

**CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL  
Meeting Minutes  
July 9, 2014**

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

Roll call of the members was taken by Anthony Travelstead.

Members Present: Matthew Borowicz, Regina Brown, Elizabeth Cheek, Mickel Cordes, Diane Frew, Tina Gerecke, Vera Gibbs, Cyndy Green, Carolin Harvey, Karin McClure, Tara Moore, Anthony Travelstead.

Members Absent: Ann Little, Randy Lowe, Jason Phillips

Others Present: Jay Brooks, Dawn Legier, Teri Stobbs

**MINUTES**

Minutes for the meeting in June were presented and there were no corrections. Diane Frew made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, Vera Gibbs seconded. Minutes were approved as corrected.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

C Harvey announced that Dr. Paul Sarvela had been named Acting Chancellor.  
T Gerecke announced that Laurie Bell had been named Interim Dean of University College.

**REPORTS**

Council President

C Harvey reported that the Constituency Heads had not met. C Harvey attend the June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Board of Trustee meeting in Edwardsville IL. The proposed student Athletics fee and Daily Egyptian Fee were approved and the contract for the advertising firm Lipman Hearne was not approved. There was an emergency meeting of the Board of Trustees July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014, the full board named an Acting Chancellor, Dr. Paul Sarvela. There will be a Board of Trustees meeting on July 24<sup>th</sup> in Springfield. Harvey asked that Secretary A Travelstead attend in her place, he agreed.

School of Medicine

No Report.

Annuitants Association

Jay Brooks reported that on July 3, 2014, the state Supreme Court ruled health insurance premium subsidies promised to retirees are protected by the State Constitution and "therefore the General Assembly was precluded from diminishing or impairing that benefit." This decision overrules a previous circuit court decision. The lawsuit now goes back to the lower court where the plaintiffs will need to prove that P.A. 97-0695 actually "diminished or impaired" their health insurance benefits.

Human Resources

No Report

## **COUNCIL COMMITTEES**

### Executive

Met and set the agenda and council committees.

### Range

T Gerecke reported that the committee met on Wednesday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014. T Gerecke was elected committee chair. A discussion ensued regarding the range employee classifications on campus. A decision was made to request data from Human Resources for further review and discussion at the next meeting scheduled on Wednesday July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

The following Council committees did not meet or had no report: Bylaws, Budget, Education Assistance, Public Information, and Civil Service Benefits.

## **CONSTITUENCY COMMITTEES**

There were no constituency committee reports for the month of July. Discussion was held pertaining to recent retirements of non-term ending committee appointees. C Harvey informed the council that constituency committees had not been set, and was to be determined at the next executive committee meeting; that a second committee interest request was sent out due to a lower number being submitted from the first request.

## **SPECIAL/OTHER COMMITTEES**

### Employee Advisory Committee to the Merit Board

A Travelstead has not met. Next meeting was scheduled for July 16-17, 2014 at University of Illinois – Springfield and he would be attending that meeting.

### Legislative Advisory

K McClure reported that even with the Illinois Supreme Court decision on the Health Insurance Bill, Public Act 97-695 (previously SB1313), retiree benefit premiums will continue to be collected until the lower courts work out details otherwise. "Talking heads" are making a lot of noise of possible solutions, but a few facts to keep in mind as we hear ideas are: First, states cannot declare bankruptcy; Second, a constitutional amendment to remove Art. 13, Sec 5 would not be retroactive and the \$100B debt would remain; and Third, it's probably not possible to further cut benefits with Tier 2 employees getting less than they pay in.

### Council of Councils Committee

D Frew reported that the committee met July 9<sup>th</sup> and discussed event day scheduling. C Harvey briefly described the Council of Councils Conference for new committee members. Approved work leave time and the possible need to track attendance at the event was discussed. Next committee meeting is set for Aug 12<sup>th</sup> 10am in the Student Center.

### Campus Climate Committee

M Borowicz reported the committee met and discussed strategies and what kind of information was needed from campus. The committee had gathered a list of questions covering SIU experiences, demographics, and financial items with plans to narrow the pool down to no more than 30 questions to gain an understanding on how recent university fiscal struggles have affected SIU civil service employees. Types of financial questions to be used were discussed, and it was clarified that this was not an attempt to get anybody raises in pay, but to let the current/future administration know the status of their employees.

There were no reports by the Special Committees - Academic Calendar, Staff Excellence Award Committees.

### OLD BUSINESS

C Harvey led a discussion on the university's conflict of interest policy. T Gerecke described for the council an example raised bringing this policy into question. After additional discussion C Harvey asked if the council members would like to invite Labor and Employee Relations ~~Direct~~ Director Brent Patton to a future meeting to discuss this further and that we would work on setting a date for that meeting.

### NEW BUSINESS.

Flower Fund was briefly discussed with four items needing attention: council member money was collected. A Travelstead inform the council that there was a vacant seat on the council with the retirement of Pat Brumleve from the auxiliary services sector. The top write-in candidate declined; ~~the~~ only other candidate had not been able to be reached. A Travelstead asked for guidance for possible candidates from that sector to contact.

### NON AGENDA ITEMS

C Harvey asked for discussion/concerns on council committee assignments, and none was given. A question was raised ~~on as to whether~~ if we had been approached for members to serve on the search committee for Dean of Graduate School. C Harvey was not aware of one at that time, but would inquire.

### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.

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