Operating Staff Council Meeting
Minutes 06/04/2009

Present: Elizabeth Buck, Donald Butler, Sara Clayton, Marcia Dick, Linda Jennings, Glenda Jones, Danell Nixon, Pamela Rosenberg, Carlos Raices, Andy Small, Alan Smith, Brenda Smith, Karen Smith, and Jesse Tellez

Excused: Gay Campbell and Jay Monteiro

Guests: Tim Griffin and Jodi Tyrrell

I. Call to Order
Vice President Sara Clayton called the regular meeting of the Operating Staff Council (OSC) to order at 9:04 a.m.

II. Roll Call
Roll Call was given by Secretary Brenda Smith.

III. Approval of Agenda
A motion was made to accept the Agenda as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.

IV. Approval of May 7, 2009, minutes
A motion was made to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded and passed.

V. Treasurer’s Report
Treasurer Elizabeth Buck reported on May transactions. A motion was made and second to accept the Treasurer’s report as written.

VI. Announcements/Correspondence
In a written report - President Monteiro reported that he met with other council presidents and Kathy Buettner from the President’s Office on May 1, 5, 13, 21, 26, and 28, 2009, regarding the state budget. After much talk it was decided that Monteiro would call Representative Pritchard to recommend voting for a tax increase. On Friday May 29, 2009, Monteiro talked with Rep, Pritchard about our concerns for higher education. Pritchard made it perfectly clear that he would not be voting for the tax raise, with the two-year sunset clause, that had been proposed. He said that the way to approach the budget properly at this time was to work on appropriate cuts first and narrow the amount needed to fill the deficit hole before looking into revenue sources. Monteiro reported good news; he said that the state has committed to funding the full amount of the pension dollars that the state owes S.U.R.S. for FY 2010.

Again, in a written report - Monteiro reported that on Thursday, May 7, 2009, he attended the Parking Committee meeting with University Council Executive Secretary/Faculty Senate President Paul Stoddard, SPS Council President Bobbie Cesarek and Student Association President Robert Sorsby.
There was concern of how these document was being given to the committee members. There is concern as to how information is being relayed from Parking Services to the committee and we will continue to monitor the situation.

VII. President’s Reports
A. Board of Trustees
   No report

B. Faculty Senate
   No report

C. SPS Council
   In a written report from Monteiro - SPS Council met Thursday, May 14, 2009. Bobbie Cesarek reported that about one-third of SPS are temporary appointments and about 81% of those employees are on nonappropriated funds (e.g., grants, foundation money, and/or local accounts). She added that the percentage of temporary SPS has remained stable. Vacation benefits were also discussed.

   Mandatory Supervisory Training; it was reported that a final draft is complete and will go to the cabinet and upper-division administrators for beta testing. The training will be rolled out to supervisors.

   The Council decided to have a retreat in lieu of the June 11, 2009, meeting. It was also decided to have new member orientation prior to the retreat, inviting the new members to then join current members for the retreat.

D. University Council
   No report

E. APAC
   Based on approval from the State Universities Civil Service System and on APAC’s recommendation, applicants who are required to take a typing test as part of their Civil Service examination will now have the opportunity to take it four times in a 30-day period as opposed to four times in a 6-month period. The new policy will take effect on June 1, 2009.

   Campus Mail Services reports that mail delivery and pick up schedules will be 30 minutes earlier during the four-day summer work week.

   For those of you responsible for hiring extra help or student employees, the minimum wage will be increased to $8.00/hour effective July 1, 2009.
The four-day work week begins Monday June 8, 2009 and goes through Thursday, August 14, 2009.

VIII. Committee Reports
A. Personnel/Staff Developments/Benefits
   No report

B. Elections and Appointments
   The nominations for new OSC Executive Board were taken. The election will be at next OSC meeting July 1, 2009. The following were nominated:

   President       Vice President       Treasurer
   Jay Monteiro    Jay Monteiro         Elizabeth Buck
   Sara Clayton    Sara Clayton         Pam Rosenberg
   Andy Small      Karen Smith          Alan Smith
   Pam Rosenberg   Gay Campbell

   Secretary       Parliamentarian
   Gay Campbell    Marcia Dick
   Pam Rosenberg   Sara Clayton
   Danell Nixon    Gay Campbell
                   Don Butler
                   Alan Smith

C. Public Relations
   Don Butler gave an update on the new OSC logos. Samples were distributed and voted on. A motion was made to order new OSC shirts with new logo, the new shirts will be white,

   A certificate of appreciation was given to Brenda Smith for her service on the OSC.

D. Visiting Committees
   No report

E. EAC
   Clayton gave a report on the May 20, 2009, Merit Board meeting. She reported that for the first time ever there was a discharge hearing that was postponed until the next Merit Board meeting (August 19, 2009).

   System’s Office budget for FY 2010 will include $6000 for a move to new location or to remodel present location.

   Reports were heard from the EAC and HR Directors Advisory groups.
Next Merit Board meeting will be August 19, 2009. Next EAC meeting will be July 16 & 17, 2009, at Chicago State University.

F. UAC
   No report

G. Special Events Committee
   Flyers went out about StaffFest coming up in August.

H. Baccalaureate Review
   No report

I. Foundations of Excellence
   No report

IX. Old Business
   Dependent Endowment Award Committee inquired if they could participate in the 50/50 drawing at StaffFest. Clair Williams will meet with the StaffFest Committee to discuss options.

   Council of Council meeting will be coming up Friday October 23, 2009, it will be held at Southern Illinois University –Edwardsville (SIUE). Attendance by OSC members was discussed and how expenses would be covered.

X. New Business
   It was announced that MLK Commons would be under construction this summer. Other construction activities were also discussed.

   NIU Annuitants meeting was held June 3, 2009. On Friday, May 29, 2009, Representative McCarthy introduced a resolution to create a Pension System Modernization Task Force to recommend pension benefit changes to modernize all state pensions. The Task Force is to analyze the public policy implications of changing pension benefits on the State of Illinois ability to attract and retain public employees, teachers and university professionals; analyze the level of benefit programs currently offered in the private sector of our State; analyze the long term costs for our current systems.

   The next OSC meeting will be July 1, 2009. It is being held one day early due to the forth of July holiday being observed at NIU on July 2, 2009.

XI. Adjournment
   The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Smith, OSC Secretary