

Civil Service Council Minutes

December 6, 2005

Members Attending

Julie Benedict, Angie Campbell, Tami Duzan, Paula Embry, Brad Green, Jerilyn Hutson, Susan Mathews, Michelle Morgan, Lisa Standerfer, Jenny Stout, Janet Werden, Julie Wilkerson

Others in Attendance

Jill Nilsen

Members Absent

Cheryl Clapp, Allen Clayton, Heidi Hawkins, Dennis Malak, Kathy Murphy, Lionel Sanders, Carlene Schaefer

President Jerilyn Hutson called the December meeting to order.

The November minutes were approved. (Wilkerson/Mathews)

Jill Nilsen shared information about the 2nd year of 94th General Assembly. The Spring Session will reconvene on January 11 and ends on April 7, 2006. Currently tracking 100 bills. Since this is an election year, things will move fairly quickly. Dr. Nilsen indicated there are two bills of great interest to EIU:

Senate Bill 1879 – Ethics and Procurement Bill – has been totally revised and revamped. There are four parts of this bill that affects EIU – Procurement, Ethics, Naming Rights, and Pensions/Retirement. Thought that the “Naming Rights” part of the bill was a dead issue. Language has been modified – any donation over \$25,000 which results in “naming” must be reviewed by the Ethics Commission. Able to exempt “Naming Rights” for a person donating monies. Buildings would be exempt if a plaque was placed on the inside of the building – not as the name of the building. Any corporation wishing to donate monies for a building must go through the Ethics Commission. Athletics will be most heavily impacted.

HB 4166 and SB2151 have both been introduced to reverse a decision in the pension bill. Faculty working 9 months/promotions of any position should be eliminated from the SURS 6% calculation.

Pension Commission Review – recommending no changes – currently 30 years of service, regardless of age and you can retire at full benefits.

Recently attended an Education Summit – Position of University with our students is that we can guarantee you a good job – The University position with our students needs to be we are here for the **public good**.

The university needs to be more vocal and writing our representatives about budgets and plans for EIU.

Legislators think of K-12 instead of higher education.

Upcoming Dates: Governor’s State of the State Address, January 18th

Budget Address, February 18th

EIU Day at the Capitol, February 8th

Website for the Illinois General Assembly – <http://ilga.gov/>

EAC Report

Julie Benedict – nothing new to report

Committee Reports

Personnel/Grievance

Nothing new

Legislative

Susan Mathews

Repeal of Social Security Government

Pension Offset and Windfall Elimination Provision the petition has received another 117 names.

Environmental Health & Safety

Heidi Hawkins

Civil Service Council is no longer to

have a representative on this committee.

Recycling

Steve Lane

Nothing to report

Financial Report

Paula Embry

Wiped out from Council of Councils

Human Resources Report

Chuck Phillips was unable to attend.

Old Business

* Archive File Disposal – Cathy Kimball, Records Retention-Facilities Planning and Management, will be contacted to verify if we can dispose of the old files.

New Business:

Concern with definition of bereavement leave. Per IGP the brother-in-laws or sister-in-laws benefits are for both sides of the family. Reviewing – benefit is for the employees in-laws not the employee's spouses in-laws? Aunts and uncles are only for the employee.

Exciting news for Blair Hall – anticipating a Spring Break move in. Floor plans are available on the website - <http://www.eiu.edu/~physplnt/blair.html>

A motion was made to adjourn and passed unanimously. (Green/Standerfer)

The next scheduled meeting of the Civil Service Council is January 10 at 1:30p.m. in the Sullivan Room of the University Union. All Civil Service, non-negotiated employees are welcome and are encouraged to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Werden