

Professional and Scientific Staff Council

Divisions:

AF – Administration & Finance
AT – At Large
ESS – Educational & Student Services
UA – University Advancement
I – Instructional

Meeting No. 354

Date of Meeting: December 14, 2006

Place of Meeting: Maucker Union Presidential Room

Meeting Convened: 1:30 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:55 p.m.

Members of the Council in Attendance:

Melanie Abbas, ITS – 36452 AT
 Seth Bokelman, ITS – 37423 I
 Doug Case, PLS – 37145 I
 Carol Fletcher, RDC – 32333 AT
 Robin Gurien, HRS – 33536 AF
 Jacqueline Halblom, CAC – 36485 I
 Lisa Kremer, Maucker Union – 37862 ESS

Steven Pavelec, Fac Planning – 36165 AF
 Shelley Pruess, Maucker Union – 33743 ESS
 Susan Reinart, Advancement – 36078 UA
 Gale Secor, RDC – 36036 ESS
 Rick Seeley, ITS – 37218 I
 Jason Vetter, ITS – 36730 I
 Don Williams, Student Health – 32134 ESS
 Steven Young, Mail Center – 33231 AF

Ex-Officio Member

Bill Calhoun

Others

Lisa Frush

Proxy

I. Welcome

President Carol Fletcher called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. Approval of Minutes #353

Department and phone changes for Seth Bokelman were noted and corrected. Doug Case moved to approve the minutes as amended, seconded by Shelley Pruess. Motion carried.

III. Cabinet Report/Budget Update – Bill Calhoun

A settlement has been reached with the insurance company for the Gilchrist Hall fire damage. The timeline for work to be completed and the return move into the building is tentatively scheduled for Spring 2008.

The one week at Thanksgiving break for students has been approved by Cabinet and is on the Board of Regents docket.

The UNI parking deck has received approval by the Board of Regents. The timeline for completion is 2009.

UNI will be proactive with communication to the Governor and legislature when they convene in January. Local legislators are very supportive of budget initiatives.

Bill thanked everyone involved in the planning of the McLeod Center opening. It was very successful.

- IV. HR Report – Lisa Frush
The Benefits Generalist search is nearing completion and an update will follow next month.
- V. Committee Reports
- A. WWW Committee – no report
 - B. Employee Issues Committee – Doug Case
The committee is not working on any issues at this time.
 - C. Policies and Procedures Committee – no report
 - D. Employee Relations Committee – Lisa Kremer and Susan Reinart
Lisa announced that the newly hired P&S employee reception will be held directly after today's Council meeting.
 - E. Salary and Fringe Benefits Committee – Jason Vetter
The committee met last week and there was discussion concerning interest in pursuing the following items for enhanced benefits:
 - 1. The choice to donate sick leave as well as vacation to employees eligible for catastrophic leave.
 - 2. Options be added to the catastrophic leave policy so that donations could be made to additional employees with "special needs".
 - 3. The committee is continuing to gather information about tuition reimbursement. More information will be shared as it becomes available.
 - 4. Early retirement benefits. More information listed under "New Business" below.
- VI. New Business – Carol Fletcher
Carol reported that she met with representatives from Faculty and Supervisory and Confidential staff. Phased Retirement (up to five years partial retirement) was recently extended to 2012. The representatives are discussing a new Early Retirement Proposal. The proposal for early retirement at age 57 plus 15 years of service did not pass the vote. The new Early Retirement proposal currently being considered is age 58 with 20 years of service. Central funding (rather than departmental) would be preferred to help alleviate inequities that currently exist. It was also noted that the Cabinet is reluctant to move Early Retirement forward until the inequity issue can be resolved.
- Constituents will be polled to determine if there is enough interest in Early Retirement before moving forward with a new proposal.
- VII. Adjournment
Doug Case moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Shelley Pruess. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Sandy Law
Human Resources