

A Newsletter for Classified Employees of Kansas State University – Summer 2012

# "United We Stand"

The Finance Committee for the Council on Parking Operations met this past year to talk about the parking budget, which includes parking expenses, parking rates, and fees for parking violations. Parking Services receives no State funds and is solely supported by the permit rates and fees paid by parking violations. When the deck was built, fees were proposed for parking permits, which would help maintain income for paying back the

Since that time expenses has increased. The lowest deck of the parking garage needs resurfacing and additional staff has been added to work at the garage. Other expense increases include rising employee benefit costs, rising gas costs, the cost for electricity, chemical chloride that is used for snow removal, and other fees. Raising fees for parking permits

would be a great way to help pay these expenses and the fees are usually explored every few years. In fact fees for flat lots haven't had an increase since 2005.

The Finance Committee for the Council on Parking Operations decided to compare the permit fees that K-State pays with other Big 12 universities before deciding how much to increase the fees. When compared to other Big 12 universities, K-State parking permits fees are on the lower end of the scale. It was decided that there would be increases across the board for all permits. Faculty and Classified Staff fees would be increased by \$20.00 a year for all 3 tiers, after the parking forum in April and upon approval from Bruce Schubert.

During Classified Senate monthly meetings the fee increase was reported and word began to spread throughout the university. Classified employees started collecting signatures. Classified employees

money that was still owed on the parking garage.



have not a cost of living raise in a few years and some employees still have not received a market adjustment. Money is very tight for most classified employees and some employees have taken on second jobs to make ends meet. Classified Employees are well aware of how budgets can get stretched when there is no money to pay the bills. More employees banded together and over 250 classified employees signed petitions to stop the permit fee increase.

On April 19<sup>th</sup> the Council on Parking Operations

open forum was held. Over half of the K-State Student Union Big XII room was filled. Vice Chair Pat Pesci opened the meeting and asked Darwin Abbott, Parking Services Director, to give a brief history of Parking Services funding and how the history affects and translates into increases. Many questions were asked; many

comments were made. A special meeting would be called by the Council on Parking Operations in May to discuss this issue again.

In May Lesa Reves, then Classified Senate President, appeared at the meeting with signed petitions. Negotiations started and ended. The lower tier would see a \$10.00 a year increase in fees only if receiving a cost of living raise and would pay an additional \$10.00 increase the following year. The middle tier would pay a \$20.00 increase in fees and the third tier would pay a \$25.00 increase in fees. Most employees would still be unhappy about the increases. The plan from the Council on Parking Operation was delivered to Bruce Schubert for his approval. Mr. Schubert decision was "There will be no parking fee increase for Classified Employee's". Thanks to all the classified employees that signed the petition to stop the increase. United we stand!

# **Your Senators**



As we brought one year to close and began another, we took time to thank those who served and welcomed in the new with a little food and fun. We had a very

product year last year, and look forward to seeing all the great things we can achieve in the next year. Please continue to work with your senator(s) to let them know what is important to you. Everyone is

encouraged and welcome to attend any or all of our meetings.



#### COLLEGES

#### Agriculture & Extension (4)

- 1. Christina Nash (2013) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 2. Maria Sweet (2013) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 3. Janice Taggart (2014) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 4. John Wolf (2015) 1<sup>st</sup> term

