President’s Column

Dear Classified Employees:

As the new year begins, there are a few topics that the classified employees need to be aware of and that should be followed in the newspapers, television, and legislative website.

First is the change in the classified pay plan. Governor Bill Graves announced that effective February 4, 2001, the elimination of Pay Steps 1, 2, and 3 will occur in order to enhance recruitment, and to reduce turnovers of new hires. Employees currently on these steps will automatically be moved to Step 4, with Step 4 becoming the new entry level step. The details are available on the Department of Administration, Division of Personnel Services website: http://www.da.state.ks.us/ps/subject/payinfo.htm. This is an Executive Directive and does not require approval of the Kansas Legislature.

For the Fiscal year 2002, the Governor has recommended a 3% increase for the classified employees. This would be considered a “cost of living adjustment”, and the increase would consist of a 1 ½% increase in July, and a 1 ½% increase in January 2002. However, the step movement will be suspended, and possibly reestablished in FY2003. The longevity bonuses will continue for FY 2002.

Of course, the Kansas Legislature is back in session. It’s time to bring issues to the Legislators, and on Wednesday, February 14, 2001, a group of senators from KSU will be going to Topeka to meet with legislators. Please see the article in this newsletter for more information.

Last is the local issue of the proposal of a Transit System for KSU and the City of Manhattan. This is a proposed cooperative toward a solution to the “parking problem” on campus. This would affect students, faculty, and staff because of the proposed increase in parking permits, but with the flexibility to ride a bus to campus at a lesser expense.

These are only a few issues that are important to the classified employees. Please feel free to contact me or your senator with any questions or comments. Remember, monthly senate meetings are always open to classified employees.

Ann Marie Treinen

Classified Recognition Ceremony is scheduled for 2 p.m. May 24, 2001 in the K-State Union Ballroom

Legislative Day

On Wednesday, February 14, 2001, the Classified Senators of Kansas State University are planning to attend Legislator’s Day in Topeka at the State Capitol. All Classified Employees from the State of Kansas are also invited to attend and meet with Legislators on this day; however, State policy is that annual leave time must be used to attend.

The Classified Senate President from Kansas State University, Emporia State University, Kansas University, Pittsburg State University, Wichita State University, Ft. Hays University have made appointments with various legislators to discuss the combined position paper prepared at a Regents Classified Senate meeting in Pittsburg, Kansas, on September 30, 2000. Cost of living allowance, step increase funding, and continuation of longevity pay are a few items listed on the position paper. To review the complete position papers, see the classified senate website at: www.ksu.edu/class-senate/council.htm. For more information, please contact Connie Kisssee at 532-7445.

Manhattan Transit Meeting/Impact on KSU

On Tuesday, January 9, 2001, the Manhattan City Commission received a report from the representatives of TransSystems Corporation regarding a possible transit system for the City of Manhattan. The implementation of this plan would be in cooperation with Kansas State University.

The plan was endorsed by the K-State Student Government, and presented as a way to address the campus parking situation and to also serve the community. Open houses were held at the KSU Student Union and Manhattan City Hall in November to discuss who would be served, transit routes, and reasons for using a transit service. The results of the study were presented.

The meeting concluded with the City Commission agreeing to go to the next step of planning. That step is to determine costs. The details of this Implementation Plan are expected to be completed Spring 2001 which will include the project expected to be paid by KSU.
**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

The following are the dates, times and locations of the future Classified Senate meetings. All meetings are open to classified employees and begin at 12:45 pm.

- Wednesday, February 7, 2001 State Room 2 & 3
- Wednesday, March 7, 2001 Union Room 206
- Wednesday, April 4, 2001 Union Room 206

**Upcoming Training and Development Opportunities**

- Feb 1 New Employee Orientation
- Feb 15 How Do I Evaluate Classified Employees? (CES 3.0)
- Feb 20 Basic Supervisory Training - Introduction & Role of the Supervisor
- Feb 22 Basic Supervisory Training - Overview of KSU Budgeting
- Feb 27 Basic Supervisory Training - Writing a Position Description: FLSA Overview
- March 6 Basic Supervisory Training - Filling Classified Vacancies: Recruitment
- March 8 New Employee Orientation
- March 13 Basic Supervisory Training - Filling Classified Vacancies: Interviewing and Selecting
- March 15 Basic Supervisory Training - Building Motivation
- March 26 New Employee Orientation

More detailed information regarding training opportunities can be found at the following website: [www.ksu.edu/emplrel/training](http://www.ksu.edu/emplrel/training)

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**Senator Spotlight**

J.D. Chrest is a Custodial Worker with the Division of Facilities. He is a 19 year employee with Kansas State University, working with the College of Engineering for the past 10 years. He has been a member of the Employment Involvement Group for 5 years, and of F.A.C.T. for 3 years. This is J.D.’s second year representing Administration and Finance as a Classified Senator

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**Tuition Assistance**

The Tuition and Educational Assistance Committee is now accepting tuition assistance applications for the May intersession and Summer 2001 semester. Details about this program and the application form (PER-32) are contained in the KSU Policy and Procedures Manual Chapter 4870, which can be found on the WWW at:

[http://www.ksu.edu/policies/ppm/4870.htm](http://www.ksu.edu/policies/ppm/4870.htm)

An original application, along with supporting documents for May intersession and Summer 2001 semester are due in the Division of Human Resources by close of business, March 1, 2001.

Questions should be addressed to Joe Younger, Division of Human Resources at (785) 532-6277.

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**2000-2001 KSU CLASSIFIED SENATORS**

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**This issue of the Roar is brought to you by the Publicity Committee**

- Michelle Garner, Chair
- Lori Hutchins
- Verneta White, Web Author
- Cyreathia (Sam ) Reyer