Pittsburg State University Classified Senate Minutes for September 11, 2013

Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 9, 2013

Location: Inaugural Room of the Overman Student Center, 1:30 pm

The Classified Senate welcomes all classified employees; you do not have to be a Senator to attend.

Welcome guests: Phillip Deierling, Leah Mackey, Larry Overman

Senators Present: John Bartels, Terri Blessent, Bryna Broyles, Heather Busch, Barbara Circle, Dacia Clark, Betty Geier, Dina Gladson, Donna Jacobs, Karen LaSota, Woody Lopez, Janet Miller, Tracey Mussa, Josh Tucker, and Stephanie Willis

Senators Absent: Tim Anderson, Wylie DeGruson (excused), Steve Hall, Michael McLane, Sara Peak (excused), Shari Saia (excused)

Agenda

1. Opening of Meeting

   Meeting called to order by Senate President Dacia Clark at 1:30 PM.

2. Review of Meeting Minutes

   The minutes for August 14, 2013 were deferred until next meeting because they did not get sent out.

3. Treasurer’s Report

   The Classified Senate Operating Budget had a beginning balance of $2,500.00 on August 31, 2013. $64.40 was spent for binders and dividers for new Senators. The current ending balance is $2,435.60.

   The donation account had a beginning balance of $35.00. There were no expenditures so the ending balance remains at $35.00.

   A motion was made for acceptance of the treasurer’s report, seconded, and passed.
4. Senate President’s report with University President:

President Dacia Clark met with PSU President, Dr. Scott, and Shawn Naccarato. They discussed the University Support Staff Study Group. Last week’s feedback meetings on Compensation & Benefits had a 50% turnout rate. Pittsburg State’s Strategic Plan runs out in 2015; Dr. Brad Hodson and Dr. Janet Smith will co-chair the new committee. They are looking for reps for each area of the campus. Dr. Scott attended a second forum in Fort Scott regarding the PSU-FSCC “partnership.”

5. Committee Reports
   A. Election Committee: We have a full senate.

   B. Welcoming Committee: Karen Lasota has been personally visiting each new Classified employee (or sending a letter to those she can’t visit) with our brochure and pencil. New employees include:
      ➢ Suezette Fleske, Custodial Specialist
      ➢ Leah Mackey, Student Publications

   C. Parking Committee: No report.

   D. Diversity Committee: No report.

   E. Animal Use and Care Committee: No report

   F. Position Paper Committee: Barbara Circle, Janet Miller, Josh Tucker, Shawn Naccarato, and Dacia Clark will be attending the Open Classified Meeting with the other Regent schools next Monday, September 16, 2013 in Emporia. Our current proposal for the position paper includes four points (Cost of Living Adjustment, Market Adjustment, Pay Plan, and Longevity Bonus). Last year, nothing was done, so we are “shooting for the stars” and asking for everything we want. The position paper may change after next week’s meeting with other Classified Senate groups.

   G. Bylaws Committee: President Dacia Clark asked if the Senate thought we should postpone this committee until after the USS vote. A motion was made, and seconded, to disband the committee until March. After some discussion and voting, the motion failed. A motion was made, and seconded, to put the committee on hold. The motion passed.

   H. Public Relations Committee: Bryna Broyles will set up a group picture for the website. We will do it just before the next meeting, October 9, 2013.
I. Legislative Update: Shawn Naccarato talked about the Legislative Interim Committee on Higher Education – they will be doing a “bus tour” and visiting all six universities, one community college, and one technical school. They will be visiting PSU on October 24, 2013, from 8:30am – 1:00pm. Administration is waiting on clarification and guidelines of what they want to see and what questions they want answered. Scrutiny on higher education is not going away, it is actually getting worse. Shawn also wanted to commend the classified employees for being engaged in the USSSG conversations.

6. Old Business: None.

7. New Business:

KPERS Benefits are changing. Tier 1 member contribution rates will increase by 1% in January 2014, and by another 1% in January 2015. The IRS could possibly approve a benefit Election of 4-6%.

The Employee Benefits Fair will be October 8, 2013, from 9:00am – Noon. Dacia asked the Senate if we felt it was beneficial to set up a table at the fair. There was a motion to not set up a table. It was seconded and passed.

There was a motion to approve the travel expenses for the group traveling to Emporia on Monday for the Opening Classified Meeting. The motion was seconded, and passed.

8. Good of the Order:

Dacia urged Senators to encourage coworkers to attend feedback sessions for USSSG.

Kansas State will be voting in November, as well as Fort Hays.

9. Adjournment: 2:20 PM

Minutes recorded by Heather Busch
Secretary of Classified Senate, 2013-2014