UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE  
September 4, 2014  
Approved Minutes  

The regular meeting of the Staff Senate was called to order on Thursday, September 4, 2014 at 9:01 a.m. in the International Room, Morris University Center by John Caupert, president.

John Caupert acknowledged the work of Michelle Welter and Keith Becherer the presidents before him and recognized that he is happy to be serving with Cindy Cobetto.

**Present:** Bartholomew, Caupert, Cobetto, Connoyer, Dickey, Dusenbery, Fricke, Gilmore, Hunter, Kershaw, Lesicko, Mumphard, Ormesher, Welter; **Panel:** Dain, Trucks

**Excused:** Hamil, Langston

**Guests:** Morris Taylor, Bill Winter, Keith Becherer

**Announcements**

John announced the list of announcements on the agenda and added that Anne Hunter is the September Employee of the Month. John deferred the Enrollment numbers to Bill Winter, Budget Director: increases in enrollment included the largest freshman class ever and housing is 97% occupied.

Introductions were made and the guest speakers began their presentation.

**Guest Speakers**

Morris Taylor, UPBC Chair and Associate Professor of the Master of Public Administration and Policy Analysis Program, gave a PowerPoint presentation about UPBC and the budget. Morris stressed that the UPBC works for the greater good of the University as a whole.

Cash flow for FY15 is 18% lower than it was thirteen years ago.

Illinois Vet grant waivers are not covered by the State of Illinois anymore, but are absorbed by the university.

SIUE is doing well compared to other universities.

Bill Winter, Budget Director, answered questions from the Senate.

**Q.** A question concerning the lack of capital funds at NCERC was asked.

**A.** Unexpected things in regards to the State legislation, etc. cause SIUE to move funds around. SIUE can get by for a few years with deferred maintenance but not beyond that. A facilities fee is now used to help with State ran buildings that used to be funded by the state of Illinois but now have to charge students. Plans are in place to renovate the State funded buildings, but SIUE has money only to fix not expand.
Q. Regarding tuition and funds, is there a difference between part time students and full time students?

A. Tuition is driven by student credit hours, so there would be an impact if the full time student population decreased. Problems arise because many costs are fixed. There is a head count number and a full time equivalent number used; therefore headcount numbers are better if they are equal to full time equivalent numbers. When using headcount with part time students, it may take a few students to become one full time equivalent number (FTE).

Q. Why is Carbondale more expensive according to the pie chart?

A. They have more students and are a doctoral granting institution. In addition to state appropriations, the pie chart includes all funding such as grants, tuition and fees.

Q. Because we are affiliated with Carbondale, are there degrees/programs we are not allowed to have because Carbondale has them?

SIUE has Carnegie classification, so if SIUE added another doctoral program and more students (SIUE now has EDD and Dr. of Nursing) their classification would be pushed up into a bigger category like University of Illinois and the Big Ten, and that would make SIUE a ‘small fish in a big pond’.

Q. How is retention going?

A. Illinois sends more of our students out of state to college than any other state. The retention is going well. The state appropriations now are connected to retention rates. Access is nothing and retention is what counts.

Q. Are in state rates only for out of state new students or are continuing students included in the discount?

A. Out of state rate is the true cost of college and the in state rate is a discounted rate because the State is appropriating funds to offset the cost of tuition for Illinois students because of taxes paid by the citizens of Illinois. The out of state cost numbers are going down because of the competition for students but SIUE is hoping that out of state tuition will go back up because that rate is the true cost of to attend college.

Q. Will SIUE be competing with other universities regarding online classes?

A. Blended, some online with some in seat classes, may be the answer for students who want the ‘college experience’ at SIUE. Balance is the key. Groundwork for online courses is enormous and has to be manned 24/7 therefore needing more resources.

**Break**: John Caupert called a break at 9:54 a.m.

The meeting **resumed** at 10:00 a.m.
Consideration of Minutes: The August 7, 2014 regular and special minutes were approved as submitted (Dusenbery/Bartholomew).

Old Business

Treasurer Appointment: There was a discussion and John Caupert, president appointed Tami Kershaw as possible Treasurer. There were no other suggestions. Tami accepted consideration for the appointment while Bill Dusenbery seconded. Tami Kershaw was approved unanimously to serve as Treasurer.

