

**MINUTES**  
**CLASSIFIED SENATE**  
**3/8/05**

The Classified Senate met Tuesday, March 8, 2005, at 3:30 p.m., Prairie Room, Memorial Union.

**1. Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by President Phil Woodford.

**2. Roll Call**

**Members present:** Darren Silkman (alternate), Nancy Cunningham, Jan Cutright, Robert Degenhardt, Karen McCullough, Linda Garner (alternate for Connie Ernst), Darlene Schippers, Cheryl Schmeidler, Cindy Weigel and Phil Woodford.

**Members absent:** Angela Barger, Vickie Fisher, Leanna Fross, Joe Geist, Donetta Lang, Jordan Munsch, Lesly Rupp. **Guests present:** Tom Kuhn and Kent Steward

**3. Approval of February 10, 2005 Minutes**

Jan Cutright and Cindy Weigel made and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2005 meeting. The motion passed.

**4. Treasurer's Report**

Account balances for Classified Senate:

Endowment Scholarships	Beginning Balance	\$1620.32
	Ending Balance	\$1876.32
Hospitality Fund	Balance	\$ 19.69
OOE	Balance	\$ 530.94

**5. Committee Reports**

**Orientation:** Santina Dechant joined the Kelly Center as a Senior Administrative Assistant.

**Legislative:** Legislative Information Day has been rescheduled for March 15, 2005. Phil Woodford, Robert Degenhardt, Nancy Cunningham, Darren Silkman and Cheryl Schmeidler plan to attend. Debra Prideaux, FHSU Legislative Liaison, has invited the Classified Senate representatives to join a Political Science class from FHSU, Sen. Janis Lee, Rep. Eber Phelps, Rep. Dan Johnson and Dr. Hammond for a box lunch at noon.

**Social:** A get-well card was sent to Angela Barger and a get-well card will be sent to Betty Wolf.

**Scholarship:** No report.

**6. Old Business**

A pen will be given to Mark Flax, Akers Energy Center for his five-year anniversary at FHSU on April 10. There was discussion about giving a pen to employees who have been at the university longer than five years. It was the consensus of the group that this would be too expensive, given that the Classified Senate OOE Budget is \$663 for the year. When the 5-year service acknowledgment began, the Senate recognized that some people would be left out. This was a change from the previous practice of giving a pen when an employee left university service. (Note: 50 pens were ordered from Newton Manufacturing in September, 2003, at a cost of \$204.53.)

Phil asked that any nominations for a classified employee to serve on the Staff Development Committee be sent to him by March 18.

## 7. New Business

### A. Presentation on ID Standard Manual

Kent Steward distributed a brochure about services provided by University Relations and the ID Standards Manual for uniformity and consistency in promoting FHSU effectively. FHSU owns certain names and images and has the exclusive right to use them. Instant recognition for the university will come only through consistent use and presentation of the standard set of images, symbols and names officially approved for FHSU and listed in the ID Standards Manual. Please allow plenty of lead time for University Relations staff to develop publications. Press releases are an effective way to send information. Not as much lead time is needed for media releases, but a week's notice would be appreciated.

### B. Annual Meeting

Immediately following this meeting, plans were confirmed with Senator Janis Lee and Representative Eber Phelps to speak at the Classified Senate Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 21, 3:30 p.m., in the Black and Gold Room, Memorial Union.

### C. Election of Senators

Based on constituencies with Senators in the 2nd year of a term, the constituencies represented by the following people need to hold an election prior to the May 10 meeting: Angela Barger, Cindy Weigel, Robert Degenhardt, Nancy Cunningham, Cheryl Schmeidler, Karen McCullough, Joe Geist, and Jordan Munsch.

Of the Senators currently serving in these constituencies, the following are eligible to serve another term, or they may find a replacement:

Angela Barger, Cindy Weigel (has served less than a full year in her current constituency, completing Kathy Albert's term from August, 2004 to the present. To keep the Senate evenly divided so that 8 Senators go off each year, the person replacing Cindy [or Cindy, if she stays in the Senate], would be in the first year of the first term of office for this constituency), Nancy Cunningham (took Cindy Weigel's place representing the Computing Center constituency, August, 2004, and has served less than a full year, so is still eligible to serve two full terms), Cheryl Schmeidler, Karen McCullough (is completing the 2nd year of Simone Werth's 2nd term and is eligible to serve one more consecutive term), Jordan Munsch.

Robert Degenhardt and Joe Geist have served two full terms and are ineligible to serve as a Senator for one Senate year, but may then be re-elected after laying out one year.

### D. Meeting Date for May

The new Senate year begins May 1. The first meeting of the year will be on May 10, 3:30 p.m., in the Prairie Room, Memorial Union.

### E. Update on Budget/Raises

A 2.5% COLA is attached as part of the bill dealing with the 27<sup>th</sup> pay period in FY 2006. The Governor also recommended a 2.5% COLA, but it is too early to think it will be approved.

**F. House Bill 2020 and Senate Bill 74**

A group opposed to these bills has put out some misinformation about them. More commonly known as the KU proposal, these bills give the Kansas Board of Regents the authority to act on a request from a Regents University to move classified employees out of the civil service system into a group of unclassified university support staff. Quoting from SB 74 as amended: (underlined sections are amendments to the original proposal) “The state board of regents, in accordance with the provisions of this section, may authorize any state institution of higher education to convert all classified staff employee positions or any portion thereof in the institution to the unclassified service of state employment. Those classified staff employees whose positions are converted from classified to unclassified status shall retain all health and flexible benefits and leave and retirement benefits provided to them under the state classified employee system.” The full text of the bill may be seen at: <http://www.kslegislature.org/bills/2006/74.pdf> Phil Woodford asked for a vote supporting/opposing SB 74, but Senators preferred to review it first. The bill does not affect KDOT, SRS, and other state employees, only those at the six Regents institutions. It was noted that there would be no ease in transferring to another state agency under the new system.

**8. Announcements**

The annual meeting on April 21 will take the place of the regular April meeting. The next regular Senate meeting will be Tuesday, May 10, 2005, 3:30 p.m., Prairie Room, Memorial Union.

**9. Adjournment**

Darlene Schippers and Robert Degenhardt made and seconded a motion to adjourn. Motion carried.

Submitted by Cheryl Schmeidler  
Secretary/Treasurer