



# CIVIL SERVICE NEWS **UPDATE**

A newsletter for Civil Service employees of Southern Illinois University Carbondale

SUMMER Semester , Volume 20

June 2007

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Scott Brandon**  
Undergrad. Admissions  
453-8345  
sbrandon@siu.edu

**Vicki Nelson**  
VC - Student Affairs  
453-1383  
vnelson@siu.edu

**Jay Brooks**  
Physical Plant  
453-6763  
jayb@psu.siu.edu

**Mary Nippe**  
Human Resources  
453-6668  
mnippe@siu.edu

**Patrick Brumleve**  
University Housing  
453-1678  
pbrumlev@siu.edu

**Jeri Novara**  
Accountancy  
453-1400  
jnovara@cba.siu.edu

**Elizabeth Cheek**  
Physical Plant  
453-2027  
elizabethc@psu.siu.edu

**Marcia Phelps**  
Affirmative Action  
536-6618  
mdphelps@siu.edu

**Joyce Davis**  
Physical Plant  
453-5163  
joyced@psu.siu.edu

**Glenn Stine**  
University Housing  
453-7687  
stinegl@siu.edu

**LaCretia Evans**  
Human Resources  
453-6690  
lacretia@siu.edu

**William Vanmetre**  
Physical Plant  
453-5163  
billv@psu.siu.edu

**Carolyn Harvey**  
Continuing Education  
536-7751  
charv@siu.edu

**Julie Virgo**  
Business Admin.  
453-7488  
jvirgo@siu.edu

**Karen Jennings**  
Graduate School  
453-4555  
kjenning@siu.edu

**Mark Wetstein**  
Broadcasting Services  
453-6104  
Mark\_wetstein@wsiu.pbs.org

**Darla Loftus**  
Library Affairs  
453-4097  
dloftus@lib.siu.edu

**Cindy Wright**  
University Housing  
453-1617  
cindyw@siu.edu

**Julie McDannel**  
Chancellor's Office  
453-1373  
jmcdann@siu.edu

## MEET OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

La Cretia Evans has worked on the SIUC campus since 1995, most recently as the Workers' Compensation and Disability Coordinator in Human Resources. She is in the process of taking classes in Workforce Education and Development and hopes to one day be a proud alum of SIUC!

La Cretia wrote: "I have had the pleasure of being an employee of Southern Illinois University Carbondale in various capacities since 1995. I currently work as a Human Resources Officer managing workers' compensation and disability leave for the Carbondale campus. I chose to join the Council in order to address and improve work relations and environments for our Civil Service staff. I look forward to the coming year and hope that my experience and knowledge will serve as an asset to the group."

Julie McDannel has worked on the campus since 1988, most currently as an Administrative Assistant II in the Chancellor's Office. Julie's family: husband, Darrell, and daughters, Portia and Beth-Ann, all attend SIUC.

Julie writes: "I have had the opportunity of working at SIUC for 19 years, and to earn a bachelors and masters degree here. I have held various positions on Campus and currently work as the Administrative Assistant II to the Chancellor. I joined the Civil Service Council because I believe the service provided by Civil Service employees is essential to the University's day-to-day operations and to furthering the mission of University - educating students. I look forward to working with the Council on many important issues and decisions that will be vital in moving this institution of higher education forward."

Scott Brandon joined SIUC June 2000 in Undergraduate Admissions, currently as Info. Services Supervisor.

Scott says, "This is my second term on CSC, having served 2001-2003. I then decided to concentrate my energies on completing my degree, which I did in December 2006. I have been accepted to Grad School where I will pursue a Masters in Public Administration. This course of study, coupled with service to the Council, will benefit the Civil Service community. I look forward to serving the CSC and Civil Service Community at SIUC.

On a personal note my life outside of work is filled with taking care of my horses. After a hard day I like to cook on the grill, charcoal is the only way, and drink a cold beverage. Life doesn't get any better than that."

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

**Editor:**  
William Vanmetre

**Layout & Design:**  
Vicki Nelson

**Contributing Members:**  
Darla Loftus, Glenn Stine,  
Jeri Novara, Pansy Jones

## UPDATE NEWS TRIVIA

**Trivia Question:** What was so noteworthy about SIUC's 1943 Homecoming?

See answer on Page 3

### 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. **Source:** 1944 *Obelisk*, p. 104.

## Jay Brooks Wins State Honor

Bradley Jay Brooks, Superintendent of Building Services at SIUC, was recognized Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. at the Southern Illinois Center for Independent Living, Carbondale, by Astrid Mosely, Vocational Supervisor at the center. The ceremony recognized Brooks' "outstanding commitment to hiring people with disabilities and developing support within the university system for training and sign language interpreters" Mosely said. Jay's effort has enabled 17 out of 39 people in their program to find work on our campus.