#### Architecture, Planning & Design (1)

1. Karilyn Lindeen (2015) 1<sup>st</sup> term

#### Arts and Sciences (1)

1. Lindsay Thompson (2013) 1<sup>st</sup> term

#### **Business** (1)

1. Pam Warren (2013) 1<sup>st</sup> term

#### **Education** (1)

1. Susan Erichsen (2014) 1<sup>st</sup> term

#### **Engineering** (1)

1. Doris Galvan (2015) 1<sup>st</sup> term,

#### Human Ecology (1)

1. Janet Finney (2015) 2<sup>nd</sup> term

#### **Veterinary Medicine (2)**

- 1. Rob Reves (2013)  $1^{st}$  term
- 2. Lesa Reves (2015) 2<sup>nd</sup> term

## Hale Library (1)

1. Pat Fine (2014)  $1^{st}$  term

#### K-State Salina (1)

1. Annette Hernandez (2014) 2<sup>nd</sup> term

## ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS

#### Administrative and Finance (6)

- 1. Brad Millington (2013) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 2. Dale Billam (2013) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 3. Terri Wyrick (2014) 2<sup>nd</sup> term
- 4. Michael Seymour I (2014) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 5. Will Hirsch (2015) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 6. Mike Ashcraft (2015) 1<sup>st</sup> term

## Student Life (4)

- 1. Michele Edwards (2015) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 2. Sharon Maike (2015) 1<sup>st</sup> term
- 3. Carol Marden (2014) replaced Hanna Manning
- 4. Kerry Jennings (2014) 1st term

#### President / Provost (1)

1. Ramon Dominguez (2013) 1<sup>st</sup> term

## Local Agencies (1)

1. Paula Connors (2013) 1<sup>st</sup> term



# **K-State Recycles**

The Recycling Program at K-State was first put into place in 1989 and bins were placed in twenty-two buildings around campus. One recycling truck picked up newspaper, aluminum cans, computer paper, and white bond paper. In 1999 through city/university funds, 69 Windsor outdoor recycling bins were placed strategically in 23 locations around campus. The recycling department started growing at that point. The desk side recycling program was started during the 2000 – 2001 school year upon receiving \$48,000 in city/university funds. Three buildings were the first to participate in the desk-side recycling program. During that same time period 13 cardboard dumpsters were purchased, which has helped to increase the amount of



cardboard that is collected around campus. Cardboard is the most recycled product on campus. Last year almost 400,000 pounds of cardboard was recycled. 3,500 desk-side recycling containers and 150 storage bins were purchased in 2004. The goal of the desk-side recycling program is to have a recycling bin at each desk. After joining the Recycling Mania competition in 2009 the recycling department realized there was a need to again increase the number of bins on campus. That year 300 bins were received through an ALCOA grant. Coca Cola gave the university 60 beverage recycling bins through one of their grant programs.

In the last 3 years many changes have taken place in the recycling department. The recycling department has found a new home in the Wind Erosion building, located north of Weber Hall. An outside drop off point has been put in place outside of the recycling center. Any recycling that cannot be picked up by the recycling staff can be dropped off at this location as long as it comes from the university. This is not the only way the recycling staff has spread their collection points. William Spiegel, the recycling supervisor, has reached out to the campus sororities and fraternities and has supplied bins for them to use for their recycling. Location points have been established in their sorority or fraternity houses to collect recycling and then are brought to the center.

When K-State joined in the Recycle Mania competition, bins were added so that students could



increase their recycling efforts and beat KU in the competition. Mr. Spiegel has decided to leave the Recycle Mania pods out year round to keep strong support efforts and to increase Recycle Mania awareness.

All buildings on campus have some form of a recycling drop off or pick up point. The containers vary in different sizes and forms. There are cardboard dumpsters, blue carts, blue desk-side bins, green bins, and outside

tripod locations. The custodial staff helps to collect the material in all buildings so that the recycling staff can pick up the material from the storage location in the buildings. The custodians in your building can help direct you to the recycling drop off location in your building. If you need further assistance you can call the main office, Facilities Services, or leave a message for the recycling supervisor at 532-6446. Most calls range from computers, books, and scrap metal that need to be picked up. Call the main office and order your desk-side recycling bin if you don't already have one. You can help the recycling department reach their goal of a bin at every desk.