New Business

Dean Searches: John Caupert had a request from the Provost Ansari to appoint two staff to serve on Dean Searches for the School of Business and School of Education Health and Human Behavior. John gathered names of people interested by email and will contact the selections before he announces to the Senate. John noted that there were many people interested in serving on the committees.

Constitution & By-laws: First read.

Hard copies were passed around and an electronic copy of the revisions was emailed with the Senate email announcement. Michelle Welter explained the process in which the revisions were proposed in the Executive Committee meetings. All Senators were invited to attend if they wanted to help with the process. John requested that if there are any questions, concerns or more revisions before the October meeting to forward them to Michelle. After the revisions are approved at the October meeting, the proposed revisions will be forwarded to the Chancellor for final approval. It was noted that one of the major changes was to move the election from July to April, but keeping the same term of September 1 to August 31.

Admin/Prof (represented) Senate Seat: Bill Dusenbery nominated Dana Dain to fill the seat left by Cindy Cobetto. Dana accepted the nomination. The nominations were closed with no other nominations. The nomination will go on the October agenda for ratification.

Senate Meeting Guests

- October: Rachel Stack to present Staff Senate Scholarship and make comments about the Foundation.
- November: Chancellor Furst Bowe will visit
- December: possibly have Venessa Brown (check with John Caupert to confirm that he is contacting her).

Reports

Ex Officio Reports

SUCSAC (Pulley): No report.
SURS: John has not received a response yet on the new representative.

Panel Reports

Negotiated and Prevailing: Todd Bartholomew reported that there is still no contract for the Building Services workers yet, but possibly no raises will be included in it.

Open Range: No report.

Admin/Prof: No report.

Satellite Campus Reports

Alton (Candela): Clyde Trucks II reported in Jackie Candela’s absence that the Tech. staff is still negotiating a contract.

E. St. Louis (Langston): Bill Dusenbery reported in Shrylene Langston’s absence that Head Start and teachers are back. The kids arrive on Wednesday. Trio and the Charter school are back. There are many changes.

Standing Committees

UPBC: Michelle Welter reported that the first meeting was last Friday. Most information was included in the budget presentation by Morris Taylor and Bill Winter. The schedule is set for the fall semester and the Council will meet next week.

UCB: Kirt Ormesher reported that the cafeteria issue is based on the new 20 hour student employee rule. The opening of Fixin’s Restaurant and Cocina’s are still delayed. The University Center is asking for an increase of 3% in student fees. Kirt brought a picture of a recycling vending machine and introduced the new concept of recycling of a new clam shell as opposed to the Styrofoam clam shell containers used now for carry outs from Dining Services (approximately 27,000 clam shells were purchased last year). Kirt asked for feedback on the new type of recycling which includes purchasing your own clamshell (more durable and “green”) for $5.00 and using it multiple times, then depositing it into a vending machine that will give you a token for your next clam shell which may be recycled from the vending machine. There were several comments in opposition of the recycling vending machine. Some comments were expressed about having cleaner dishes and eating utensils would encourage people to use the washable dishware and utensils resulting. Kirt will take the feedback to the University Center Board.

Public Relations Committee: Bill Dusenbery reported that Michelle is helping with some advertising. East St. Louis does not feel part of the University. East St. Louis employees are not interested in attending the Employee Banquet.

Policy Review Committee: No report.
**Fundraising Committee:** Donna Lesicko reported on the status of the Employee Banquet. Not many people have bought tickets and could possibly be canceled.

**Scholarship Committee:** Donna Lesicko reported that the committee will review the current criteria and applications used for the Staff Senate scholarships to help clarify them and find ways to make them for visible and assessable for employees. There was a discussion.

**Goals Committee:** Keith Becherer, Chair, reported that the proposed 2014-2015 goals were brought to the August meeting. Not receiving any feedback, Keith would like to submit the goals for Staff Senate approval (a copy of the proposed goals is submitted with the minutes).

As a side note Keith informed the Senate about the National Day of Service on October 25. SIUE will have an organized day because the service component of the SIUE Experience didn’t happen on the planned date. Michelle Welter will send the sign-up list to the governance secretary.

The goals were **approved** unanimously.

**Other Reports**

**Training for New Senators:** Michelle Welter provided a PowerPoint with slides of important sections of the Constitution and Bylaws.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:32 a.m. (Bartholomew/Gilmore).

