

Operating Staff Council Minutes – December 3, 2009

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

Excused: Gay Campbell

Guest: Tim Griffin and Cindy Kozumplik

I. Call to Order

Vice President Sara Clayton called the regular meeting of the Operating Staff Council (OSC) to order at 9:09 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Roll call was taken by Pamela Rosenberg.

III. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made by Danell Nixon to accept the Agenda. The motion was seconded by Carlos Raices and passed by vote.

IV. Approval of November 5, 2009 minutes

A motion was made by Glenda Jones to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Sara Clayton and passed by vote.

V. Treasurer's Report

Elizabeth Buck reported on the October transactions. Linda Jennings moved to accept the Treasurer's report as written. The motion was seconded by Marcia Dick and passed by vote.

VI. Announcements/Correspondence

The Community Holiday Open House at Altgeld Hall is Friday, December 5 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

AFCSME arbitration over the \$11 dental increase was overruled and will remain in place.

Seasonal flu vaccine is still available at Health Services. All H1N1 vaccines are gone.

The DeKalb County Health Department will have H1N1 vaccines on December 9, 2009, at Sycamore High School from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Winter break closure and insurance information that is in effect during this time was release in an email from Steve Cunningham this week.

VII. President's Reports**A. Board of Trustees**

No meeting.

B. Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate met Wednesday, November 18, 2009.

Thanks was given to Debbie Haliczzer for finishing Ethics Training for NIU.

NCAA graduation success was discussed. It was announced that compared to the 2002-2003 federal graduation rate of 79% in Division I schools that NIU came in at 82%.

President Rosenbaum attended the Council of University Senates in Normal, IL. Dan Holland of ISU was the host. Rosenbaum found that relations at other universities are worse than NIU. Other budgets are worse off than NIU's. If your university accepted Federal Stimulus money, furlough days are not allowed. All agreed there is a state crisis and it was discussed that the senates should band together and lobby in Springfield.

C. SPS Council

SPS Council met Thursday, November 5, 2009.

This was the same day as the Operating Staff Council meeting. Minutes from this meeting had not been received as of the date of our meeting.

D. University Council

University Council met December 2, 2009.

The President announced the holiday open house to be held on Friday, December 5, 2009.

Gip Seaver announced December 12 & 13 as commencement days for Fall 2009. The President and the Deans will be shaking hands with the graduates this time.

Brian Hemphill gave an update on H1N1. Concern has reduced, and there is a decline in confirmed cases.

Provost Alden gave updates on the progress towards the search for Vice-President and Dean of the Graduate School and the Dean of the College of Education.

The winter advisory memo was discussed. Steve Cunningham gave a summary of the process of how the decision is made of whether to close NIU due to the weather. Provost Alden stressed that if you are teaching a

class, it is important to let your department know if you are canceling a class so the students can be notified.

It was mentioned that our football team is still in contention for a bowl game, but no announcement has been made as to which one.

There was a first reading of some proposed changes to the university bylaws regarding Intercollegiate Athletics and the Athletic Board. These changes were suggested as a result of analysis and discussion during the ongoing NCAA reaccreditation process.

E. APAC

APAC met on Thursday, November 11, 2009.

VIII. Committee Reports

A. Personnel/Staff Developments/Benefits

No meeting.

B. Elections and Appointments

No report.

C. Public Relations

Met Wednesday, November 25, 2009 and discussed the banner and table drape. However, there may be an issue with the new logo. All discussion for the table drape and banner have been tabled until President Monteiro can determine how to handle the logo issue.

D. Visiting Committees/Guests

Cindy Kozumplik, Chair of the Parking Committee, discussed what the Campus Parking Committee has been focusing on lately. She discussed the idea of the tiered parking fee program. The Parking Committee determined that the \$100 parking permit is less than \$.50 per day to purchase. It is actually \$.42 per day. Ms. Kozumplik stated that the Parking Committee is thinking of creating a Hardship Case Form or Scholarship for those who cannot pay for the permit. She also said that Parking Services would need more funding to change the parking system to handle the tiered parking fee program. The question is should money be spent on the programming for the tiered program or for the hardship cases?

