

**CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL**  
**2015-2016 Meeting Minutes**  
**February 3, 2016**

The February meeting of the Civil Service was called to order at 1:00 pm by Carolin Harvey, President, Civil Service Council.

Roll call of the members was taken by Anthony Travelstead.

Members Present: Elizabeth Cheek, Mickel Cordes, William Dozier, Tina Gerecke, Cyndy Green, Lisa Grotts, Carolin Harvey, Ann Little, Jane Meuth, Tara Moore, Jason Phillips, Michele Tourville, Anthony Travelstead, Karin Wece

Members Absent with proxy:

Members Absent: Randy Lowe

Others Present: Diane Frew, Darla Phoenix, Jay Brooks, Ryan Hall (Director of Labor and Employee Relations)

**Invited Guest:** Ryan Hall, Director of Labor and Employee Relations addressed the Council and spoke about the roles and responsibilities of his office; their website is <http://laborrelations.siu.edu/index.html> and the office is Anthony Hall room 212. D. Frew asked about negotiations with ACSE; Hall responded by saying that negotiations have stalled out and there is no interest until there is a State budget. C. Harvey asked how the lack of State budget is impacting his office; Hall responded by saying that we will all have to do more with less. Hall concluded by encouraging everyone to reach out to his office if they have any questions or concerns.

**Minutes:**

Minutes from the meeting on November 4, 2015 and December 2, 2015 were presented. A change was noted for the December minutes; Employee Advisory Committee to the Merit Board's next meeting should be changed to January 14-15. No other changes were noted. A motion was made and seconded to approve the November and December minutes with corrections. Minutes approved by voice vote.

**Announcements:**

No announcements

**Reports:**

Council President: No report

School of Medicine: No report

Annuitants Association: J. Brooks announced that because of a decrease in staff in the central office, employee deductions are taking longer to be recorded in the system. A sheet of information about SUAA and the benefits of joining will be distributed throughout campus within the next couple days. Brooks read an email that was sent to SUAA members on January 21,

2016. [Today, Governor Bruce Rauner put forward an outline for a pension plan that he believes will pass constitutional muster. His plan is based on a legal theory called. "consideration in contracts." The plan he outlined is said to mirror Senate President John Cullerton's old proposal from 2014 in Senate Bill 2404. In that bill, Cullerton proposed to state workers that they choose two options: that they would keep their pension benefits without a guarantee of some health care or accept a less generous retirement plan with the guarantee of health benefits. When asked how much money he hoped to save from this plan, Governor Rauner said he would expect about \$1 billion in *savings* on the Fiscal Year 2017 pension payment – down \$7.8 billion to \$6.8 billion. Senate President Cullerton has come out against Governor Rauner's proposal though, stating "this is not my plan. It goes beyond what we discussed and what I support." Additionally, speaker Michael Madigan released a statement which indicates that his and Cullerton's support for Governor Rauner's plan is unlikely. His full statement is worth noting. "I have shown my commitment to achieving pension reform on a number of occasions over the last several years. The Illinois Supreme Court has ruled that the General Assembly cannot alter earned benefits. With the court's guidance, we now have a clearer framework of what cannot be done in any future pension reform proposal. To avoid wasting taxpayer dollars on lawsuits, it's important that we carefully consider the court's direction when we take up pension reform proposals as we work to address the state's unfunded pension debt while ensuring that retirees who have worked hard for decades will receive their retirement benefits.]

Human Resources: No Report

**Council Committees:**

Executive: J. Phillips reported that the committee met and discussed the agenda.

Budget: M. Cordes provided copies of the Funds Available for Budget Purpose 272247.

Bylaws: No report

Civil Service Benefits: Has not met, no report.

Education Assistance: A. Travelstead reported that the committee met and reviewed the fall semester's fundraising; Endowment interest \$2,517, Employee deductions \$700, Holiday luncheon after expenses \$657, Tritan Tumblers \$353 totaling \$4,227. The committee reviewed 15 applicants for the spring 2016 EAP award and determined three of the 12 were not eligible because they did not meet the required criteria; no FAFSA on file and GPA lower than 2.25. The committee recommends an award of \$250 for each of the approved 12 applicants and depositing the remaining \$1,227 back in to the endowment. The committee discussed the cookie dough fundraiser which will be from February 3 to March 2 with delivery on March 23. The committee also discussed the Civil Service Council Flea Market which will be April 30. Travelstead made a recommendation for 12 EAP Spring 2016 awards at \$250 each and for the remaining \$1227 to be deposited back in to the endowment; both approved unanimously by voice vote.

Public Information: A. Travelstead reported that the Open Forum with the Chancellor will be on April 14, 2016 from Noon – 1:00 p.m.at the Student Services Building in rooms 150, 160, 170.

Range: No Report.

**Constituency Committees:**

Advisory Committee, Director of Public Safety: No report

Affirmative Action Advisory: No report.

Executive Planning and Budget Committee: C. Harvey reported that the committee met on January 26, 2016; topics of discussion were confidential.

Computing Advisory: No report

Honorary Degrees: No report

Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory: No report

Naming University Facilities: No report.

Parking and Traffic Appeals: No report.

Recreational Sports and Services Advisory: M. Cordes reported that the committee met on January 22, 2016. Minutes of Recreational Sports and Services Advisory Board meetings are available upon request. Please contact Dee Donaldson at ddndson@siu.edu or 618-453-1274.

Student Center Advisory: No report

Traffic and Parking: No report, next meeting in February 2016.

University Joint Benefits: No report

UWPA: No report

**Special/Other:**

Employee Advisory Committee to the Merit Board: A. Travelstead reported that committee met on January 14-15, 2016 at Illinois State University; new members were seated at this meeting, the Systems office provided an update of the residency rule which made it possible for out of state to be put in to the register and provided an update on the rule of three in which the names of all applicants within the top three scores will be provided instead of just the individual top three. The Systems office is working on reducing the amount of approximately 1400 job classifications down to below 1000; they will be doing this by combining classifications with similar job duties.

Legislative Advisory: No report

College of Business Dean Search: D. Frew reported that members of the search committee met on January 28, 2016 for the third round of discussion and review regarding the Dean Search applications and recommendations received. Due to the confidentiality of the Dean Search applications, other details about applicants are not being provided at this time.

Non-Academic Program Review Committee: A. Travelstead reported that this committee will meet on February 4, 2016 for the first time and to receive the official charge from the Chancellor.

**Old Business:**

**New Business:**

C. Harvey announced that Doreen Hees has submitted a letter of resignation due to medical reasons. J. Meuth made a motion to accept the resignation, A. Travelstead seconded, motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Darla Phoenix was the next person on the ballot and has accepted the Council seat.

C. Harvey announced that an executive decision was made to appoint Chad Waters to replace Doreen Hees on the Staff Excellence Award committee. M. Tourville made a motion to approve the appointment of Chad Waters to the Staff Excellence Award committee, C. Green seconded, motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

C. Harvey announced that she was informed that Travis Zettler no longer works at SIU and did not submit a letter of resignation. The next eligible person on the ballot was Diane Frew. She has accepted the Council seat.

**Non-Agenda Items:**

**Adjournment:**

Meeting was adjourned at 2:46 p.m.