

Civil Service Council (CSC) Meeting

October 18, 2005

APPROVED

Present: Barb Arbogast, Martha Burk, Pam Burress, Tammy Carlson, Sarita Cox, Linda Klawitter, Steve Lancaster, John Moss, Melody Palm, Pat Schnitker, Jan Jolynn Staley, Ron Thompson, Dave Turner, Jack Wylie
Absent: Vicki Bryan, Julie Caplinger, Jac Copes, Tom D. Ryan, Kevin Wiand

Martha called the meeting to order at 12:03.

Approval of Minutes— Minutes for September 20 and October 4 were approved (Linda/John)

On-going—

- Homecoming wrap-up: Martha reported that we had a great turn out and the truck was full of people. Distributed lots of candy during the parade. In previous years, candy has been purchased out of the GR account. Policies have been reinterpreted, and we'll need to use our self-generated funds in the future. Pat is following up on related questions concerning the Holiday Children's Party.
- Council of Councils: The meeting was at NIU; Martha and Steve attended. The speaker from SURS was a benefits counselor. He felt that we came out of SURS legislation with few detriments. Online testing for CS Classifications was discussed at the meeting. 60% of the classification testing is expected to be online. Testing is currently closed to outside applicants when no positions are available. A statewide register is under consideration. There are 1200 CS classifications. The number of classifications has been reduced in recent years. 76 universities and community colleges are in the SURS system. \$58,000,000 per month to meet retirement. There are six candidates for the new executive director of SURS. Within the next 2-3 months a decision is expected. It is hoped that the plan to borrow against the retirement system will be addressed at the legislative veto session later this month. It would be less costly for the state to borrow money to balance the budget than to "borrow" it from the pension funds. Bond interest is less than the repayment interest to the pension funds. The Council of Councils meeting included roundtable discussion time. Martha and Steve had requested two topics: legislative issues and communication between councils. There weren't moderators, and discussions went off topic, and rambled. A listserv is being created for statewide university employees. Any employees interested in joining the listserv should contact: jloring@siue.edu
- Holiday Party: Al and Linda Bowman are both planning to attend. Jess Ray from A/P Council is planning to attend the CSC meeting Nov 1 to share ideas from APC members.
- Legislative Committee: Steve provided a draft of a letter to Senator Brady and Representative Brady regarding borrowing from the pension funds. The letter will be sent prior to the legislative veto session. Steve plans to do more specific research and will send an updated draft by email. The letter was approved.
- Steve met with Tim Longfellow, Chair of the Marketing Department. Notes of the meeting and areas of concern for CSC were distributed. The council would work with a Marketing class to carry out a survey of CS staff. Potential incentives were discussed briefly. The survey results would be utilized to develop an advertising/communication campaign. Council members approved moving forward with the plan as outlined.
- Annuitants Representative: no report
- OpenLine: Jan Jolynn or John will write the "What the council means to me" article for the November issue. Pam will be on vacation the first week of November. Anything going in for Openline that week should be submitted to Narri. nkim@ilstu.edu Next issue has the University Staff Association information in it, K's Merchandise night, and the Children's Holiday Party.
- Human Resources: Tammy suggests having Julie Jenson come to a CSC meeting to talk about e-testing, and changes in HR. John reported constituent concerns about two different incidents of work place injuries with witnesses that were turned down for worker's compensation coverage. Tammy clarified that no one on campus makes decisions about worker's compensation claims. Health and safety provides a report, and decisions are made at the state level. Physicians have to submit documentation. Doug Saxton, Benefits, is the HR contact. If

reporting and documentation processes aren't followed, that may be the issue. John will encourage the individuals to contact Tammy. She will help them figure out what happened, and what may be possible. Ron suggested having a presentation at a CSC meeting to clarify procedures Tammy suggested contacting J.C. Crabill, Director of Environmental Health & Safety, for his suggestions about the best person to do this.

Other—

- Steve has heard several times recently that sending emails to government representatives isn't the best way to contact them. He suggested posting addresses on the CSC website as well as email contact information. Steve will send the information to Pam for posting.
- Pat shared an observation related to Monicals night. The "regular" discount on carry out doesn't apply. Dining room prices are applied to carry out for these events. This was mentioned on the fliers

Reminders—

- Deadline for next 2 OpenLines – Nov 1, Dec 6
- Holiday party - Saturday, December 3, 10:00 a.m.

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 12:54 p.m. (Ron /Steve)

The next regular Civil Service Council meeting will be held Tuesday, November 1, at Noon in the Bone Student Center 3E Lounge.