Currently, William Spiegel is working on changing bin locations to help reduce any fire hazards in the buildings. The recycling department is working

hard to keep everyone safe while

improving bin location. The department hopes this will be a benefit to all and does not become an inconvenience



# Make a difference! Join the 2012 All-University Campaign for K-State

Last year, 39 percent of K-State faculty and staff including many classified employees — made a gift to the All-University Campaign and helped set an all-time record for participation! This fall, faculty and staff will join together again to make a difference in the university's future. The All-University Campaign for K-State is an internal fundraising effort run by campus faculty and staff volunteers specifically focused on the participation of all employees including the Manhattan campus, K-State Salina, K-State Olathe, K-State Alumni Association, KSU Foundation and K-State Athletics. It is an annual campaign for all members of the campus community to participate in by supporting the areas of the university they care about most.

Through participation, we show our K-State pride and send a powerful message to our donors, legislators, corporations and foundations, alumni and friends that we believe in K-State's future. Every gift, regardless of the size, makes a difference.



The 2012 All-University Campaign co-chairs are Annette Hernandez (K-State Salina), Ernie Perez (ITAC), Kathryn Hartner (Distance Education) and Tim Steffensmeier (College of Arts and Sciences).

There are lots of ways to participate. Here are a few:

Decide how you would like to make a difference.

When you make a gift to the All-University Campaign, you decide how your gift makes a difference. Our website lists thousands of K-State funds you can explore. Last year, more than 189 gifts were made to the Classified Opportunity Fund, which helps fund professional development opportunities for classified staff. To learn how you can make a difference, visit <u>http://www.kstateauc.org/</u>.

**Make a gift.** In September, you will receive your All-University Campaign packet, which includes a contribution form. You can make a gift by filling out your contribution form, or you can give online at <u>www.k-stateauc.org</u>.

Win fabulous prizes! If you participate in the All-University Campaign, you are automatically entered into a drawing to win fprizes! Prize winners will be announced on Mondays on the All-University Campaign's <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u> pages, as well as on the All-University Campaign <u>website</u>.

## **Questions?**

Contact your campaign volunteer or Kim Baccus at 785-532-7584 or <u>kimb@found.ksu.edu</u>. You can also visit our website: <u>http://www.k-stateauc.org</u>

# Spotlight!

Irving Berlin's song "Anything You Can Do I Can Do Better" might be the best summation of Rob and Lesa Reves' career paths and classified senate service at Kansas State University. With a combined total of almost forty years of service, Rob and Lesa have truly enjoyed working with so many wonderful people at K-State. Their combined service on classified senate totals almost ten years of being a voice for K-State classified employees' locally and at the state level. Before coming to K-State, Lesa and Rob respectively worked in the floral industry and construction trades. They were married in 1991 the same year Rob became employed by the university and since that time their career paths have become as intertwined as their family life.

"We knew that K-State was a great place to work as we both had quite a number of friends and relatives who worked here."Lesa said. Besides working at

the university, Rob's family for three generations has worked on the university by building and remodeling campus buildings various in construction trades. McCain Auditorium, King Hall, Dole Hall, the Veterinary Medical Complex, Weber Arena, Snyder and Bramlage Sports Arena's, and the Residence Halls all had at least one member of the Reves family working on their construction. "I played in the first basketball game ever in the Bramlage Arena, when Dad and I were helping to build it!" Rob quipped. After the arena floor had been poured homemade goals were knocked together from scrap wood and two teams were fielded by the general contractor and one of the subcontractors. "I'm sure the K-State Basketball Program would blanch at some of the tactics employed in that game!" Rob said. It was while working for a local contractor that Rob got the opportunity to come to work for the K-State Dairy

