

Minutes
Operating Staff Council
August 4, 2022
Hybrid Format (Altgeld Hall 125/Teams) – 9:00 A.M.
Approved September 1, 2022

Present: Zac Birch, Angelica Gutierrez-Vargas, Natasha Johnson, Cindy Kozumplik, Rob Kerschke, Mandy Kreitzer, Frances Mitchell (Administrative Aide), Jay Monteiro, Holly Nicholson, Kathy Mosher, Mark Pietrowski, Sara Richter, Mary Schlagel, Kevin Shirley, Jim Slagstad, Linda Srygler, Tracy Ward

Guests: Felicia Bohanon, Catina Caldwell-Mead, Sandra Cox, Patricia Erickson, Christopher Gilbert, Dirk Happ, John Hulseberg, Pulchratia Lacey, Raaif Majeed, Tiffany Morris, Jessica Nunez, Miriah Ranken

Absent: Catherine Doederlein, Rave Meyer, David Rapp,

I. Call to Order

President Nicholson called the regular meeting of the OSC to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call

Attendance was recorded by Monteiro online and Mitchell in person.

III. Approval of Agenda

Birch made a motion to accept the agenda. The motion was seconded by Johnson and passed by unanimous vote.

IV. Approval of July 7, 2022, Minutes

Kozumplik moved to accept the July 7, 2022 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Schlagel with corrections and passed by unanimous vote.

V. Treasurer's Report

Yates reported.

Beginning balance – \$9,462.54

No expenditures

Endowed Scholarship balance – \$76.87

Civil Service Emergency Fund balance – \$2,638.8

Birch moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. The motion was seconded by Slagstad and passed by unanimous vote.

VI. Visiting Committees/Guests

A. Chris Gilbert – Transportation

Gilbert answered questions and discussed the status of busing at NIU.

- Transportation is transitioning out of bussing
- NIU is now paying more for hiring outside busses
- Gilbert gave a list of in state and out of state institutions that do have buses. Gilbert said he had been contacted by other universities to see how to get into busing as they wanted to bring buses into their universities to protect themselves from liability issues.
- State agency buses do not have to pay \$9 fee for going to Chicago and \$54 fee for going to Chicago airports and are less regulated.
- Transportation was not being allowed to run efficiently.
- There are 20-25 area charter buses gone (mostly because of COVID-19). They could have been purchased at a low cost.
- Gilbert felt that with Civil Service processes and then administration deciding not to fill positions it set Transportation up for failure.

B. Jessica Nunez – Campus Parking

Nunez attended to present changes that are coming to Parking Services.

- All parking permits are virtual so no stickers or hang tags are needed.
- Your license plate is your parking permit
- Up to two license plates can be registered on one permit.
- Guests of departments are now registered with a daily or weekly guest invite online.
- Ames Mobile Pay (AMP) allows short-term parking from your phone through an app, mobile pay website from the signage, or scan the QR code on the sign. It is \$1.20 per hour for up to four hours and then \$6 for a day
- Service Vehicle stickers are added to the same license plates as blue stickers.
- Departmental reserve spots will be patrolled differently.
 - o Departments can call if someone who should not be using the spot.
 - o If Parking Services notices abuse of the spot by another permit holder, they could contact the permit holder.
- They hope to realize a \$200K saving by year four.
- There was discussion of why debt service was increased two days before budgets were due and where that money goes. Johnson and Nicholson will ask at the next budget roundtable meeting.
- If you must add a third plate to your account, you can add it temporarily or permanently.

VII. Public Comment – none

VIII. Announcements/Correspondence

- A. Cindy Kozumplik – Announced electronic requisition trainings for Procurement Services and Contract Management will be held August 10th and September 13th. Information should be coming out in announcements. There will be more information next month on training that Human Resource Services will be holding.
- B. President’s Report – Holly Nicholson
The Provost has emailed out guidance for mask wearing and COVID-19 testing and compliance, as well as Monkey Pox Virus information.
- C. Council Spotlight – Angie Gutierrez-Vargas
Vargas awarded Cathy Doederlein the award. Vargas acknowledged and thanked Doederlein for all that has been done for the university as well as a personal situation that Doederlein assisted in resolving.
- D. Human Resource Services Update – Pulchratia Lacey
 - a. The State University Civil Service System (SUCSS) office has begun converting a lot of the in-person paper exams and the electronic exams to credential assessments.
 - b. HR has been posting positions trying to build up their team.
 - c. HR has expanded I-9 processing to satellite areas; the Graduate School, the Library, and Holmes Student Center 118 (for Dining)

IX. Shared Governance Reports

- A. Board of Trustees – they have not met/no report
- C. Supportive Professional Staff Council (SPSC)
Felicia Bohanon reported. SPSC has been working on updating their committees and focusing on electing new officers.
- D. Student Government Association (SGA)
No report

X. Operating Staff Council Committee Reports

- A. Elections and Appointments – No report
- B. Legislative Committee – Holly Nicholson reported.
There was a first reading of a bylaw change that would make chairs of a committee have to be operating staff but the chairs could invite non-operating staff or other campus partners to join a committee
- C. Public Relations/Activities – Monteiro reported
A short meeting was held on August 22nd. Ideas for the next newsletter were briefly discussed.
- D. Workplace Guidance – Linda Srygler reported

- a. They had meetings with Bill Hodson in the spring and want to continue to have those.
 - b. Remote work policy is coming out but was delayed waiting for input. It will be a broad, more of a guiding type of policy with equity clauses.
- E. Civil Service Emergency Fund – Linda Srygler reported
- a. Every Penny Counts article was published in NIU Today. Coin drives are being held on campus. “Every Change for Change” is the idea.
 - b. Grants from the fund are for \$250. Two have been given out so far. There is \$2600 left to distribute.
- F. Council of Councils Ad Hoc Committee – Kathy Mosher reported.
Committee is going to hold off until November for the next meeting. Northeastern has decide not to host for 2022. Hulseberg had an update that the system office and EAC may hold a virtual event on October 14th instead. The three topics they want to address are 1) transitions from physical tests to credential assessments, 2) promotion process, 3) Remote working policies.
- G. Employee Advisory Committee (EAC) – Hulseberg reported.
See above.

XI. Prior Business – none

XII. New Business – none

XIII. Adjournment

Kozumplik moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Johnson and passed by unanimous vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:35 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Jay Monteiro, Secretary
Operating Staff Council