will include the Distinguished Service Award, Esprit de Corps award (if we decide to give one), the CS/AP Awards Recognition Ceremony and Reception in April, the Council Raffle, and the Cubs game bus trip, probably in May. Scholarship applications will be available in late April or early May with a June 1 due date. Council elections will be in late spring with the new Council being seated in July.

A loose calendar of lead story subjects was given to Pam Burress to assist her in planning future editions of the Open Line.

Jan Cook mentioned articles from the Chicago Tribune regarding the on-going Social Security issue. She also advised that the Annuitants Association was encouraging other Annuitant Associations to contact area legislators and publish their views on various issues important to annuitants and university employees. It is hoped that publishing this information will give voters the opportunity to express their opinions at the polls and consequently make legislators more responsive to our needs.

Meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

The next regular Civil Service Council meeting will be held Tuesday, February 21, at Noon in the Bone Student Center Spotlight Room.