

**Minutes of the KSU Classified Senate
November 4, 2009**

- I. Vice-President Jennyfer Owensby called the meeting to order.**
- II. Roll Call:**
 - A. *Present:* Becki Bohnenblust, Jean Bramwell, Terri Eddy, Carolyn Elliott, Connie Emig, Janet Finney, Brittany Green, Janel Harder, Annette Hernandez, Mardee Hutchinson, Connie Jordan, Claudia Leeds, Gary Leitnaker, Melissa Linenberger, Hanna Manning, Jennyfer Owensby, Rob Reves, Cherry Rosenberry, Lois Schreiner, Michael Seymour II, John Wolf, and Jackie Yonning
 - B. *Absent - Excused:* Jody Fronce, Sharon Hartwich, Connie Kisse, Lesa Reves, Darin VanDorn, and Terri Wyrick
- III. Gary Leitnaker Report:**
 - A. *Parking Garage* – The ribbon cutting for the parking garage was postponed. No completion date has been announced.
 - B. *Job Climate* – No new lay-offs have been requested. People are continuing to hire. The Governor is evaluating the budget and will be announcing his recommendations.
- IV. Minutes**
 - A. The minutes were reviewed. Jennyfer Owensby moved to accept the minutes as presented. Rob Reves seconded. Minutes were approved.
- V. Budget Report**
 - A. John Wolf gave the financial report. Jennyfer Owensby moved and Rob Reves seconded that we approve the budget report. Motion passed.
- VI. Executive Council Report:**
 - A. *Resignation* – Carolyn Elliott reported that Sharon Hartwich has resigned her position on the Classified Senate for health reasons. Possible candidates were discussed to fill her position. Carolyn will contact potential candidates and appoint a new Senator.
 - B. *Audit Oversight Committee* – Carolyn Elliott reported that the Audit Oversight Committee meeting overlapped with the Senate meeting. They have submitted their final report and it will be presented at the next Board of Regents meeting. If anyone is interested in the report, it will be available on-line shortly.
 - C. *Cell Phone Ban* – Jennyfer Owensby reported on the message she had received regarding the possible cell phone ban proposed by the City of Manhattan. Discussion was held on the possible ban and its enforcement. Janel Harder moved that we support the ban of using cell phones while driving unless the device is hands-free and prohibit any texting while driving. Terri Eddy seconded. Motion passed with 2 against and 2 abstaining from the vote.

VII. Sue Peterson, Assistant to the President and Director of Governmental Relations, discussed her position at Kansas State University. She is the advocate for classified & unclassified staff, faculty and students at KSU with the state legislature. It is her role to know what is going on and advocate on our behalf. She introduced Emily Haug, a senior at KSU, who has been working with her as an intern this year.

She discussed the budget situation that the state is facing. The Governor will address these issues. Layoffs and furloughs are something that has been discussed. Classified Senate has worked very hard on the new pay plan and at this time the state is moving ahead with it. There has been discussion on a tax increase as a possibility, but there is no indication that it will happen.

The Committee on Governmental Issues has been revised. Terri Wyrick is a representative on the committee. During the legislative session an administrative meeting is held every Monday to discuss what is going on at the capital and share information.

She discussed the situation with KPERS. The state is looking for a solution, but no plan has been set. She suggested trying to set up a meeting with Pat George and some of the other legislatures to meet with Classified Senate. Suggestions on how to change Legislative Day was also discussed. She is here as a resource and is happy to help classified employees.

VIII. Senate Standing Committees:

- A. *Campus Affairs Committee:* Janel Harder thanked everybody that helped with the Benefits Fair. The committee met last week with a brainstorming session on important issues facing classified employees. Discussion was held on putting changing tables in both the men's and women's restrooms across campus. Nursing stations in buildings across campus was also discussed.
- B. *Legislative Affairs Committee:*
1. Jennyfer Owensby reported on the budget suggestion document that was received. The Executive Council met to discuss the list. Jennyfer will compile the list and it will be sent to the President's office by Friday. On Friday, November 13, President Schulz will hold an open forum at 3:00 p.m. in Forum Hall of the Union to talk about the report.
 2. The Legislative Committee met last week and discussed changes for the by-laws. If you have any suggestions for the by-laws, please contact a committee member.
 3. Terri Wyrick attended a meeting regarding KPERS. This group is non-union and represents KPERS retirees and people currently paying into the system. It might be a good idea if we consider partnering with this group in the future.
 4. Jennyfer Owensby, Carolyn Elliott and John Wolf met with the Provost candidates.
 5. Discussion was held on an e-mail that Classified Senate received regarding how Iowa is handling some of their budget problems.
- C. *Recognition Ceremony Committee:* Becki Bohnenblust reported that the committee will hold their meeting immediately following the Senate meeting. Plans are underway. The Recognition Ceremony will be April 28, 2010.
- D. *Public Relations Committee:* Lois Schreiner reported the next issue of the ROAR will go out in November. We need articles and a spotlight for this issue. We will put the picture of the 2009-2010 Senators in the ROAR and will post it to the website.