Teaching and Research Unit. "Since we were planning on getting married it seemed like a good opportunity for Rob to get off the road and working locally. "Lesa said. Rob milked the university dairy herd for two years as part of a milking team of six, which split shifts producing the fine dairy products sold at Call Hall and bulk milk

that is marketed regionally. In 1993 a position opened up in the K-State Entomology Department for a technician working with the state extension leaders integrated pest management projects. Rob was successful in obtaining this position which he held for five years working for the late Dr. Randall Higgins. "Randy was a great person and I consider him a friend and mentor. "Rob said. "There are still a number of people with the Entomology Department who are like family." Rob added "I love to stop in and visit when I am in the neighborhood or contact those more far flung electronically." As Rob was transitioning away from the K-State Dairy, Lesa had been working as a relief milker who filled in shifts when full time milkers were ill or on vacation. Richard Scoby the herdsman for the university dairy hired Lesa as a full time replacement for Rob. "It was probably the

best thing Dick did in replacing me with Lesa." Rob said "She is twice the milker I ever was!" Lesa milked the dairy herd from 1993 until 2002, weathering power outages, storms, barn fires, and the whims of angry dairy cows. During this time the couple also started a family having their son Sheridan just before Lesa became a member of the K-State labor force and their daughter Mariah and son Morgan in the intervening years. This would be an extremely happy time for most families however for the Reves family it was a very trying time. Their daughter Mariah was diagnosed in utero with a diaphragmatic hernia and they lost her not long after birth. Shortly afterwards their oldest son Sheridan was diagnosed with autism leaving the family reeling from the double blow. "Thank God for our extended K-State family who helped us in so many ways after these tragic events." Rob said. At the time Rob and Lesa had no idea how far the

university would go to ease their grief and the impact K-State would have in their son's lives. After working in the Entomology Department, Rob came back for two more hitches with the KSU Dairy Teaching and Research Unit. One stint lasted only a couple of months and the other one lasting several years. In the interim he left

campus to serve as the Register of Deeds for Pottawatomie County. "Service as an elected official was very rewarding, "Rob said, "but coming back to K-State was like coming home." It also gave the couple a great deal of time to spend with their children as they worked different shifts and could be completely independent of outside child care. Unfortunately their family bliss was short lived, as Richard Scoby had retired as herdsman and the new administrative dynamic at the KSU Dairy made working there a less desirable situation. "We both felt the organization no longer had anything to offer us, and as several of our fellow employees had already done we sought employment elsewhere at the university." Lesa said. In 2002 Lesa landed an animal caretaker position in the College of Veterinary Medicine Teaching Hospital large animal unit. A year later, Rob followed suit joining



the small animal end of the hospital in a similar position.

At the teaching hospital Rob and Lesa are respectively employed and supervised under James Owensby and Paul Wagoner. "Both of these gentlemen are extremely progressive and positive individuals." Rob said. "It was a very refreshing environment to come to work in!" Lesa added. The hospital has a large classified staff with which the couple interacts on a daily basis as well as a large contingent of professional and administrative personnel. Working closely with the students is both enjoyable and challenging in the large and small animal sections of the hospital for the pair. "Lesa does all of the hard work!" Rob said. "I am a fecal material relocator!" Lesa quipped. It has been during their time with the hospital that the couple has become involved with classified senate.

In 2007 a term vacancy occurred in one of the two classified senate seats held by the College of Veterinary Medicine. Jen Owensby was the sitting president of classified senate at that time and tapped Rob to fill the unexpired term. The experience was such a positive one that Rob sought his own, first joining classified senate. Both Rob and Lesa have served on the senate legislative affairs committee and with this group they have lobbied officials on behalf of classified employees several times. Both Rob and Lesa have also served on the classified employee recognition and peer review committees. We both feel obligated to celebrate the successes and protect the rights of our fellow classified employees!" Lesa said. Rob has also served several times as Parliamentarian for the senate. Not to be outdone Lesa aspired to the presidency of classified senate in 2011 after serving as vice president under

