The regular meeting of the Staff Senate was called to order on Thursday, June 5, 2014 at 9:00 a.m. in the International Room, Morris University Center by Michelle Welter, president.

Present: Bartholomew, Becherer, Caupert, Cobetto, Cooper, Dickey, Dusenbery, Gilmore, Hamil, Hunter, Kershaw, Lesicko, Mumphard, Ormesher, Welter, Candela; Ex Officio: Pulley

Excused: Fricke

Absent: Connoyer

Guests: Bill Misiak, Billy Johnson

Announcements: Michelle gave the announcements from the agenda. The Board of Trustees meeting will be on July 24, 2014 at the School of Medicine in Springfield, Illinois; SIU President Dr. Randy Dunn took office May 1, 2014; The Director of Equal Opportunity & Access Chad Martinez begins on July 1, 2014; The Chancellor’s budget email was sent out on May 15, 2014; the announcement of the new Provost, Dr. Parviz Ansari, went out; a congratulations to the SIUE softball team on their OVC Championship and their first NCAA D-1 tournament appearance; the Staff Senate elections announcement went out and will take place July 2, 2014; Michelle called attention to an email that went out on May 21, 2014 about the Affirmative Action Plan. Please, know what is in the Plans.

Guest Speakers: Bill Misiak, Human Resources Manager of Employee Relations, and Billy Johnson, Transportation Services Manager, spoke to the Senate about the revised Employee Excellence Program. They both presented the changes with a PowerPoint presentation. Bill gave some history of the current process which has been in existence since May 1995. The new process should eliminate confusion and make it less overwhelming. The changed process has fewer forms. Tami Kershaw was recognized by Billy for her important input on the committee. Bill Misiak hopes to have contact persons in each area for training on the new forms, so that it all doesn’t have to be done in Human Resources. After a question and answer session, Michelle Welter thanked Bill and Billy for their presentation.

Consideration of the Minutes: The May 1, 2014 minutes were approved as submitted (Bartholomew/Gilmore).

Additional item added to agenda: Michelle Welter added item “B. UPBC Appointment” to New Business

Action Items

Ratification of Scholarship Committee members: Cindy Cobetto motioned to approve members Donna Lesicko, Todd Bartholomew, Danita Mumphard and Jan Caban. Bill Dusenbery seconded. The members were unanimously approved.

Appointment of Open Range Senator and Panel Member Rebecca was unanimously approved.
Old Business
Michelle Welter reported that the Executive Committee continues to make revisions to the By-Laws at the meetings and invited all Senators to participate.

New Business
Strategic Plan: Keith Becherer encouraged everyone to look at the Strategic Plan and find goals for the Senate to match up to the plan. Keith read through the long term goals of the Plan and highlighted a few: 1. Work with SIU Foundation to find new campaigns or mini campaign, 2. Employee retention rate initiatives (work with H.R. make new employees at orientation aware of the Staff Senate). 3. Campus Climate surveys, Multicultural environment, LGBT, etc. 4. Community Outreach (what can the Staff Senate do?). Please, get any ideas to Michelle, Keith or John (yearly and 5 year goals).

July Meeting: A motion was made by Todd Bartholomew to cancel the July 3, 2014 meeting and seconded by Bill Dusenbery. There was a discussion that not many people will be here on campus since the 4th of July holiday is that week and a quorum may not be present. The motion to cancel the meeting was unanimously approved.

Cougar Welcome Resource Fair Table: The event will take place on Monday and Tuesday, August 18 and 19. There was a discussion about other Senates joining and about possible handouts. It was decided not to include because the student government will have a table the following week at an event for student organization resource fair. It was suggested to have a copy of the US constitution available for a handout.

B. UPBC Appointment: Michelle brought up that Kathleen Gardner’s UPBC term will expire and she is interested in serving a second term. Bill Dusenbery motioned to let her serve another term and Mike Hamil seconded. Kathleen’s reappointment was unanimously approved.

Michelle Welter called a break at 10:05 a.m. The meeting resumed at 10:17 a.m.

Reports
Ex Officio Reports
SUCSAC: Michael Pulley reported that it was possible for the Merit Board to meet again with quorum. Andy Small is Chair and Michael Pulley is now Vice Chair of EAC. Michael requested for the Senate to let him know of any issues or concerns with Civil Service and he would take back to the committee. Since the employees do not have any representation in the Merit Board meetings; only Human Resources and SUCS, he thinks it would be a good idea to have feedback from the employees’ view. Michael suggested that data could be gathered from our campus through the Executive Committee. The pension reform is on hold. Some retirements already happened before the hold. Michael presented some information about affected annuitants’ status in relation to the University’s responsibility to SURS. Michael also described the difference between ‘status’ and ‘non-status’ employees. Full time, part time Civil Service and Administrative/Professional staff are status and the 900 employee are considered non status.
**Personnel:** No report

**SURS:** No report

**Panel Reports**

**Negotiated and Prevailing:** The Building Services workers are working without a contract. The Est St. Louis Mechanics are getting a new union. Local 2887 AFSCME did get their contract ratified.