She also eluded that, quite possibly Jay could receive a nationwide achievement award at the Nevada meeting later this year.



Current President of the Civil Service Council, Brooks stated, "There is nothing that has given me more satisfaction or joy than to be able to participate in this program and subsequently offer opportunities to folks with significant disabilities. The people we hire through the program are outstanding employees. I would love to see people throughout the state, particularly state universities, have greater participation."

Brooks, an SIUC employee for 29 years, stated that he was very humbled at receiving the award, "I was quite sure there are many others more worthy than I am for the award".

## HOUSING FRESHMAN INTEREST GROUPS (FIGS)

Freshman Interest Groups (FIG's) are a group of 20 first year students living in the same residence hall and taking two or more classes together.

FIG's are available in Brush Towers, University Hall and Thompson Point. These groups can truly help incoming freshman in many ways. Studies have shown that students who participate in the FIG program have higher GPA'S as well as higher retention at the University.

Since students live with students who have similar career interests, it makes the transition from high school to the University much easier. Students develop a network of friends to live, study, eat, exercise, and hang out with. Students who have participated in the FIG program have a built-in sense of community for academic and personal support which is greatly needed for freshman.

The FIG groups fill up fast so students shouldn't wait too long to complete the application form on the housing website. I love working with these groups and seeing the students develop and succeed at the University.

FIG students are more likely to get involved in University activities and apply for leadership positions within University Housing. For example, Resident Assistants, Peer Mentors, Saluki Ambassadors, are some of the many opportunities that exist within Housing.

I would really appreciate your help in getting out the word about this program and getting them involved. I honestly feel that the FIG program can really help students succeed, stay in school, and graduate.

Article by: Kim Hunziker-Hudson  
Staff Clerk—University Housing

# Morris Library Building Renovation Update

There has been a great deal of progress on the Morris Library renovation since our last newsletter edition. Almost all of the steel has been erected for the addition and the floors have been poured.

The contractors are focusing their work now on floors 3-5, working downward from 5<sup>th</sup> floor. It is likely that Morris

staffers who will occupy floors 3-5 will be able to move back into the building in November.

Soon after that, the remaining staff and materials occupying

the basement and first floor will vacate those areas so the contractors can begin renovation. Some of the interior painting has been done on the walls of floors 4-5.

Below is a listing of what has been done to date, and what is expected in the next several weeks:

## **PROGRESS SINCE LAST NEWSLETTER ISSUE:**

Completed siding on upper floors.

Continued steel erection for addition.

Continued hanging drywall on upper floors.

Poured concrete slabs in basement addition.

Energized electric panels on 4<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>.

Continue electrical work on 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>.

Mounted fire alarm panels.

Completion of roof drain to outside library.

Began re-routing sanitary sewer line to east side of building.

Continued insulation of water and roof drain piping.

Continued duct work fabrication and installation on 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> floors.

Continued work on air handling units.

Began work on tying air condi-

tioning into the campus system.

## **BEGINNING SOON:**

Start foundation for auditorium.

Continue steel erection.

Pour slabs for upper floors of addition.

Remove elevator #5 (silver elevator) (after opening new elevators).

Continue hanging drywall.

Begin exterior work on addition.

Continue duct work on mechanical rooms.

Continue insulation of duct work.

Continue domestic water and roof drain piping.

Continue work on sanitary sewer to east.

Begin exterior rough-in for first floor restroom (near the new auditorium).

Test temperature controls on 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>.

Work on fire alarms.

Begin installation of first chiller.

Continue work on air handling units.

Continue pipe insulation.



Thanks once again to Morris staffers Kevin Davie, Geographic Information Systems Specialist, and Susan Logue, Associate Dean for Support Services, for information provided. Thanks also to Greg Wendt, Producer in Instructional Support Services, for photographs.

*Article 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.

## ***Global warming, SIU, and you . . . . .***

In a world of constant reminders of ever-changing climate conditions, depletion of fossil fuels, and the resultant increase in utility costs, SIUC's Plant & Service Operations (PSO) is on the job for you. Phil Gatton, Director of PSO, has taken many initiatives to combat the impact of rising utility costs at SIU. From continued improvements in monitoring and the subsequent management of steam, chilled water, and electricity throughout the campus, to worms that devour food wastes, converting it to mulch and compost; SIU is taking an innovative approach to solve some of the problems inherent to our environment.

