

CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL
Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2014

The September 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: Regina Brown, Elizabeth Cheek, Mickel Cordes, Diane Frew, Tina Gerecke, Vera Gibbs, Cyndy Green, Lisa Grotts, Carolin Harvey, Ann Little, Randy Lowe, Karin McClure, Tara Moore, Jason Phillips, Anthony Travelstead

Members Absent: Matthew Borowicz

Others Present: Kathy Anderson, Jay Brooks, Dr. Randy Dunn, Dawn Legier, Jane Meuth

Guest:

Carolin Harvey welcomed Dr. Randy Dunn, SIU President.

President Dunn welcomed the Council to the start of a new school year and thanked the Council for its patience and longstanding willingness to deal with the changes on campus. Dunn explained that Chancellor Sarvela and Provost Ford have been put in their positions for an indeterminate period. Dunn spoke about SIU being in the sector of national universities because of its commitment to research. Looking at the historical tradition of SIU, from being a sleepy little teacher's college to becoming a national university. The historical underpinning of SIU is as a strong regional school. SIU being a research institution will draw students from small communities in Southern Illinois. SIU also needs to reestablish its role as a great regional institution to draw from small communities in Southern Illinois. Dunn continued to speak about the anticipation of more discussions about streamlining various areas of SIU. Operationally, SIU needs to figure out where there can be some efficiencies and how we can become more productive in some of our revenue centers without taking away pieces of the system. President Dunn commented on the furlough situation. The decision has been made from the Administrative Law Judge for the Illinois Education Labor Relations Board stating that SIU Carbondale should be paying back the four (4) furlough days to all employees represented by IEA bargaining units totaling approximately \$1.9 million. The SIU Board of Trustees has decided to request that the full Illinois Education Labor Relations Board reviews the evidence and the judge's opinion. Dunn stated that after hearing the decision of the full board as to whether it agrees with the judge's opinion or thinks that SIU is not obligated to pay partial or in full, either side may take it to court. Dunn stated that it is not his desire to drag this situation out and that in all fairness, employees not represented by a bargaining unit should also be compensated for their forced furlough days. Dunn continued saying that he is not a fan of forced furlough days because they don't work well and this situation is just another example of that.

T. Gerecke expressed appreciation towards the SIU administration for their willingness to consider the compensation of furlough days for employees not represented by a bargaining unit. Dunn responded by saying thank you.

C. Harvey asked if the strategic plan developed by the previous administration is being put on the shelf or if there will be items pulled from that plan and put in to place. Dunn responded by

saying that it will be up to Chancellor Sarvela to work with his campus constituencies and decide what to do with the strategic plan developed by the previous administration. Items at the system level will be separate.

K. McClure expressed gratitude about SIU getting back to its roots and asked President Dunn to comment about first generation and lower income students. Dunn responded by saying that SIU needs to go back and look at how they recruit and get back to the school in our back yard. Improving the relationship with the high school counselors and encouraging them to promote SIU is important.

MINUTES:

Minutes from the August 6, 2014 meeting were presented. T. Gerecke noted a the need to add a “d” to the end of the word “voice” on the first line of page 3 and a correction of changing an “e” to an “i” in a name also on page 3. C. Harvey noted a date change from August to July on page 2 and the addition of “These names were submitted for consideration” on page 4 in reference to the Search Committee for Dean of the Graduate School. D. Frew made a motion to approve the August minutes as revised. R. Lowe seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as revised.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

C. Harvey announced that the State of the University Address is Monday, September 8th at 3:00 p.m. in Ballroom D of the Student Center.

REPORTS:

Council President: C. Harvey reported that the Constituency Heads Meeting is today at 3:15 p.m. and the Board of Trustees meeting is Thursday, September 11th in Edwardsville and to please review the agenda which is available online. If there are questions for the BOT, please let her know.

School of Medicine: V. Williams reported that Christine Milliken, representative to the Employee Advisory Committee, is not going to run for re-election after serving two (2) four (4) year terms. They are preparing for an election to fill this position. The Annual Fall Fundraiser for the School of Medicine is September 18th.

