

PLEASE POST, ROUTE, OR COPY TO CIVIL SERVICE STAFF

Illinois State University Civil Service Council (CSC) Meeting January 20, 2015

Present: Dana Tuttle, Lois Soeldner, Capri Gonzalez, Diana Nelson, Dara Gibson, Bob Blick, JR Gordon, Bob Blythe, Jacob DeGeal, Amanda Smith, Jan Cook

Not Present: Carol Pfoff, Maureen Peel, Kathleen Webster, Colette Homan, Rick Marr, Glen Dawson, Amy Witzig

The meeting was called to order by Lois Soeldner.

The December 16 minutes will be reviewed and approved at the February 3 meeting.

Glen will provide a quarterly report at the February 3 meeting.

The executive board had a meeting with the SUCSS representatives on campus January 5 as a part of their auditing process. Lois, Glen, and Amanda were in attendance.

Award winners were announced to the Council and will be officially recognized at Founders Day on February 19. Distinguished Service Award winners are Maureen Peel and Lyndsie Schlink. The Esprit de Corp Award winner is Darrell Elkin. A short discussion followed on how to increase nominations for the DS Award for next year.

Jacob DeGeal reported that he is drafting the January issue of OpenLine. This will be the first issue using the new email version and cutting down on printed issues.

Colette Homan submitted information on Founder's Day via email prior to the meeting: Regarding the Founder's Day/Service Award Luncheon:

- All service awards have been ordered
- Plaques have been ordered from Twin City Awards for the C/S Distinguished Service Awards and the frame for the Esprit de Corp award certificate
- For those receiving the Distinguished Service Award (\$1,000), I have processed the Foundation Voucher and will be sending to LuAnn VanMeter today (1/20/15). I will send information to our Systems staff for entry into iPeople. The individuals will receive their monetary award in the last pay check in February (minus any taxes, etc.)

Jan Cook reported that there were good rulings regarding health insurance and pensions for retired state employees. She also passed on that the universities have a good case regarding pension reform because SURS is different than other state retirement systems.

Lois Soeldner discussed the SURSMAC report. A copy is attached to the minutes.

PLEASE POST, ROUTE, OR COPY TO CIVIL SERVICE STAFF

Illinois State University Civil Service Council (CSC) Meeting January 20, 2015

A short discussion was had in regards to the Council working harder to help our constituents. We would still like to pursue various professional development opportunities for employees across campus and are unclear if HR is still pursuing this project.

Bob Blythe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Bob Blick.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Smith

SURSMAC Report
by Jean Ann Dargatz
November 18, 2014

Legal actions and changes at SURS were the main topics at the SURSMAC meeting on November 18th.

Legal Issues

There will be two hearings this week that SURS is closely watching. On Thursday, the topic will be pension protection and on Friday, the topic is how to handle retiree insurance premium refunds. It is unknown how the elections will affect issues moving forward.

Leadership Changes at SURS

SURS Executive Director Bill Mabe and General Counsel Michael Weinstein will both be retiring soon. Changes are also anticipated on the SURS Board of Trustees since some members of the board are appointed by the governor; several others are up for election in 2015. (This BOT makes the major hiring and compensation decisions for SURS and also sets policy and direction.)

Investments

Funding ratio is improving since the State has paid its full share for the past three years; payments this year seem to be slowing down, though. SURS is conducting a consultant search. This is an intense process; current fund managers are constantly evaluated and change from time to time based on performance and philosophy.

U of I Changes

It is expected U of I will announce a new president very soon; also the faculty has voted to unionize (*not sure about details/factuality of this*). The committee noted these changes may affect some members.

Member Outreach

Sessions with potential retirees has slowed way down; group counseling seemed to work well and may continue in the future when demand is back. The staff is working to improve social media presence (launched a Facebook page) and is also changing their website faster than before.

SURSMAC Input

Since the "tone is set at the top," the SURSMAC group would like to see a director that has the following qualities: proven leader, consensus builder, understands pensions (expert), excellent communicator, and be accessible/approachable. Chair Schuler hopes to pass along this input in the search process.

Constitution/Bylaws, other business, etc.

Some changes to the SURSMAC bylaws need to be made; it may also be time to better define the purpose of SURSMAC. Bill Mabe volunteered to draft small changes that he thinks would be appropriate.

SURSMAC does not have a vice chair since Mardell Wilson left the system. (Since no one stepped up at this meeting, an election will take place at spring meeting.)

Mr. Mabe discussed how his staff educates new BOT members; SURSMAC members are also interested in more education about investments, etc., so this will be addressed in the future.

SURSMAC would also like to have better representation from member groups; some institutions always send reps and some never do. (Members would also like to have meetings scheduled well in advance.)