**Open Range:** No report. Mike Hamil congratulated Becky Cooper on her reappointment as Senator and Panel member.

**Administrative/Professional:** A contract for the represented has been agreed upon and needs to be signed by the President, yet.

**Satellite Campus Reports**

**Alton:** Jackie Candela reported that commencement will take place this Saturday for the Class of 2014.

**East St. Louis:** Bill Dusenbery reported that East St. Louis Center is looking for a new director. Head Start is still waiting to hear about the 5 year grand since the current grant is up on June 30, 2014.

**Standing Committees**

**UPBC:** Keith Becherer reported that there has not been a meeting since he last reported, but Morris Taylor, Chair could possibly call a meeting this summer regarding the budget.

**UCB:** No report.

**Public Relations:** No report, but the Newsletter went out for June. Donna Lesicko gave kudos to Tami Kershaw for a job well done.

**Policy Review Committee:** Cindy Cobetto reported that they met and worked on the Conflict of Interest and Commitment Policy. This policy now makes it mandatory for all constituents to disclose and have approved. Another revision allows an employee to go straight to the Ethics Commission with a question or issue not to a committee. There was discussion. On another policy Sherrie Senkfor is working on, employees can now use sick leave for relatives outside the home. It will be handled as a special request.

**Scholarship Committee:** Donna Lesicko will now get in touch with the committee and call a meeting about revisions that will need to be made to the applications and operating papers in the handbook.

**Fundraising Committee:** Donna Lesicko reported that the Employee Banquet will be at the Edwardsville American Legion, Jerry’s Catering will have the meal, the SIUE Steel Band and three comedians (two are students) will do the entertainment. Donna made a request for the Senate members to donate booze for a Pirate’s Treasure drawing. Donations can be brought to Donna or Tami. All employees and spouses are invited to the Banquet will be on Thursday, Sept. 18, doors open at 5:00 and ends around 9:00. Admission is $20.00. They have letters for businesses if anyone wants a copy to take to businesses to request donations for Silent auction and door prizes.

*There was a discussion about possibly getting two table cloths with the Staff Senate name on them for events where the Senate has a display or information.*
Bill Dusenbery made a **motion** to buy two tablecloths with the Staff Senate Workmark on them. Donna Lesicko seconded. The motion was unanimously **approved**. Michelle Welter will send Governance secretary information about cost of tablecloths and where to order them.

**Goals Committee:** Keith Becherer reported that five or six goals from 2013-2014 were accomplished. Keith requested more measurable goals for the future. Keith will send Michelle an update to send to the Chancellor.

**Elections Committee:** Tami Kershaw reported that the election notice went out on the announcelist as scheduled.

Keith Becherer **nominated** Cindy Cobetto for 2014-2015 President Elect. Cindy **accepted the nomination**. Her name will go on the August 7, 2014 special meeting agenda for the election.

With no other News Michelle Welter reported:

**President’s Report:** Michelle participated in the interviews for Director of Equal Opportunity & Access. Chad Martinez has been selected. Michelle participated in the four commencement ceremonies and noted one degree was awarded posthumously. SIUE graduated a record number of students.

Michelle also announced that SIUE will again have a booth on June 28 and 29 and walk in the Pride Parade on June 29. Michelle will follow-up with Safe Zone for details and send to the Senate.

Michelle reported that new Legislature was presented for smoke free university campuses to be in effect July 2015. Therefore, SIUE will go smoke free, but student government will pursue option of possible smoking zones. Michelle reported that she told student government that the Staff Senate would not pursue but will support the students in whatever way it can.

John Caupert added two things after Michelle’s report. 1. Please, look at roll call vote for this policy; the vote for this was across all party lines. 2. President Dunn announced that his role will be to split his time equally between Carbondale and Edwardsville campuses. He plans to be visible on SIUE campus starting with Monday at the NCERC. Good opportunity to invite him to a Staff Senate meeting.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m. (Dusenbery/Gilmore).

*Approved as submitted August 7, 2014 by the Staff Senate
Vicki Kruse/University Governance*