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Governors State University hosted the 12th annual Council of Councils October 22, 2010

Representatives from 9 of the 12 Illinois state universities gathered to attend the 12th annual Council of Councils. Guests shared information about state university employee positions, state funding, and other issues that concern state university civil service members. The morning began with the Executive Director of State Universities Civil Service Systems (SUCSS) who explained exempt Academic positions and Professional versus non-exempt Civil Service positions. The Civil Service systems current goals and objective benefits employees, such as the job description audit process in universities.

Discussions about the current state of affairs were shared, as well as other important information. The SUCSS Employee Advisory Committee (EAC) advises Civil Service Senate to take members issues back to the Merit Board. Educate yourself, spread awareness. Voice your opinion to administration and legislators. Guests spoke about how important it is to know your candidates and to get out there and vote! Send handwritten letters or phone legislators (don’t email) regarding pension funding and other senate bills. The Executive Director of State University Annuity Association spoke about lobbying for education on behalf of current state university employees, their spouses and children. It is no secret that the State of Illinois is billions of dollars in debt and employees need to visit the comptroller website and stay on top of discussions. View the websites at www.succs.org and www.suaa.org.

After lunch, discussions continued into the afternoon with round table topics such as morale boosting, fundraising, and retirement benefits. Next year’s event will be hosted by the University of Illinois, Chicago and 2012 will be hosted by Northeastern Illinois. After a very successful day’s events, we finished with some nice door prizes. Thanks to everyone for their support.

More on the Council of Councils on Page 4
CIVIL SERVICE SENATE: MISSION STATEMENT

The Civil Service Senate works to promote scholarship and morale and protects the rights and benefits of the civil service constituency.

The Civil Service Senate helps promote:

- Quality Instruction and Scholarship by helping to create a positive University experience for students by supporting civil service employee continuing education through scholarship.
- Innovation and Improved Productivity by promoting a positive work environment through morale building events. This helps to create efficiency through increased productivity.
- Enhanced Collaboration and Partnerships by encouraging unity through special events and collaborative efforts with students, faculty, community, and staff.

CIVIL SERVICE SENATE: OUR PURPOSE

The Senate shall recommend policies and procedures concerning Civil Service affairs, evaluations, salary, merit, Civil Service education and development, Civil Service governance, grievances, and campus physical resources.

The Civil Service Senate shall advise on the specific decisions which may be made under any of these policies and procedures in a manner which shall be set forth in the By-laws of the Civil Service Senate. This advisement shall be limited to those decision not specifically covered or stipulated by a ratified Civil Service union agreement and those not in the process of bargaining.

SENATE OFFICERS AND SENATORS

Civil Service Senate as of 11/10/2010
Executive Officers:
President:
Laura Owens
Vice President:
Sheryl Jones-Harper (Personnel Resolution Chair)
Recording Secretary:
Lynn Clayton (Scholarship Committee Chair)
Financial Secretary:
Joyce Giroux
Correspondence Secretary:
Tiffani Malvin

Senate Members:
Marlene Lees (CS News-letter)
Kathy Miller (Council of Councils co-chair/ex-officio)
Eric Nicholson (Governance Committee Chair)
Renee Rainey (Affairs Committee Chair)
Karen Sinwelski (Council of Council co-chair)
Pam Taylor (Employee of the Month Chair)
Cindy Woodard: (Executive Committee member at large)
Paula Cosenza

Andrea Dal Polo
Raymond Foster
Shelina Jenkins
Sandi Kawanna
Ann Jaso
Gina Ragland
Crystal Richards
Raquel Rios-Aguirre
Kelly Robinson
Pat Smith
Karen Stuenkel

Senate Meeting Dates
January 11, 2011
February 8, 2011
March 8, 2011
April 12, 2011
May 10, 2011
June 14, 2011
July 12, 2011
August 9, 2011
September 13, 2011
October 11, 2011
November 8, 2011
No December meeting
All meetings are held in Room D1496, Location subject to availability. Notification will be provided if there are schedule changes.
The Civil Service Senate Bake Sale was held the same day as the Vendor Fair, November 16, 2010.

Everyone enjoyed the chili, the games, and the chance to visit with each other.

Carol Burt-Lafi, a GSU Alum, is now a small business owner of Ahmani Fashions and creates all of her own designs.

The Annual Vendor Fair held on November 16, 2010.
Governors State University Civil Service Senate was the proud host of the Council of Councils on November 10, 2010.

Next year the 2011 Council of Councils will be at

University of Illinois, Chicago
Contact: Darlette Willis
1120 South Morgan
Chicago, IL 60612
312-413-8185

dmw@uic.edu
The Civil Service Senate is honored to have President Ex-Officio Kathy Miller as the recipient of this year’s Baysore Award.

‘Congratulations Kathy!’

**AWARD RECIPIENT**

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**MEATLESS CHILI**

- 2 tbsp. oil
- 1 1/4 c. chopped onion
- 2 minced garlic cloves
- 2 tbsp. chili powder
- 1/4 tsp. oregano
- 1/4 tsp. cumin
- 1/4 tsp. dried basil
- 2 c. diced zucchini
- 1 c. diced carrots
- 1 (20 oz.) can drained chick peas
- 1 (16 oz.) can undrained kidney beans
- 2 lbs. fresh tomatoes

In 5-quart sauce pot, heat oil over medium heat. Add onion, garlic, chili powder, oregano, cumin, and 1/4 teaspoon basil. Cook, stirring 5 minutes or until onion is tender. Add zucchini and carrots, stir 1 or 2 minutes. Stir in drained chick peas, undrained kidney beans, and 2 pounds tomatoes, cut in eighths. Bring to a boil; reduce heat and simmer 30-35 minutes. A Heart-Healthy Recipe.

This is the Meatless Chili recipe made for the Civil Service Senate “Chili Day”.

Since so many of us enjoyed it, Lynne gave us the recipe!

Thank you Lynne.

**Lynne Clayton**

(Lynne added a can of corn and substituted black beans for kidney).
THE CS REVIEW STAFF

Editor and Publisher
Marlene Lees

Contributors:
Laura Owens
Lynne Clayton
Renee Rainey
Cindy Woodard

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

2011 dates to be announced

Valentines Day Carnation Sale
February

Limerick Contest
March

Penny Wars
March

Spring Open Market
April

GSU Fly In
May

Bake Sale
May

Civil Service Day
December

Important Dates
Civil Service Day is December 8, 2010

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Behind the Scenes

Special Acknowledgement

Thank You, Thank You.

To All Who volunteered to cook, set up, serve, cashier, work and buy for the C.S.S Events this year:

WE COULD NOT HAVE DONE THIS WITH OUT YOU.

YOU ARE ALL TRULY ANGELS.

Renee Rainey
AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Photo by Cindy Woodard

In a sea of Poinsettias, Renee Rainey gets things ready for the Civil Service Day on December 8th this year.

Thanks, Renee, for all the effort and hard work you do behind the scenes!

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