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Civil Service Council

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Civil Service Council Minutes
December 5, 2006

Member Present:

Angie Campbell, Brad Green, Jenny Stout, Janet Werden, Susan Mathews, Heidi Hawkins, Cathy Kimball, Paula Embry, Julie Wilkerson, Chuck Phillips, Lionel Sanders and Michelle Morgan.

Special Guest:

Jill Nilsen

Members Absent:

Jerilyn Hutson, Dennis Malak, Kathy Murphy, John Bailey, Julie Likins, Teresa Sims, Tami Duzan, and Julie Benedict.

President Heidi Hawkins called the meeting to order at 8:38 am.

- I. Legislative update was provided by Vice President Jill Nilsen. The 94th Illinois General Assembly just completing its second 2 year term. They are to meet for the last time on January 7-9, 2007. Any legislation not acted on at that time will have to be brought before the 95th General Assembly which is to be sworn in on January 10th, 2007.
 - A. Some items that were passed that will affect EIU are as follows
 1. State minimum wage package – Increased wage to \$7.50 per hour for those 18 and older. For those under 18 the minimum wage will increase at a lower rate. This will affect EIU student employment budgets. This rate will be increase by .25 over the next 3 years to reach the rate of \$8.25 by the year 2010.
 2. Electric rate freeze – No action was taken by the legislature to continue the rate freeze which was supported by the Governor. The last chance to act on this legislation will be during the January 7-9, 2007 session. EIU has entered into an agreement to increase utility rates voluntarily in an effort to control costs.
 - B. Fall elections – In state elections, Democrats retained the majority, plus gained seats in the House and Senate. In the Senate, they have a “super majority” meaning they don’t need support from their republican counterparts to pass legislation. This is bad news for EIU since our state representative and senator are Republican. In federal elections, the House and Senate gained Democrat seats and have a majority. Our Senator is a Republican which could hurt EIU on the federal level.
 - C. The 95th General Assembly is set to be meet and be sworn in on January 10, 2007. Items expected to be discussed are the Illinois Pension, which is the largest unfunded pension mandate in the country, and school funding.
 - D. The governor will give his budget address on August 21, 2007.

- E. Jill Nilsen's office is in the testing stages of a new website to give the status of several bills affecting EIU. It should be up during the spring of 2007.
 - F. Congressman Tim Johnson is working on obtaining federal funds for the new steam plant and the nursing program here at EIU.
- II. EAC Report, Paula Embry – Nothing new to report as per message from Julie Benedict.
- III. Minutes from the November 7, 2006 meeting were approved (Mathews/Campbell).
- IV. Committee Reports
- A. Legislative – See above information from Vice President Nilsen.
 - B. Personnel/Grievance – Heidi Hawkins to submit Brad Green and Angie Cambell as nominees to President Henken for approval as replacements to the committee.
 - C. Recycling – Heidi Hawkins reported that there was a meeting on November 27, 2006. Minutes will be available soon. The next meeting will be during the spring of 2007. There was a discussion on how to motivate students to participate in recycling. Cathy Kimball stated that the EIU recycling program won a national recycling award and commended Alan for his work.
- V. Financial Report, Paula Embry – Nothing new to report
- VI. Human Resources Report, Chuck Phillips
- A. The Sick Leave Bank policy revisions have been put on hold due to the implementation of Banner.
- VII. Old Business
- A. Archive Disposal – nothing new to report. Jerilyn Hutson is working on it and should be ready to send a request at the end of December, 2006.
 - B. Civil Service Council Scholarship – The subcommittee members (Green/Campbell/Morgan) met with Karla Evans and discussed with Council the results of that meeting. Michelle Morgan will send an email to the constituents to see if there is any interest.
 - C. Smoke Free Campus – Michelle Morgan reported the results from the email survey. The majority of those who responded support EIU moving toward a smoke free campus. Motion was passed unanimously to support this policy (Werden/Hawkins). Email with the results and comments will be resent to council members again. Brad Green will post them to the website. Michelle Morgan will email Eric Davidson notifying him of the Councils' support.
- VIII. New Business
- A. A subcommittee was formed to review and update the Civil Service Council Constitution. The committee will include Jerilyn Hutson, Paula

Embry and Heidi Hawkins. All council members were asked to review the constitution for revisions and submit them to Jerilyn Hutson.

- B. The next meeting will be held on January 9, 2007. Michelle Morgan will poll committee members on the possibility of revising the meeting time for the next year.

Motion to adjourn and passed unanimously (Campbell/Green)

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Morgan, Recorder
Meeting Adjourned at 10:30 am