UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE
September 5, 2013
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the Staff Senate was called to order on Thursday, September 5, 2013 at 9:00 a.m. in the International Room, Morris University Center by Michelle Welter, President.

Present: Becherer, Caupert, Cobetto, Connoyer, Cooper, Dain, Dickey, Dusenbery, Gilmore, Hamil, Kershaw, Lesicko, Mumphard, Ormesher, Welter; Ex-Officio: Manning, Pulley; Panel: Fricke

Excused: Bartholomew, Candela

Guests: Morris Taylor, Chancellor Julie Furst-Bowe, Mike Schultz, Jo Gibson

Announcements: Congratulations goes to Senator Crystal Connoyer for being named August Employee of the Month. SIUE Experience was held August 15-17 for all incoming freshmen students. Fall enrollment numbers, BOT meeting September 12 in Carbondale, Vice Chancellor for University Advancement Open Forums Chancellor’s Address to the University on September 18 in the Meridian Ballroom.

Guest Speaker Morris Taylor, UPBC Chair gave a PowerPoint presentation about the budget with a question and answer session afterward. Some topics covered were:
  - 2 year projection in the past, but not effective now
  - Bond rating down and SIUE is powerless over the bond rating
  - Fund group
  - Pension reform
  - Fiscal state of SIUE is good (good management)
  - Contact information: mortay@siue.edu, budget web site http://www.siue.edu/budget/index.shtml and UPBC web site

Guest Speaker Chancellor Julie Furst-Bowe began her address after introductions went around the Senate. The Chancellor talked about the following topics:
  - Flat budget predicted, last year there was a 6% reduction, Board of Trustees will approve the budget on September 12
  - Chancellor’s annual address will be on September 18 at 10:00 a.m. in the Meridian Ballroom
  - October 10 the All Faculty Meeting will be about the budget
  - The State paid 99.9% of allocations last year
  - The State is behind already and owes $10.5 M as of August
  - 5th year of cash flow situation
  - 2% salary increase, state accounts, pending Board of Trustees approval
  - 11th consecutive year of salary increases
  - The enrollment in this fall was down 400 from 1.4% last year
• ACT scores up 23.1, transfer students up, International student enrollment up, professional schools’ enrollment up, CAS enrollment down, Graduate enrollment down by 101 students
• Undecided major is ok
• 5% tuition increase
• Provost discussions, increase of online courses, different pricing, register for future sessions to hear the Provost
• It was the 10th year of the Strategic Plan so time for review and renew; the mission statement part will be approved at the Board of Trustees meeting September 12
• President Poshard is retiring at the end of the academic year. He has been in Springfield every day fighting for SIUE
• Provost Search is this year, it will be campus wide
• The Staff Senate will provide four staff names
• Lastly, an invite to a reception at the Chancellor’s home on October 17 after work (Halloween theme)

A question regarding profit colleges and students debt was asked and the Chancellor responded that President Obama has put together a formula for accountability and federal financial aid.

**Consideration of Minutes:**
August 1, 2013 regular: The minutes were approved as submitted (Dusenbery/Gilmore).
August 1, 2013 special: The minutes were approved as submitted (Cobetto/Caupert).

**Old Business**
The Treasurer seat is still vacant. Michelle Welter asked if there was interest. There were no questions.
**Alton Representative:** Jackie Candela filed her paperwork. The Senate voted and Jackie was ratified unanimously to serve another three year term as senator representing the School of Dental Medicine, Alton (Hamil/Ormesher).
**Negotiated & Prevailing:** James Gilmore filed his paperwork. The Senate voted and James was ratified unanimously to serve another three year term as senator representing the negotiated and prevailing constituency.

Resource Fair: John Caupert reported that it went well. There was a discussion about having some more information about what the Senate is and what the Senate does. It was decided to continue to have this conversation and learn more ways to get the Staff Senate’s name out and more visible. There was also discussion about possibly having a table next year under the name ‘University Governance’ with the three Senates (Faculty, Staff and Student) represented.
August 21, update email-Chancellor. Michelle will need to send four names to Kim Durr tomorrow to serve on committee.
Cindy Cobetto nominated Gretchen Fricke to serve as Professional non represented Senator in the vacant seat left by John Caupert who is now serving as President-elect. Gretchen will need her paperwork turned in before moving on with ratification. Gretchen gave some history of her work at SIUE the past nine years. She is involved in the IBHE ISBE, also.
Michelle Welter called a break: 10:13 a.m.
The meeting resumed at 10:29 a.m.

