UNIVERSITY BENEFITS COMMITTEE
MINUTES for the meeting of January 29, 2015 (12:00 – 1:25, Altgeld 212)

The meeting was called to order at 12:03 by Terry Borg, Committee Chair.

Members present: Terry Borg, Brian May, Brian Mackie, John Hulseberg, Liz Guess, Murali Krishnamurthi, Samantha McCarron, George Slotsve, Sherilynn Spear

I. Approved Agenda with an edit to add an item under VI. New Business: Approve UBC Membership list. Motioned by Slotsve, seconded by May.

II. Approved minutes from 11/20/2014 meeting with edits. III. a. iv. was updated to say "It is the University Benefits Committee’s desire that a cost/benefit analysis be conducted." Also, III. b. iii. was updated to say "Spear will ask for an update for the next meeting." Motioned by Slotsve, seconded by Hulseberg

   a. Miscellaneous additions:
      i. Slotsve mentioned the sick leave policy for faculty who miss meetings without prior approval. He suggested a general question be raised regarding the policy, and that it may be discussed at future Faculty Senate or UBC meetings.
      ii. Krishnamurthi reminded members about President Baker’s Town Hall meetings on 1/29/15, scheduled for 1:30 and 3:00.

III. Old Business:

   a. Benefits Update (Guess)
      i. Pension – Human Resources is working to bring SURS to DeKalb campus in Spring 2015 for counseling appointments. No other news to report.
         1. Question was raised regarding release time for employees to travel to SURS Naperville location or counseling appointments.
            a. UPDATE – There is no release time available to go to SURS Naperville locations for counseling appointments.
      ii. Affordable Care Act (ACA) – NIU representatives are still in the process of meeting with other universities to discuss.
      iii. CMS Dependent Audit – No date has been set by CMS as of UBC meeting date.
      iv. Metra Pre-Tax Transit Benefits Action Item/Feedback Update – No news to report.
      v. Disability Resource Center/HR Accommodations Usage Report – Tabled to future meeting until more information is available.
      vi. CMS Wellness benefit – See handout (attached) regarding weight-loss benefit. Guess updated committee that benefit available is only for a rebate towards the cost of an approved weight-loss program. Guess emphasized that the benefit is coordinated and approved through CMS and rebate checks come from the Illinois Comptroller.
         1. Will re-visit wellness benefit as a part of discussion on morale.
      vii. A question was raised about smoking cessation related to smoke-free campus (effective 7/1/15). More information is needed, so Guess will ask Deb Haliczer to reach out to the Councils.
         1. Discussed Wellness Fair and smoking cessation.

   b. Annuitants Association Report (Spear)
      i. Spear did not have an update regarding email usage for annuitants after conversion to Outlook, but concern was expressed regarding the ability to access email and the NIU directory. She also relayed the question if library access will still be possible for annuitants.
ii. Slotsve and Mackie to ask Brett Coryell at CFAC meeting on 1/30/15 regarding access to library and email, and will follow-up with Terry Borg.
   1. UPDATE – Coryell stated that the annuitants are not yet being migrated to Outlook and will remain in Groupwise for now. DoIT is formulating a plan to move annuitants to Outlook. It appears that annuitants can get access to the email directory.
   2. UPDATE – Coryell stated that if the library wishes to offer continued library access to annuitants, DoIT is willing to set up the access.

c. Employee Morale
   i. As reported by Hulseberg, Operating Staff Council subcommittee is close to having recommendation.
   ii. SPS Council – No update
   iii. Faculty Senate – No update
   iv. OSC APAC Salary Notification as INFO ITEM: Memo from APAC to President Baker provided to committee members. Baker was invited to attend APAC meeting on 1/14/15, which he did attend. He was asked for action, and the new Senior Associate Vice President of Human Resources will be made aware of the request and memo.
      1. Per Hulseberg, Operating Staff Council will await an action plan.
      2. Terry Borg will contact Rose Miller and ask that she keep UBC apprised of any updates or changes.

d. Dual Career Issues (from PCSW)
   i. Again tabled until future meeting. No update.

IV. New Business:
   a. Update UBC Membership list. Confirm with Pat Erickson.
      i. Borg updated membership list and will provide updates to Erickson.

V. Announcements:
   a. Next meeting scheduled for March 5, 2015 at 12:00 Noon in Altgeld 212.

Meeting adjourned at 1:23 p.m. Motioned by Slotsve, seconded by Spear.
ATTACHMENT:

See page 7 for more information.

- **Weight-Loss Benefit:** As a commitment to an employee's overall wellness, eligible plan participants are entitled to receive a rebate towards the cost of an approved weight-loss program. The maximum rebate is $200 once every three plan years. Employees who utilize a weight-loss program are eligible for the weight-loss benefit through the Department.

The weight-loss benefit is available to all employees who are eligible for benefits under the State Employees Group Insurance Program. Active employees who opt out or waive health coverage under the Program are not eligible for this benefit, nor are dependents, annuitants or survivors.

Documentation required to receive reimbursement include receipts indicating payment for the weight-loss program, along with the employee's name, address, agency's name and telephone number. For more information about this benefit, contact the Member Services Unit at the Bureau of Benefits.