The Committee's major concern at this time is the lack of parking on the east side of campus, i.e. near Anderson, Campus Life, etc. There will be 26 more spots available when the Chiller opens, but more spaces are needed as 50 spaces were lost with the Chiller Plant construction. There are consultants here to look at the total overall parking structure system to

determine what we need for parking. They will do a campus wide presentation with their suggestions when their review is complete.

Ms. Kozumplik state that Parking is self-funding entity. Repairs to lots and the parking structure are all from that self-funding. Parking had a deficit last year. NIU has the lowest parking fees, by far, of the universities in the Midwest, and the only one with parking in the center of campus. All other universities have parking on the outskirts of campus and have outside parking.

In the future, NIU may also need more handicapped spaces for returning vets.

Ms. Kozumplik asked that we send her the data that APAC and OSC compiled for the tiered parking fee program so she can see the number of people in each salary range and can continue to do more research on the matter.

E. EAC

Merit Board met on November 18, 2009 with two new members attending from UIUC. Sara passed out the annual report from SUCSS.

As of January 1, 2010, there is a new Freedom of Information Act Policy, and reports may be requested by email, fax, or walk-in. Reports must be returned to those requesting within 5 days.

There was a long discussion on furloughs. On January 20, 2010, the Merit Board will meet to read the second draft and vote on a furlough procedure. The Systems Office wants to have a furlough procedure in place so all campuses are treating furloughs the same.

It was determined that the Police Test that was compromised was on one particular campus and the Inspector General was involved.

There were 2 hearings. One is pending from UIUC, and the other from NIU is going to circuit court.

The next EAC meeting is in Urbana on January 13 and 14, 2010.

F. UAC

Did not meet

G. Special Events Committee

No report.

H. Baccalaureate Review

No report.

I. Foundations of Excellence

Campus wide rollout will begin between now and June.

J. Enrollment Management Task Force

A meeting was to be held the afternoon of December 3, 2009. Andy Small reported that the Task Force would be dividing into 5 subcommittees, one of which is marketing. The Task Force will be meeting for the next two years. The Task Force is made up of Deans, Vice Presidents, and other campus representatives. It is chaired by Brian Hemphill.

The main reason the Task Force was formed was to determine how deal with the future student recruitment environment. In the near future the high school graduating classes will decrease in number and community colleges will be trying to offer more 4-year degrees, so there will be more competition for less students. In addition, there will be a larger percentage of economically challenged students, as well as students representing ethnic groups combined with a decrease in student numbers overall in the next 15 years, so NIU has to determine how to increase or keep enrollment the same. NIU needs to attract the best and brightest while maintaining or increasing enrollment.

IX. Old Business**A. Tiered Parking Fee Program**

Please see discussion under Visiting Committees/Guests.

X. New Business**A. Health Care Situation**

President Monteiro, along with the other presidents of shared governance, Ken Zehnder, Melanie Magara and Steve Cunningham, has been called into a new group of meetings concerning a letter that was sent to the Illinois Department of Health Care and Family Services, Central Management Services (CMS), and several newspapers from the Kiswaukee Health Network Physician Health Network Physician Hospital Organization on October 26, 2009.

This letter stated that the State of Illinois owes them over \$800,000 in unpaid claims and Kiswaukee Hospital is waiting for over \$3.4 million in payments. The Organization says that unless the State finds a way to honor its obligations their only choice will be to terminate their CIGNA (Quality Care) participation and become an out-of-network provider for State employees. This does not affect HMO enrollees. Steve Cunningham and Ken Zehnder met with the leaders of the Network. More information will be forthcoming on the meetings' outcomes.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Rosenberg
Operating Staff Council Secretary