University Benefits Committee
Minutes of the April, 2017 Meeting
2:00-4:00 PM
Altgeld 225

I. The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm

II. Attendance: Samantha McCarron, John Hulseberg, Murali Krishnamurthi, Tim Aurand, Janet Love-Moore, Mary Wyzard, Sherie Spear, Wendell Johnson, Liz Guess, Celeste Latham

III. The agenda was approved (moved by Aurand, second by Spear) with one change: the dates listed under the Proposed Meeting Schedule included today’s meeting.

IV. The minutes were approved (moved by McCarron, seconded by Krishnamurthi).

V. The UBC decided to forgo the election of Secretar(ies). Johnson will record the minutes for the May, 2017 meeting.

VI. Constituent Reports:
   a. Annuitants Association (Spear). The Annuitants Association is monitoring the progress of Illinois SB 11
   b. SPS (Love-Moore). SPS Council is concerned regarding university benefits for temporary SPS positions.
   c. Operating Staff (Hulseberg). Operating Staff is concerned regarding University chargebacks and the influence on finances and work flow. The suggestion of increased benefits in lieu of salary increments was raised.
   d. Faculty (Aurand). The lack of competitive compensation levels affects salary retention.
   e. Provost (Krishnamurthi). The Board of Trustees approved sabbatical leaves.

VII. Old Business/Updates from HR (Guess, Latham). SURS will offer retirement counselling at NIU in the near future. AFSCME’s labor contract will affect the cost of NIU’s health insurance premiums as well as the design of related benefit plans. Benefits choice period looms.

VIII. New Business. Johnson suggested the UBC consider revenue-neutral benefits. SPS Council is invited to bring concerns to the UBC.

IX. The April meeting was adjournment at 2:52 pm.(moved by Love-Moore, second by Krishnamurthi).

The next meeting of the University Benefits Committee is schedule for Thursday, May 4, 2017 in Alt 225, 2:00 – 4:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendell G. Johnson

Chair, University Benefits Committee