

UJBC 2/26/13

HR update:

SURS reps will be on campus Apr. 9-11.

General session Apr. 9th, 2 pm at Law School Auditorium (registration required).

SURS has several webinars on their site now.

CMS will no longer administer work comp claims; it will be farmed out to a 3rd party as of July 1st. This will probably mean that claims will not be as easily approved as in the past. It's uncertain how this change will impact HR.

Bruce's update:

The two lobbyists he has spoken with (one is Dick Lockhart of SUAA) say it's possible that nothing may happen on pension reform. If anything does happen it could be SB 1. This bill includes a COLA reduction and increases the employee's contribution by 2%. This is the Cullerton bill where if Part A is declared unconstitutional, Part B takes effect. Part B is a choice between simple, delayed COLA or health insurance. Brent asked whether/how much the employee pays for their own premium, and Bruce did not know.

Other pension/benefit-related bills:

HB 73 is regarding health insurance premiums. Creates a sliding scale based on years of service, ability to pay, pension income, Medicare eligibility.

HB 96 shifts the cost of health insurance from the state to the employer.

HB 98/SB 35 creates a cash balance plan (like a 401K), increases the retirement age, and increases employee contribution.

SB 1224 prohibits use of sick/vacation time for service credit or in calculating pensionable earnings. This would only affect new hires.

HB 1032 is another attack on our tuition waivers. Would not only repeal them, but would also prohibit individual universities from offering them.

Other items:

There is a coalition being formed on campus to look at a wellness program for faculty and staff.

Jim reminded us of the availability of the staff walk-in clinic at the Student Health Center.

Next meeting is April 30.

Reported by Karin McClure