



# CIVIL SERVICE NEWS UPDATE

A newsletter for Civil Service employees of Southern Illinois University Carbondale

FALL Semester , Volume 21

October 2007

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## MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

**Tina J. Biggs** has worked at SIUC since 1997, most recently as Administrative Assistant I in the Office of the Provost and Vice Chancellor. Prior to that, she spent four years working in the Department of Animal Science, Food & Nutrition in the College of Agricultural Sciences.

Tina writes: "I attended SIUC as a student and transferred to a small, private college in Michigan to complete my degree. Before returning to SIUC as an employee, I had the opportunity to work for 16 years in the private sector, most of that time for a large insurance company. Over the past ten years, I have held several Civil Service positions here. I feel that my diverse ex-

periences, both as a student and an employee, will enable me to give a positive contribution to issues that the CSC will be addressing this next year. I look forward to learning more about services provided by the CSC, in addition to serving on committees and groups across campus and our community."

**Kristy Rushing** has worked on campus since 1988, most recently as a Customer Service Representative at the Student Center. She supervises the ID Card Office, and is responsible for conducting customer service training within the department. A native of Carbondale and two degree alumnus of SIUC, she resides within walking distance to campus.

Kristy writes: "I feel fortunate to have grown up on this campus, witnessing all the changes in the past 31/2 decades. As a child, I played on the well-groomed grounds and learned to swim at Campus Lake & Pulliam Pool. I remember how grand the University once was, and I am convinced it will be so again.

Since I have worked in several different classifications, and departments, I hope that my previous work experience will be of benefit. I am passionate about serving students, and feel it is the key to our future."

Civil Service News Update is published by the Civil Service Council's Public Information Committee for all SIUC Civil Service employees.

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## UPDATE NEWS TRIVIA

**Trivia Question:** Who is the basketball great who was a member of SIUC's 1967 NIT Championship Team?

See answer on Page 3

**Trivia Answer:**

**Answer:** Walt Frazier. Walt was named MVP of the NIT for 1967.

### **EDUCATION ASSISTANCE COMMITTEE FALL FUNDRAISING**

Joyce Davis reports that she and Elizabeth Cheek were elected to co-chair the Education Assistance Committee this year. The committee received 24 applications for the fall scholarship awards and approved 19 (some were eliminated due to eligibility requirements). All 19 applicants were granted \$200.00 each for the fall award.

To kick off the fundraising campaign this year, the committee is once again offering *Mascot* brand pecans and pecan popcorn and candies – very popular items last year!!!!!! The items range from \$4.50 for popcorn with butter toffee and pecans, to extra large pecan halves for holiday baking for \$8.50 per lb.

Sales will begin sometime after October 30th—just in time for holiday baking projects! For more information or to purchase items, you may contact Joyce Davis 453-8169, Elizabeth Cheek 453- 2027, Ruth Bernhardt 453-6663, or Becky Armstrong 453- 5244

### **Welcome Receptions Attract Hundreds of Students**

With the new SIUC marketing efforts taking place, many areas are trying to become more “student friendly” to make college life at SIUC a more enjoyable and positive experience. Whether students are new incoming or returning students, a campus-wide effort is being made to ensure graduates leave campus with positive memories of their educational experience.

On Tuesday, August 28<sup>th</sup>, the School of Accountancy held a “Welcome” event for its new incoming freshmen and returning students. The School started having this event a couple of years ago so students could meet and become familiar with administrators, the accounting faculty, student organizations, and the School in general, and what the School has to offer them.

This year, the “Welcome” event was sponsored by Deloitte & Touche LLP, a Big-4 accounting firm, who provided pizza and soft drinks. T-shirts were also given to all accounting students attending the event and to those who were interested in becoming accounting majors. “Usually if you provide free food and soft drinks, they will come” states Dr. Marcus Odom, Director of the School of Accountancy. Dr. Odom believes that it is extremely important to get students involved in programs and activities immediately upon entering SIUC or as soon as they choose a major. These types of events give students “focus” toward their education and provide the **support link** they need to have access to faculty, administrators, and other students within the same major or common interests. Maintaining that 4-year contact will benefit the University as these same students will remember that positive experience and want to maintain that “link” to their alma mater.

The day after the event, the College of Business and Administration held a similar event for all business majors and those interested in majoring in one of their disciplines. The College’s Student Experience Committee planned the event. It was one of several “student-focused” events planned for this academic year.

More than 200 business students attended the “Welcome” and the Committee, ALDI’s and Wal-Mart sponsored the reception. WCIL 101.5 FM provided a live remote from Rehn Hall where radio personality Ivy did “live” interviews with students and staff members. Many students commented how excited they were to be students at SIUC, how they felt southern Illinois was a great community to live in, and how friendly all the people were. The students were very happy that they came out for the event. They received good advice from administrators, faculty and staff members regarding specific college activities that might interest them, including the RSOs available to them, their career options as SIUC business students, and the University in general.

