

Minutes of the KSU Classified Senate
April 4, 2012

I. President Lesa Reves called the meeting to order.

II. Roll Call:

A. Present: Dale Billam, Becki Bohnenblust, Paula Connors, Ramon Dominguez, Susan Erichsen, Pat Fine, Jody Fronce, Doris Galvan, Vickey Grochowski, Annette Hernandez, Kerry Jennings, Gary Leitnaker, Sharon Maike, Carol Marden, Brad Millington, Christina Nash, Lesa Reves, Rob Reves, Cherry Rosenberry, Lois Schreiner, Michael Seymour Sr., Maria Sweet, Janice Taggart, Lindsay Thompson, Pam Warren, and Terri Wyrick

B. Absent: Excused: Janet Finney and Will Hirsch

C. Guests: President Kirk Schulz, Dr. Sue Peterson, Sen. Roger Reitz and Rep. Tom Phillips

III. President Kirk Schulz thanked the group for all their hard work. He discussed the upcoming HLC visit and encouraged everyone to show up for the session for classified staff. He has just served on a similar HLC committee and encouraged the group to be positive but express genuine concerns that you have with the HLC team.

He discussed the pay plan and market adjustments. The Senate voted for the adjustments but the House did not have enough votes to pass it.

He thanked Lesa for a good job of bringing the classified staff concerns to the Board of Regents. Unfortunately the Board did not respond with any comments. The Executive Council will have breakfast with the Board of Regents this week and he suggested way to discuss our concerns with them. He noted that the same people will serve on the Board of Regents next year so it is important to keep them updated.

President Schulz discussed his e-mail newsletter to campus discussing the infrastructure progress we had made. He appreciates the great job that classified people do to keep the infrastructure going.

He talked about the change in the basketball coaching staff. Frank Martin has gone to South Carolina and we have hired Bruce Weber to come to KSU. There has been a lot of discussion on the process but encourages people to give the new coach a chance. President Schulz is very excited about the future of the KSU basketball program.

President Schulz was asked about classified employees switching to the support staff system similar to what KU did several years ago. He indicated that was the decision of the classified employees and he did not feel that the administration should make that decision. He said they have been pushing really hard for classified employees and have made zero progress so far.

Discussion was held on the Senate Bill 115, Incentive Idea Award for state employees. This would give employees an incentive to come up with ideas to save the state money.

The Governor's moratorium which limits awards to \$1,000 was not signed this year. Discussion was held on how this would affect the Employee of the Year and Award of Excellence winners.

Lesa expressed our appreciation to President Schulz for his support of classified employees.

IV. Associate VP/Human Resources and Parking Services Report – Gary Leitnaker reported on the moratorium by the governor not being signed this year. He also encouraged everyone to attend the Parking Council Open Forum on Thursday, April 19, at 3:30 p.m. They did vote to

have an increase of \$20 per permit at all levels. This is a good opportunity to learn how the increase in permits will be used and to give feedback to the Parking Council.

V. Minutes:

The minutes were reviewed. Dale Billam moved to accept the minutes as amended. Rob Reves seconded the motion. Motion passed.

VI. Budget/Treasurer's Report:

Annette Hernandez reported on the budget. Balances in the accounts are as follows: C-21151 - \$5,073.86; C-21155 - \$180.41; C-23750 - \$86.73; and NMAF205629 - \$926.89. The overall total is \$6,267.89. There were two meritorious service awards given and 1 textbook reimbursement. The budget was approved.

VII. Classified Senate President's Report

Lesa Reves reported on the legislative meeting updates with Sue Peterson.

VIII. Senate Standing Committees: Public Relations, Legislative Affairs and Recognition Ceremony Committee meetings were held for 15 minutes.

A. Campus Affairs Committee – No report was given.

B. Public Relations Committee – Lindsay Thompson reported that the next issue of the ROAR is scheduled to go out May 1. Suggested articles for the ROAR include: review of the award ceremony; new election results; staff appreciation day at the baseball game; HLC update; Board of Regent's meeting with the Classified Senate Executive Council; spotlight of the three award of excellence winners; and meritorious service award winners. If you have any other suggestions or additions, please contact Lindsay or Ramon.

C. Recognition Ceremony – Annette Hernandez reported that things were getting finalized for the Recognition Ceremony which will be held April 25, 2012 in the Union. They will be setting up at 10:00 a.m. for those who are able to help. All Senators are asked to be there by 1:30 p.m. for the program. A sign-up sheet was circulated.