IX. Mentor Report: Hanna Manning reported there had been no questions for the mentor program.

X. Campus Committee Reports:

- A. *8038 Campus Recycling Advisory Committee* – Cherry Rosenberry reported this committee is changing their website to be more user friendly. The possibility of a recycling program for sneakers was discussed at the meeting. It was suggested that the committee look into a bottle disposal station at the Union.
- B. *8041 Council on Parking Operations* – John Wolf reported on the last meeting. The Council decided that if an employee works near the parking garage and wants to apply for a reserved stall, the request will be denied and the employee will be directed to the option of paying for a preferred or reserved stall in the garage. Discussion was held on the safety issues concerning bicycle riders and skateboarders.
- C. *8042 Parking Citation Appeals Board* – No report was given.
- D. *8076 Classified Employee Peer Review* – Rob Reves reported that one review has been held.
- E. *Dependent Tuition Task Force* – Becki Bohnenblust reported that the committee has met and is beginning discussion on the rules and cost of the grant. Another meeting will be held next week.
- F. *Faculty Senate Fringe Benefits Committee* – Becki Bohnenblust reported on the meeting. Discussion was held at the meeting on trying to determine some no or low cost benefits that can be given to employees in this tough economic time.
- G. *Policy and Procedures Committee* – Melissa Linenberger reported on the committee meeting. They are working on a policy library that will incorporate all the policies and procedures into one format. This will be a long process beginning with selecting the format/template that they decide to use.
- H. *Service and Safety Maintenance Committee* – Becki Bohnenblust reported that the committee is working to make the university safe for everyone.

XI. Old Business:

- A. *Women's K-State Task Force* – Carolyn Elliott reported that the Women's Task Force has an event this evening (November 4, 2009) at the volleyball game.
- B. *Award of Excellence* – Carolyn Elliott reported that she would be meeting with the Dean's Council on the Classified Employee Award of Excellence.
- C. *Classified Employee Opportunity Fund* – Carolyn Elliott reported that she needed to set up the committee to oversee the fund. The committee will consist of 3 members from Classified Senate, 2 at-large (non-Classified Senate) members and an advisor. There were several suggestions for the members and advisor. John Wolf offered to serve as the chair for the first year. Jean Bramwell also offered to serve on the committee.
- D. *Principles of Community* – Carolyn Elliott reported that there would be a meeting next week with Ruth Dyer.
- E. *HLC Report* – Carolyn reported that they are getting representatives from groups all over campus to work on pre-planning for the Higher Learning Certificate Topics.

XII. New Business:

- A. *Vice President for Communications and Marketing* – Jennyfer Owensby reported on the efforts of the search committee. She asked if Classified Senate would like an opportunity for a one-on-one visit with the candidates or prefer to attend the open forum. No firm dates have been set for interviews, but the committee is looking at mid-December. It was decided that Classified Senate would like to have time, during the day, for a one-on-one visit with each of the candidates.
- B. *Visit with President Schulz* – Carolyn Elliott will check to see if President Schulz can come to our December or January meeting.
- C. *Position Paper* – Jennyfer Owensby reported on the CSSC position paper as it was presented at the last Senate meeting. CSSC has removed #3 (*Reinstate longevity bonuses for re-hired employees with no break in State of Kansas service.*) because employees are eligible for the longevity bonus even if they change state institutions as long as there is no break in service. Discussion was held on the item #4 in the paper (*Fund a 2.75% increase for all classified and support staff due to impending increases in health insurance premiums and projected inflationary increases.*). Becki Bohnenblust moved that we strike item #4 from the position paper. Melissa Linenberger seconded. Motion passed with 3 against and 2 abstaining. This does not mean that it will not be included in the position paper. This is only the vote of K-State Classified Senate and will have to be decided by the total CSSC. Discussion was held on adding an item addressing the KPERS issue. Our current system is a defined benefit system. The differences between a defined benefit versus a defined contribution system were discussed.
- D. *Holiday Party* – It was decided that we would start our regular Senate meeting at 12:00 p.m. for December 2, 2009. We will bring items for the Flint Hills Bread Baked. Carolyn Elliott volunteered to get them to the Bread Basket. We will also bring holiday food items to share should you wish.

XIII. Adjournment:

- A. John Wolf moved to adjourn. Becki Bohnenblust seconded. Meeting adjourned.