Submitted by: Jeri Novara

**In this newsletter we have provided many stories of how we celebrate students and their return to campus. If you or your department have stories to share, please let one of the members on the front page know about it!**

## MORRIS LIBRARY BUILDING RENOVATION UPDATE

Work is continuing on the window frames and brickwork for the new addition to Morris Library. The elevator frames have also been installed on the east side of the building, for the new elevator that will be used by Special Collections. The auditorium and computer classroom are getting framed out, too. Areas of the basement (parts of Preservation, Maps, and GIS

offices) have been vacated so the contractors can install air handlers. The contractors will also be housing equipment

in the basement so they can continue work on the mechanical room.

The IT department has been running phone and data lines in the upper floors. The IT closets now have permanent electrical power.

The new loading dock has been poured on the west side of the building.

According to David Carlson, Dean of Library Affairs, the Board of Trustees has approved the additional \$14.8 million to finish the Morris Library renovation project. Commitments had been made by the University to support the remainder of the project, but until this time, funds had not yet been identified. This

money will enable floors six and seven to be finished, as well as pay for furniture, fixtures, and equipment for the new building, including shelving. The vendors have received the purchase order for the shelving, and they are processing the order. Due to the delays in this funding, the completion of the current project (floors basement – five)



and the completion of floors six and seven will be two different projects. While the two upper floors will not be ready when Morris Library is reopened, we hope to have the project started. There is a possibility that this money will

not be enough to also cover the cost of finishing the auditorium. The Dean is currently looking into alternative solutions for funding this.

Contractors will let Morris Library staff assume ownership of the fifth floor on October 11. Shortly after that date, floors four and three will be occupied. At that time, installation of shelving in these upper floors will begin, and preparations will be made to move Library materials and staff back to these floors. We anticipate having floors

three, four, and five open to the public by the start of the spring semester.

All books and materials will be cleaned before they are moved to their permanent location.

Morris Library is looking better every day...I'm sure the students and faculty can't wait to have their library back, and the renovation-weary faculty and staff of the Library are anxiously awaiting the day when all Library employees and materials will again be housed in one location.

The writer would like to thank David Carlson, Dean of Library Affairs, and the Morris Library Policy Committee, who provided the August 2007 meeting minutes, from which all the above information was taken.

Thanks also to Greg Wendt, Producer, Instructional Support Services, for the renovation photos.

**by Darla Loftus**



### Trivia Answer:

**Answer:** 1943 marked the first *integrated* Homecoming. Prior to 1943, Homecoming for African-American students was sponsored by the Dunbar Society; a literary, social, and athletic society formed in 1925 for the African-American student population. The Dunbar Homecoming crowned its own Queen, as well.

**Sources:** 1944 *Obelisk*, p. 104.

## Students Find Help As They Move Into Residence Halls

As we kick-off the beginning of a new school year, thousands of students make the annual August migration back to Carbondale. This year the residence halls opened on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Housing usually open the Friday before classes begin. With the temperature in the mid-nineties, students and their parents showed up with their cars packed with everything that their sons or daughters would need for the next nine months. As their vehicles neared the Residence Halls, they were greeted through their car window by University Police Officer. Public Safety really has the move-in process down to an art. With their officers strategically located they assist and guide the new arrivals to the correct residence hall. After the parents have been directed on where to park, they are then greeted by Honorary Student Life Advisor's (SLA's). SLA's are university employees, student groups and community groups who volunteer their time for the day to help move the student's move into their room. The parents in particular really do appreciate the help. "I couldn't believe all the help. When we got out of our car we were greeted by three young men who wanted to know if we needed help moving my son's stuff into his room. After a six hour drive, I was tired, and it was hot. They were so nice, I almost started to cry." This type of help was repeated by hundreds of SLA's throughout the day, and this Southern Hospitality has been noticed. "Last year my neighbor told me about all the help they had moving their daughter into her dorm room. This year were here moving our son in, and all the help is wonderful. It's just like we were told."



Housing employees were also on the scene, making the day as easy and fun as possible. University Housing provided a complimentary picnic for the students and their families. The smell of hamburgers and hotdogs, grilled outside by the Dining staff added a picnic-like atmosphere to the students moving into their new homes.

Housing's housekeeping staff was also very busy checking out two-wheel carts, and checking out lofting kits for those students wishing to loft their beds. Many students like the lofting kits so they can take advantage of the additional floor space underneath their bed. Housekeeping was also busy removing all the cardboard boxes from the buildings and breaking down the boxes so they could be recycled. Physical Plant provided all the recycling trailers and laborers to load as much cardboard as

possible into the trailers. Laborers were also working hard emptying all the outside trash barrels throughout housing as well as picking up all the trash inadvertently thrown on the lawns.



There are a lot of people at SIUC that worked very hard to help students move into the Residence Halls. It's nice to know that their hard work was appreciated by the students and their parents.

Written by Glenn Stine