Annuitants Association: J. Brooks reported that the board met on Wednesday, August 13th and there was much discussion regarding the need to get the word out about how much SUAA is accomplishing. Membership for SIUC is \$37 annually and can be paid through payroll deduction. A judge in Sangamon County issued an injunction that will stop the State from continuing to deduct health insurance premiums from retired annuitant’s checks. SUAA President, Bruce Appleby, has written a letter to all SURS annuitants outlining what SUAA is doing on their behalf and the legal cost of challenging the legislation in court. Today, more than \$290,000 has been contributed to the legal fund. It is estimated that this is one quarter to one half of what will be needed. The next meeting of the SUAA Board will be on September 10th at Miles Hall at 10:00 a.m. The Annual Fall Board Meeting is Friday, September 26th at 10:00 a.m. at the Dunn-Richmond Center with guest speaker SIU President, Randy Dunn.

Human Resources: No Report

COUNCIL COMMITTEES:

Executive Committee: No Report

Budget: No Report

Bylaws: No Report

Civil Service Benefits: No Report

Education Assistance: T. Travelstead reported that the committee has not met. Travelstead stated he had been asked by the sponsor of one of the Education Assistance applicants to reconsider his declined application due to a change in status. Travelstead asked the Council how this matter should proceed. C. Harvey replied that this matter should go back through the Education Assistance Program Committee. After their decision, it would then come back to the entire Council. Travelstead continued to report on making the Civil Service Holiday Luncheon on December 3rd a fundraiser for the Education Assistance Program. Travelstead made a motion to include the fundraiser with the Holiday Luncheon, which would off-set the cost of the room rental. E. Cheek seconded the motion. There was discussion about still having a raffle and 50/50 drawing. Motion was approved.

Elections: No Report

Public Information: M. Cordes reported that the committee has not met. C. Harvey asked that the committee discuss the spring open forum so that it can be put on the Chancellor's calendar. T. Travelstead asked for ideas and/or articles for the newsletter which will be published in October/November.

Range: No Report

Constituency Committees:

Advisory Committee to Director of Public Safety: No Report

Affirmative Action Advisory: No report

Chancellor's Advisory Review Board: No Report

Chancellor's Planning and Budget: C. Harvey reported that the committee did meet and it is now called the Executive Planning and Budget Committee. Chancellor Sarvela made the decision to combine the Executive Committee and the Planning and Budget Committee into one since both discussed similar topics. C. Harvey announced that the Chancellor noted the policy changes made on campus with more to come and commented that the morale on campus appears to be up. The Chancellor is looking to improve efficiency and fairness in the distribution of funds. Please email any suggestions/ideas to C. Harvey and those will be brought up at the next meeting. C. Harvey reported that the number of scholarships is under consideration to be reduced.

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: No Report

Student Center Advisory: No report

Traffic and Parking: No Report. C. Harvey forwarded concerns of the need of 15 minute parking at the Student Services Building.

University Joint Benefits: No Report

UWPS: No Report

Special/Other:

Academic Calendar: No Report

Employee Advisory Committee to the Merit Board: T. Travelstead reported that the next meeting is on October 15th. The committee is working on gaining more cohesion between the Employees Advisory Committee and the Merit Board.

Legislative Advisory: No Report

Council of Councils: D. Frew reported that there are approximately 50 registered for the conference. The deadline is on September 17th. The Board of Trustees will be invited to the Council of Councils Conference.

Campus Climate Committee: No Report

Old Business: None

New Business:

C. Harvey asked the Council if they would be interest in having a member of the Board of Trustees speak at a Council meeting in the spring. The Council said yes. There will be two guests at the October meeting, Chancellor Sarvela and Brent Patton (to discuss the Conflict of Interest Policy). C. Harvey asked that everyone read the policy and submit any questions to T. Travelstead so that they may be forwarded to B. Patton prior to the meeting. C. Harvey asked that committee reports be submitted in writing and turned in since there will be two speakers in October.

Non-Agenda Items:

D. Frew asked about the Outstanding Civil Service Award plaque in the Student Center. C. Harvey explained that the "Outstanding" award is now the "Excellence" award. There was discussion about having the policy about the "Outstanding" award reviewed. It was also suggested to have the Civil Service Council make their own plaque to acknowledge Civil

Service employees that win the “Excellence” award. C. Harvey replied that she will bring these concerns to the Chancellor’s attention.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:39 p.m.