

**Kansas Council of Classified Senates - Interim Meeting
July 26, 2003
Emporia State University - KSTC Room**

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Nancy Standiferd, ESU.

Present: Gay Youngman, Bill Glover, Connie Schmidt, KSU; Cyndy Hodge and Ellen Abbey, WSU; Kathy Benard and Dianne Nutt, PSU; Cheryl Schmeidler, FHSU; Dennis Constance, Sue Hewitt, Nancy Brune and Sam Hunsaker, KU; Cheryl Wooderson, Nancy Standiferd, Steve Sisson and Sandy Schroeder, ESU.

Minutes follow the order of the meeting=s agenda.

- 1) **Assessment of 03 Legislative Session.** Although we feel it is necessary to continue with Legislative Information Day (**LID**), the governor=s budget probably was more helpful to us than any lobbying effort this year. The governor=s budget included a 1.5% pay raise for State Classified employees which was approved by both legislative bodies. The LID is still a good opportunity for Classified employees to go as a group to the Statehouse and present the *Position Paper* to legislators as a unified group.
- 2) **Procedures for Annual Position Paper.** Pittsburg moved and WSU seconded a [one vote per school] method when finalizing items on the *Position Paper*. Schools may not send a proxy vote; a representative from your university must be present to vote. The motion carried.
- 3) **Discussion of further interim meetings.** Pittsburg moved and KU seconded to meet three times per year. 1. An interim session to be held in the summer at Emporia State, 2. A fall meeting to prepare the annual *Position Paper* at a designated university (usually on a rotation schedule), 3. A winter meeting (March) at Emporia State for a mid-legislative session assessment. Emporia is the most centrally located university; therefore the two interim meetings will be held there. Under this topic of Kansas Council of Classified Senates meetings, the following also was discussed:
 - A. Passed. Designated host school FOR THE POSITION PAPER DRAFTING MEETING, will host ALL meetings relative to the unified *Position Paper* should more than one meeting be necessary.
 - B. Passed. There will be no limit to the number of delegates each school sends to Kansas Council meetings and all are free to participate in discussions.
 - C. Passed. The final form of the *Position Paper* will be adopted by a simple majority of the votes cast.
 - D. Passed. The host school will be responsible for either a hard copy or electronic draft of each meeting=s agenda AND minutes of the meeting within ten working days of the meeting. The host school also is responsible for a draft of the proposed final *Position Paper* to

each Regents school.

E. Passed. The vote of the delegates will be final and binding upon all individual institutions participating in that vote for the final *Position Paper*. (Fall meeting)

F. Passed. No proxy voting.

G. Passed. The host school for the final *Position Paper* meeting or meetings will provide a trained facilitator for all such meetings. (Fall meeting)

4) **Examination of possible items for FY05 Position Paper.** This item was tabled to the Fall meeting.

5) **Discuss options in addition to LID.** There was discussion about a rally in Topeka and trying to get media exposure throughout the year including newspapers articles. WSU reported they haven't been successful in getting much interest from the Wichita Eagle. The group also discussed the universities= legislative liaisons and how we might be able to benefit from them. Other methods of contacts were discussed including letter writing and e-mails to legislators. There is a lot of data to present to legislators/press to make them more aware of the state employees= situation. Those include the poverty guidelines, living wage thresholds, etc.

6) **Possible changes in classified employee system.** There was lengthy discussion on this item. Every school was very interested in exploring options. KU enlightened the group on what happened with their vote pertaining to whether or not the classified employees there wanted to be 2State= employees or >Regents= employees. Some Classified Senate members have researched the options and have formed opinions; others have not. Each school was encouraged to learn the pros and cons of the issue and there will be more discussion on this issue at the Fall meeting. Everyone agreed that a set of rules and regulations for employees must be established by the Regents before we can make an informed choice about what is best for us. We need to compare those options with what we have in place now. HB 2866 has some information concerning this subject.

7) **Coordination with S.E.A.C.** There was discussion on this item.

8) **Health Insurance Concerns.** The group discussed writing to the State insurance commissioner and to legislators about the increase in our health insurance costs. Without pay raises it is increasingly more difficult for classified employees to be able to afford the health insurance.

9) **Examine the idea of litigation against the state for back wages.** There was some discussion on this item and how the Highway Patrol handled their litigation.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.