Becki Bohnenblust. "Becki truly inspired me with her leadership and left me with some big shoes to fill!" Lesa said. She filled those shoes admirably serving on the Kansas State University Presidents Council for Kirk Schulz. Lesa kept the council informed about the effects of administrative policy and legislative actions on classified employees at K-State. She traveled with them Page | 6



as a delegate to our peer university North Carolina State in October of 2011 to view the machinations of the school. "It was very interesting to see how differently a land grant university can be funded by research income and how another state's legislature acts upon it's institutions of higher learning." Lesa said. President Schulz gave Lesa the opportunity to serve on the search committee for the Director of Corporate Engagement. Lesa represented classified senate at a number of social events and two Landon Lecture series. Lesa also represented classified senate at several sporting events along with her family including the Sunflower Showdown during the football season. "I went along as window dressing!" Rob quipped. "It was very enjoyable to speak with the husband of KU Chancellor Bernadette Gray-Little as we have common ground being married to women in a presidential capacity!" Lesa also served as President of the Classified Senate and Support Staff Council which encompasses all of the Kansas Board of Regents Universities classified employees. The CSSC has at least one yearly conference at which they draft a position paper on behalf of the group to take to their Day on the Hill in Topeka when meeting with state senators and legislators. During her time as president, Lesa lead the monthly conference calls between the CSSC members to share information and ideas. "This opportunity has taught me so much about the workings of the university that gives me a greater appreciation for each and every person at K-State that makes this university great!" Lesa said. The Reves' son, Sheridan works part-time at the K-State Recycling Center. This has come about by a great support system for Sheridan in the form of

Project SEARCH headquartered in the K-State Student Union. Project SEARCH's primary objective to secure competitive is employment for people with disabilities. This program has international become an program and model of success that provides people with disabilities the training necessary to gain marketable skills that will enable them to competitive secure employment. In the first year of this program in the

Manhattan area, it was the answer to Rob and Lesa's prayers. The first internship for Sheridan took him to the K-State Recycling Center followed by another internship at the K-State Alumni Center. Before Sheridan moved on to the third and final internship, the K-State Recycling Center had an opening and Sheridan was thrilled to become gainfully employed. Sheridan's supervisor, Bill Spiegel, is very pleased with his choice to have Sheridan to work for him. Project SEARCH will be looking for more opportunities for their new interns this coming school year. Their son Morgan has also benefitted from the Upward Bound program headquartered at K-State and hopes to attend the university after his graduation from Rock Creek High School. Both boys have been 4-H members for 10 years and have taken advantage of the many opportunities offered through the KSU Extension Service.

In their spare time, Rob and Lesa enjoy spending time with their sons at their country home North of Fostoria where they raise Kerry cattle; Boer meat

goats; Shetland geese; Dorking, Icelandic, Scottish Dumpy and Pyncheon chickens, Silver rabbits, many farm cats as well as the family dogs-Kaden, Buster and Isabelle. Sons Sheridan and Morgan are active in 4-H as members of the Olsburg Boosters 4-H Club. Rob, Lesa and Morgan are on the Kansas 4-H Geology Action Team in which they assist in planning state geology field trips, present workshops, host meetings and help with the judging at the Kansas State Fair where Rob serves as a judge, Lesa as a clerk and Morgan as a junior leader/helper. Rob and Lesa also serve as precinct committee members for the Pottawatomie Republican Party. They both hold positions on their local township board. "Even away from work Lesa trumps me," Rob said, "she also represents the township on the Seven Township Fire Board." It remains to be seen how this busy couple will compete and complement each other in the oncoming endeavors of the coming years.





If you have suggestions or comments for the ROAR, please contact Ramon Dominguez (<u>ramon@ksu.edu</u>) or Lindsay Thompson (<u>lindsay@ksu.edu</u>).

## Senate Meetings All Classified Senate meetings are open to all classified employees.

You are encouraged and welcome to attend any or all of our meetings. Senate meetings begin at 12:30 p.m. Below are the dates and locations:

- September 5, 2012 Cottonwood Room
- October 3, 2012 Cottonwood Room
- November 7, 2012 Staterooms All

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