Justin Harrell, Electrical Engineer, and LEED accredited professional at PSO, cites an initiative funded by a 4 million dollar loan project that enabled SIUC to change existing T12 ballasts to T8 ballasts and by replacing lighting throughout the campus, resulting in an initial 30% energy savings and, when combined with improved utilization of foot candle output, this has yielded a net savings of 50-60%.

Grants provided by state sources and Illinois Clean Energy Commission Foundation, have allowed upgrading building automation systems, installing a geo-thermal unit at McLafferty annex building, improvements to the steam systems, and countless other projects netting a substantial savings. For example, a photovoltaic solar array sits quietly on a sloping hill next to the tennis courts pumping 40,000 kilowatts of energy into the lifeblood of SIU's electrical grid, cleanly, quietly and free. Other projects are water conservation caps that have been installed that reduce the amount of water usage by one gallon per flush of commodes on campus.

Jay Brooks, Superintendent of Building Services, estimates that by changing just one product, they will save over 6000 aerosol cans from being deposited into the landfills. We are converting our operation over to earth friendly "green cleaners." This has immediate as well as far-reaching benefits to our environment, health & safety, not to mention a combined cost reduction in standardizing of cleaning products. It's no longer the wave of the future, it's now, and we are implementing it to benefit everyone.

Andi Lee Warner, Coordinator for campus recycling efforts, has been busy since 1996 turning waste products into recyclable materials. "We save on average 1,000 tons of waste per year from the landfill, not to mention the cost savings of less tonnage that is billed by the disposal business" said Warner. "It is a win-win situation."

Vermi composting of food wastes is accomplished by a grant that allowed the purchase of 2 million red wiggler worms that eat one-half of their body weight daily. The end result is the food wastes are fed to the worms which converts to mulch and composting materials used on campus. The goal is to capture all recyclable materials from SIU waste stream which diverts them from landfill, decreasing the impact on our environment. It is a lofty goal but she is determined and encourages everyone to pitch in by thinking before throwing, and recycling.

Kim Bernardoni, Manager of Travel Service, has a combined fleet of 745 vehicles and motorcycles. They provide a daily rental fleet of up to 40 economical and energy saving vehicles, including sedans, vans and trucks. The most recent purchase of hybrid vehicles has been utilized by Interim Chancellor Dunn, sporting a new Toyota Camry hybrid. Furthermore, there are 41 ethanol vehicles, 9 hybrids including 2 Ford Escapes, 4 Camry's and 3 Toyota Prius. There are 10 trucks and buses that have been using bio-diesel fuel, ethanol vehicles are growing and we have a 1000 gallon tank to house the fuel and sell it to 9 other state agencies, including CMS & IDOT. Kim states that since they have been using ethanol fuel she has seen a drop in repairs since it burns cleaner. The university is currently looking at installing a 12,000 gallon underground tank for ethanol, for future needs and reduced costs. Mileage figures for the Prius are 48 city and 54 highway, for the Camry it is 38 city and 42- 44 highway, so the initiative is growing in popularity. SIUC was one of the first in the state to take such action.

Director Gatton, has been on the cutting edge of new ideas and new technological innovations here at SIUC. He has taken the initiative to combine resources with other departments, with state and federal agencies providing state-of-the-art solutions to the inherent daily challenges that energy poses. One of the newest projects is the study of a 500 foot wind turbine to be located on the SIUC farms. This wind farm, the largest in the state and possibly one of the largest in the nation, would provide between 7 and 12% of electrical demands for SIUC, for the next 20 to 30 years. With 25% of funds being donated from an electrical foundation, and the remainder of the funds being donated from an energy company, this project would be virtually cost free.

Currently the boiler at SIU's power plant provides 70% of our energy demands, and does so by using high sulfur coal that is indigenous to southern Illinois. Gatton also spoke of a coal gasification plant that is currently being studied that would be a \$500 million project that would use the same high sulfur coal at close to 100% efficiency, cleanly. It would generate between 2500-3000 jobs for the region and would provide energy to the state of Illinois as well as other surrounding states after completion. He stated that he has encountered very little negativity with respect to new initiatives by outside sources. Lots of people see the big picture and recognize that involving SIU in these initiatives is good for the entire region.

It is reassuring to know that even though there are challenges to the energy dilemma; people like Phil Gatton, and PSO are working very diligently to find the solutions to these challenges. This is a win-win situation; we find new avenues of energy sources and the collective benefit is favorable to the university, the city, county, and state and region. Hats off to the wonderful efforts that make this such a success!