Calendar Committee Report:
Policy Review Committee: Cindy Cobetto reported of a policy that Carbondale is creating that will include conflict for people who work outside of campus. Auditors have brought it up, but Sherrie Senkfor is not interested in pursuing at this time.

Weapons issue in policy pending Legal. The drug testing policy is not an issue at this time. Photo release and social media are on the docket at this time. Clean air policy pending at this time and waiting on the State. There was a discussion. December 4 is the committee’s next meeting.

Guest Speaker: Mike Schultz, Chair of the Campus Wide Calendar Committee talked about the report and answered questions. The report is filed with the minutes. There was a discussion. Any feedback will be sent to the Chancellor regarding the six recommended calendars to the Chancellor.

There was some discussion about future guest speakers for the senate meetings. Possible speakers are Sherrie Senkfor, someone from athletics, facilities, Jennifer Vandiver.

Reports

Ex-Officio
SUCSAC: Michael Pulley reported that they are making changes to their constitution and by-laws. The ‘Return to Work Act’ includes changes for people who go back to work part time after retirement such as if they work 18 paid weeks after August 1, 2013 it would include any hours in each week that each week counts as a week. The employer must pay entire annuity if they receive compensation greater than 40% of highest earnings. Other topics discussed:

- Retirement and healthcare
- Pension reform
- Council of Councils next month, Chicago State University, October 18, Please send Michelle an email if interested.
- Two vacant positions
- CI Security Officer search
- ITS updates, Mike will continue to bring updates throughout the year.

Personnel: No report
SURS: No report

Panel Reports
Negotiated and Prevailing: Kirt Ormesher reported for Todd. The Building Services Local are still in negotiations. Grounds have settled, but have no clothing allowance. Clerical and Kindred is still in negotiations.

Open Range: No report.
Administrative/Professional: Cindy Cobetto motioned to ratify Gretchen Fricke as Senator. Gretchen was unanimously approved.

Satellite Campus Reports
Alton: Jackie Candela sent a report that they are doing a Dean search in her area.
East St. Louis: Bill Dusenbery reported that a Headstart nine month program had to close two classes due to the Sequester (Henley/Centerville and Phoenix Art Center). Trio starts in a week and a half. East St. Louis is now open.

UPBC: presentation above.

UCB: Cindy Cobetto reported that renovations will begin in April at Union Station. Dining Services will serve gluten free and food for allergy. The MUC will be implementing energy efficiency and the State will reimburse costs. Students voted to raise fees $10.00 more.

Public Relations: No report

Policy Review Committee: above

Scholarship Committee: No report.

Fundraising Committee: For membership on committee contact Cindy Cobetto. Work on BBQ continues. Michelle has students that can help move things for Employee Banquet.

Goals Committee: No report.

Other Reports: Michelle Welter is meeting with Sherrie Senkfor next Friday. Encourage attendance at the forums for University Advancement search. Michelle encouraged staff to attend the Provost’s presentation. Michelle will be at an AQIP conference October 2-4. It is the first time the Staff Senate President has been included. John will run the October 3 meeting. Michelle will report back in November.

SIUE Day: please, give to the Staff Senate Scholarship Fund.

October 17: Reception at the Chancellor’s home.
Michelle will send names of people to Morris Taylor, Chair of UPBC who are willing to serve on CHAPA.

Keith Becherer was approached about a campus wide smoking ban. The students will vote on the issue tomorrow, but the Staff Senate has not received a formal request, yet. There was a discussion. John Caupert suggested that someone contact the SIU School of Medicine because the proposed ban originated there. University of Illinois and Northern Illinois University have implemented a ban already.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 12:01.

Approved as amended on October 3, 2013 by Staff Senate
Vicki Kruse/University Governance