*Approved as submitted October 2, 2014 by the Staff Senate*  
*Vicki Kruse/University Governance*
DATE: August 5, 2014
TO: Ms. Michelle Welter, Staff Senate President
FROM: Mr. Keith Becherer, Staff Senate Past-President and Chair of the Goals Committee
SUBJECT: Recommendation of Staff Senate Goals for 2014-15
CC: Staff Senate
Mr. V. John Caupert, Staff Senate President-elect
Dr. Susan Yager, Faculty Senate President
Dr. Tom Foster, Faculty Senate President
Mr. Nasir Almasri, Student Senate President
Dr. Julie Furst-Bowe, Chancellor

President Welter:

Please find the following recommendations regarding updated goals and objectives for the Staff Senate to consider for the 2014-15 Academic Year:

- Finalize a marketing piece (Public Relations Committee) on behalf of the Staff Senate that will be provided in the Human Resources informational packets for new hires at the University.
- Finish reviewing the recommended updates and changes submitted by the Executive Committee for eventual review and input from the Rules and Procedures Council of the SIUE Faculty Senate.
- Place a greater emphasis on continuing to educate the staff on the vital role the Staff Senate plays in the Shared Governance process at SIUE.
- Advocate for a standard training program that all staff members serving on search committees must complete before working on their respective committee.
- Participate in community outreach and/or service projects that achieve one-hundred (100) hours of service amongst members of the Senate.
- Continue to enhance and build upon the success of the initial Rally Day held in April 2014.
- Establish a special fundraising initiative to increase the value of the Staff Senate Endowment Fund by $2,500.00 during Fiscal Year 2015.

Let me know if you have any additional questions or comments.
SIUE Staff Senate

Who We Are & What We Do

Purpose of Staff Senate

- To advise and assist the Director of Human Resources in developing and initiating more effective personnel policies, procedures, and programs.

- To encourage all Civil Service and Administrative Staff employees to consult with members of the Staff Senate concerning issues, policies, and possible recommendations for appropriate Staff Senate action.
Who is on the Senate?

- 4 Administrative Staff members
  - 1 non-represented
  - 3 represented
- 7 Members from Negotiated & Prevailing Civil Service
- 3 Members from Open Range Civil Service
- 1 Member from the Alton Campus
- 1 Member from the East St. Louis Campus
- President
- Past President
- President-Elect

Who is on the Senate?

- Elected from the membership of the Senate
- Can be a voting member
- Elected from the membership of the Senate
- Can be a voting member
What Are the Panels?

- Negotiated & Prevailing
- Open Range
- Professional Staff

What are ex-officio members

- Vice Chancellor for Administration Designee (currently HR Director)
- SURS Representative (HR Staff member)
- SUCSAC (Elected, currently Mike Pulley)
- University Planning & Budget Council—2 Staff Senate Appointments
When does the Executive Committee meet?

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What are the expectations of Senators?
Staff Senate Scholarship

Where can I get Staff Senate Information?

http://www.siue.edu/ugov/staff
Amid smaller enrollments, Illinois universities, colleges forced to adjust to changing landscape

By Steve Tarter of the Journal Star

July 19, 2014 7:47PM

PEORIA — Bradley University’s decision last month to trim $7 million from a $175 million annual budget due to a decline in enrollment was just the latest indication of changes sweeping across higher education.

In Illinois, most state universities as well as almost all community colleges face continued enrollment declines.

Aside from the rising cost of a college education and mounting student debt, colleges face another problem.

“There’s greater competition for a dwindling number of students,” said Tony Bankston, dean of admissions at Illinois Wesleyan University in Bloomington.

More bad news for colleges: The number of high school graduates in Illinois will continue to decline. A study performed by Western Illinois University that reported 166,000 high school graduates in the state in 2011 predicts the number of graduates will be 158,000 by 2015.

With fewer high school graduates — not just in Illinois but across the country — more colleges are recruiting from the Chicago metropolitan area, historically a rich talent pool for Bradley and other central Illinois schools.

Bankston says recruitment, particularly by schools from the Northeast, has “exploded” in Chicago. Ten years ago, where five or six schools did most of the recruitment in Chicago, now 120 schools are involved, he said.

But Illinois schools face other problems, said Andy Borst, dean of admissions at Western Illinois University where enrollment dipped 4 percent last year to below 12,000 students between the school’s two campuses in Macomb and the Quad Cities. The state’s financial problems mean greater volatility when it comes to grants, he said.