D. Legislative Affairs Committee – Dale Billam reported on the election results. There were no issues with the election this year. Those elected included:

John Wolf, College of Agriculture
Doris Galvan, Engineering
Kari Lindeen, Architecture, Planning and Design
Lesa Reves, Veterinary Medicine
Will Hirsch, Administration and Finance
Mike Ashcraft, Administration and Finance
Michelle Edwards, Student Life
Sharon Maike, Student Life

Election of Senate Officers was also held. The slating committee was Dale, Lesa Reves and Lois Schreiner. The following nominees have been contacted and consented to serve.

Vice President – Janice Taggart

Secretary – Pat Fine

Treasurer – Annette Hernandez

At-Large – Kerry Jennings

Dale asked for nominations from the floor. There were no nominations. Rob Reves moved that nominations cease and a unanimous ballot be cast for the selected slate of officers. Doris Galvan seconded. Motion passed. The officers will be installed at the June 6 meeting.

Dale reported that the June meeting of the Classified Senate will be held in the Legends Room at Bramlage beginning at noon and will be catered by Cox Brothers.

E. *Classified Employee Opportunity Fund:* No report was given.

IX. Campus Committee Reports:

A. *Faculty Senate Fringe Benefits Committee:* Pam Warren reported that the request for tuition assistance for employees to change from 3 to 6 hours per semester was sent back to committee.

B. *Recycling:* Cherry Rosenberry reported that Recyclemania ends today. It appears that we have beaten KU in the competition. Our recycling numbers have increased to 23% versus 16% last year. Lesa reported that through project SEARCH, her son was hired in a temporary position for the Recycling Center.

C. *Parking Operations:* Terri Wyrick discussed the upcoming Open Forum. She indicated that the cost of parking permits is evaluated every three years to see if an increase is needed. She also indicated that departments will be charged for all client stalls. She reminded everyone the Open Forum will be held on Thursday, April 19 from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the Big 12 Room of the Student Union. This is your chance to have a voice in the decision to raise the price of parking permits. Please help get the word out to everyone about the open forum. Information will be in the Collegian and on K-State Today. Maria Sweet, chair of the Classified Affairs Committee was asked to create some posters that we could post around regarding the Open Forum. She will e-mail flyers to the Senators to post in their areas.

D. *Safety and Maintenance* – Becki Bohnenblust reported that the committee is rotating each month to various locations of people on the committee to look for positive things they are doing and things that need to be worked on. Report any safety issues to Lesa Reves or Becki Bohnenblust. Discussion was held on the bike safety issue and the safety hazards of people walking and texting at crosswalks.

E. *Dean of Education Search Committee* – Susan Erichsen reported that they had selected Debbie Mercer, who was currently serving as Associate Dean to take over as Dean for the College of Education.

F. *Director of Corporate Engagement Search Committee* – Lesa Reves reported that the candidate had been on-campus for interviews. There will be a meeting on April 5 to discuss the candidates.

- G.** *Dean of K-State Salina Search Committee* – Annette Hernandez reported that they are working on a schedule to bring candidates to campus for interviews.
- H.** *Master Plan Task Force* – Dale Billam reported that Ayers Saint Gross has been selected to guide us through the process. They held open forums to gather information and will be back in May to give a preliminary report. The website is www.k-state.edu/masterplan/. It was suggested that in the Master Plan they allow for service parking around campus. There needs to be more accessibility for service parking for people working here. If you have any other suggestions, please contact Dale and he will take them to the committee. Discussion was held on energy issues such as wind and solar power.
- X.** **Old Business:** The by-laws will be reviewed at the May 2 meeting. Please send any changes or suggestions to Lois.
- XI.** **New Business:** The Executive Council will meet with the Board of Regents for a breakfast meeting at 7:30 a.m. on Friday, April 6. Please e-mail Lesa if you have any concerns you would like addressed. Salary and the market adjustments are items we will be discussing.
- XII.** **Adjournment:**
- A.** Rob Reves moved to adjourn. Cherry Rosenberry seconded. Meeting adjourned.

Senator Roger Reitz, Representative Tom Phillips and Dr. Sue Peterson joined the meeting. Some of the items discussed were salaries for classified employees, KPERS and the new Cash Balance proposal for new employees; budget; mental health issues; and tax issues. The next election is critical to the state of Kansas. Please plan to vote on August 7, 2012.

Respectfully submitted,

Lois Schreiner
Classified Senate Secretary