

**Present:** Barb Arbogast, Vicki Bryan, Jac Copes, Tom Cotton, Ted Coussens, Sarita Cox, Jean Darnall, Brian Huonker, Theresa Sanchez, Nancy Spangler, Dave Turner

**Absent:** David Bagnell, Valerie Bridson, Mark Buckley, Melody Palm, Jan Jolynn Staley, Kevin Wiand, Pam Burress

**Guests:** Jan Cook, Diane Ruch, Andee Radliff

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Council Vice-Chair Brian called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.

**-Approved minutes:** March 17<sup>th</sup> minutes, Jean/Tom, motion carried.

**Ongoing Discussion Topics:**

o Committee Reports

- Elections – Sarita – news not good, no candidates for groups 1 or 5, other groups have at least one candidate. Last year group 5 had five candidates, not this year, there is not as much interest. Everyone is encouraged to nominate a co-worker or themselves. We like to have the new people elected so we can have the last meeting in June, so there's a little time for them to make arrangements and prepare. Usually we have it done by the end of May.

Theresa – have encountered confusion from constituents as to representation, there is a belief that the positions are filled, 'we already have someone sitting here.' Sarita – usually when we do not have a candidate, we ask them to stay on another year. Have received nominations for group 1, but it was someone nominating someone else and the candidate declined. Maybe in the future we will want to change the wording on the application from 'nomination' to 'candidate application. Applications have been filled out incorrectly too, may want to clarify the instructions.

Barb – thought we had nominations and then a form for candidates. Sarita – in the past, you would be contacted if you were nominated and then you would be put on the ballot, a few years ago it was changed to accept self-nominations. Vicki – it was changed because the nominees usually had no interest, the Council felt that if it were changed into a self-nomination, makes it easier for those with interest to apply. Tom – would we be able to get something out in the next OpenLine? Jan Cook – even if we can get nominations from others, suggestions, would help increase participation. Jac – what's wrong with listserv emails? We know there is a population that does not get it in a timely manner, but it would be faster. Theresa volunteered to draft a message for the OpenLine and a listserv email. Vicki – another thing the election committee can do is see if there's interest from previous CSC members and applicants.

- Activities: Wrigley Bus Trip – no news, trip is May 27.

- o University IT Client Satisfaction Survey: <http://www.ctsg.ilstu.edu/survey> [Note – this survey will close on Monday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at midnight.] Jac – as a follow-up on computer policy on campus, took the survey and it was not particularly designed for non-literate computer users. Notified creators of the survey. Nancy – Mark Walbert has presented to the council before on this. Brian – part of this is bringing this issue up with the right people, also was not impressed with the survey, it only represented one side. Barb – wasn't sure about the cell phone questions, Brian – it was to address cell phone coverage on campus, there are areas where service is poor, and it may be used for emergency contact,

but if they're going to do that they needed input, that's what they were getting at on the survey, the wording wasn't the best.

Also follow-up, the electronic access memo was sent last week, Melody circulated the notice. Jac – the point of my comments is that we [campus] are not willing to free-flow information, don't know what the barriers and boundaries are, we don't communicate very effectively. Brian – maybe adjust our letter to HR regarding access and rewording it for others on campus, isolating those who can make a difference, try to get more attention drawn to the issue, because it is only going to get worse with the Report going online-only, as well as payroll/pay records and stubs. Barb – so if you don't take the problem directly to them, they won't know there's a problem? Brian – until I was on the Council, wasn't even aware there was a problem with online access.

Jac – how do we get it from this council out, then? Brian – send it to provost on down, then perhaps a follow-up scheduled conversation. Theresa – there also may be a side-benefit while looking at the university as a whole, even if something else is not happening university-wide, may cause others to make things easier, make changes. Jan Cook – this is an area of policy and broad procedure, this is considered specific and is usually delegated out, may not get response from further up. Brian – that would be a third place to bring it up (academic senate meeting).

Dave T. – most effective may be from worker on up, to alert their supervisors and those they work with what's going on, what's going to change [Report/paystubs online only]. As an immediate supervisor, if the thought were placed to me, I'm on the spot to find an answer. Barb motioned to send letter to administrative offices, Brian volunteered to draft for Shared Governance, Academic Senate, etc. Jean seconded, motion carried.

- **EAC Representative** – Dave T. – have been getting a lot of communication from Springfield, will let Jan fill in the information.
- **Annuitants Representative** – Jan Cook – at the moment we are anxious that people pass the recent Annuitants Association briefings on to any who aren't getting them. Went to regional meeting and two issues are insurance coverage for the city collages in Chicago, the way the structure was set up they receive coverage thru age 70 and then would get individual coverage, they have had a terrible time after 70 getting individual, we have backed that as a fairness issue. Second, overall benefits for retirees' pensions are safe, current employees' pensions are safe, there is talk to shifting from defined benefits to defined contributions for new employees. Have heard arguments that costs of contribution-based plan is more than defined-benefits and the savings disappears quickly, given current economy this will not be popular. We are vulnerable (retirees and current employees) because only pensions are protected, healthcare is not, it is subject to change thru committee. Keep your antenna tuned to Springfield. Tonight the bills are supposed to get out of the Sponsoring House to be forwarded; come the next budget round we start again. Dave T. – there is a rally 1030am, April 22<sup>nd</sup> in Springfield.
- **Academic Senate/Campus Info/Foundation** – Brian – no news.
- **OpenLine** – Pam not present, no news.

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- **Human Resources** – Nancy – welcomes employment consultants Diane Ruch and Andee Radliff who will be here visiting today and next meeting, maybe longer. Diane – we are HR representatives, we work with employee selection and hiring. Brian – has seen a lot of tech support positions that were hired A/P when he arrived have been hired now as CS, positions have been defined for them. Dave T. – as your EAC member, can vouch that every meeting I have attended, on the agenda has been the issue of hiring CS vs AP, they work very hard to preserve the CS positions that have been slipping away over the years, we are still working very hard on it, have things going on right now and have seen results for our efforts on the EAC.

Jean/Vicki motioned to adjourn, motion carried at 12:59pm.

**Reminders:** Deadline for next two OpenLines – April 8, May 6

CSC meetings – April 15, May 5

ISU Day at Wrigley Trip May 27

(Reservation deadline was 4-3-09)

**Web Sites of interest:**

- 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>

**The next regular Civil Service Council meeting will be held Tuesday, April 21, 2009 at Noon in the Bone Student Center Spotlight Room.**