Illinois is also losing students to other states, said Borst. “Coupled with the fact that state funding reductions have caused us to increase our tuition prices, other flagship universities can charge an
Illinois student out-of-state tuition and he or she will still pay less than most Illinois in-state tuitions. We are, in fact, pricing ourselves out of the market,” he said.

Borst said he’d heard reports that Illinois students will make up 40 percent of the freshman class at the University of Missouri this year.

Community colleges are also dealing with changes. Illinois Central College — with campuses in Peoria and East Peoria — has seen three successive years where admission has declined, said school president John Erwin.

“I can predict that enrollment at ICC will be down 5 percent this fall,” he said, anticipating enrollment somewhere between 10,500 and 11,000 students.

But Erwin has seen enrollment fluctuations before. “We’ve had as many as 13,500 students (in 2005) when we were bursting at the seams,” he said.

Since the acquisition of its north Peoria campus, the former Zeller Zone Center, the college has seen the need to reduce its footprint, said Erwin, pointing to ICC’s exodus from Downtown Peoria next year.

“We’re in a better place with taxpayers as we right-size ourselves,” he said.

It’s not just a matter of brick-and-mortar buildings when it comes to education, said Erwin. While ICC’s enrollment may have declined in recent years, enrollment for online classes has increased, he said.

“It’s no longer the traditional classroom. Students are taking advantage of access,” he said.

Online growth has also been a key reason why the University of Illinois at Springfield has bucked the downward trend of enrollment at state schools, said Ray Schroeder, the school’s associate vice chancellor for online learning.

“Over the years, the online programs have grown to serve more than one-third of our students,” he said, indicating the school’s 1,650 online “majors” from 48 states and a dozen foreign countries helped swell the UIS enrollment to more than 5,000.

“As a result of the growth of the online student population, enrollments at UIS have continued to grow when enrollments at other universities have stagnated or dropped,” said Schroeder.

“Generally, those universities that have embraced 21st century approaches such as online learning continue to thrive despite the challenges of higher costs and lower governmental subsidies,” he said.

Another example of that growth is Western Governors University, an online college based in Salt Lake City with 46,000 students nationwide — 950 in Illinois.

“The average age of our student is 37. We’ve been growing at 30 percent annually for the last several years,” said Allison Barber, the school’s chancellor.

“Our tuition is $6,000 a year because we have no buildings, no sports teams.
“We offer degrees in four areas: business, information technology, health professions and education. We offer both bachelor’s programs and master’s degrees,” said Barber.

“Our secret sauce is that every student is partnered with a faculty member,” she said, noting that the school employs 500 faculty members nationwide.

Barber makes three predictions regarding the future of a college education in this country: the traditional university will expand to embrace and engage online programs, competency-based education will continue to grow; and, students will drive the debate.

Some have made dire predictions on the future of colleges, such as Harvard University business professor Clayton Christensen’s suggestion that half of the country’s universities will be bankrupt in 15 years.

“While some have called this alarmist, the point is that higher education is facing significant enrollment and financial challenges that will result in some dramatic outcomes,” said Robert Breuder, president of the College of DuPage.

Not all area schools are dealing with deficits, however. Tim Kefauver, vice president for enrollment at Monmouth College, reports a record class for this fall at the Monmouth school of 1,300 students. He points to the school’s strong reputation, an endowment of $90 million and a capital program that has seen $120 million spent on new facilities since 2002.

At Knox College in Galesburg, a school of 1,400 students, Laura Behling, vice president of academic affairs and dean of the college, looks for this fall’s incoming freshman class to be about the same as last year: 400 students.

“We have to keep doing what we’ve been doing for 170 years. Predictions on the demise of small liberal arts colleges have been around for decades,” she said.

Yet Knox remains aware of the changing college environment, she said. “We’re paying attention to online classes. We’re part of a consortium of 14 schools offering an online calculus course,” said Behling.

In addition, some Knox faculty members put lectures online that students watch in advance and then discuss in class, she said.

ICC’s Erwin looks at the changing environment in higher education as a challenge. “ICC will be better because of technology. We’re going to figure this out,” he said.

Steve Tarter is Journal Star business editor. Tarter’s phone number is 686-3260, and his email address is start er@pjs t ar.com. Follow his blog, Minding Business, on pjstar.com and follow him on Twitter @SteveTarter

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