



University Support Staff Senate Archives

Classified Senate

Academic year 1994-1995

Classified Times

Keeping the WSU Classified Staff Informed!

Issue 5
February, 1995

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Wichita State University
Classified Senate Newsletter

Issue 5

February, 1995

Legislative Information Day A Success

On Tuesday, February 7, a delegation of WSU classified employees traveled to Topeka to present the KANSAS COUNCIL OF CLASSIFIED SENATES 1995 POSITION PAPER to legislators from the Wichita area. Classified employee delegations from Fort Hays State, Kansas State and Kansas University traveled to Topeka to present the position paper to legislators from their respective areas. This effort resulted in a tremendous show of classified employee solidarity. The Pittsburg State delegation was unable to attend. Emporia State does not have a classified senate.

The WSU delegation met with legislators based on the following criteria: 1) Legislators from WSU delegations' personal legislative districts; 2) Legislators with ties to WSU; 3) Legislators with key committee assignments such as Appropriations.

Appointments were made with the following legislators from indicated districts:

- 1) Joel Rutledge (D) representative, 98th
- 2) Jo Ann Pottorff (R) representative, 83rd
- 3) Jonathan Wells (D) representative, 84th
- 4) Michael Sawyer (D) representative, 95th
- 5) Susan Wagle (R) representative, 99th
- 6) Barbara Lawrence (R) senator, 30th
- 7) Rip Gooch (D) senator, 29th
- 8) Christine Downey (D) senator, 31st
- 9) Sabrina Standifer (D) representative, 103rd
- 10) Belva Ott (R) representative, 92nd
- 11) Mike Harris (R) senator, 27th

Time constraints would not allow for more. However, lobby teams were formed consisting of members from all of the Kansas State Board of Regents' schools in attendance to meet with

certain key legislators. This was an excellent way to visit legislators such as the senate majority and minority leaders, the speaker of the house, etc. The spirit of solidarity and comradere that resulted was wonderful.

All WSU and State of Kansas classified employees owe a debt of gratitude to the following people: Craig Robbins and Lois Nicholas (Ablah Library), and Jane Eshelman (Reading and Study Skills Center). I also want to express my gratitude to them for joining me in this effort. There simply isn't a more effective way of improving the wage and benefit package of the classified employees of the State of Kansas than sitting in the office of a state legislator making a personal plea for improvements. Legislators need a warm body, with a name attached, in their offices to remind them of the impact of their policies.

I wish to close with the following anecdote. Craig Robbins and I were disappointed to learn that Rep. Pottorff couldn't make her appointment. We knew that the KU delegation had managed to make an appointment with Governor Bill Graves at 9:45. Craig and I decided to hang around in front of the governor's office along with some of the K-State delegation. At 9:45 a group of classified employees, about 15 strong, from KU, K-state and WSU entered the governor's outer office. I'm not sure what Governor Graves thought he was in for when he came out of his office to greet us. However, the feeling of power and solidarity was tremendous as Mike Auchard, classified senate president at KU walked up to Governor Graves and began to diplomatically go over the position paper point by point. Governor Graves listened as the classified employees of the Kansas State Board of Regents' schools presented their concerns. I urge everyone, classified senate members or not to attend one of these sessions

sometime so that you can experience the satisfaction that comes from taking personal responsibility for your wage and benefit package.

Sincerely, Doug Weber (Ablah Library)

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Employee Recognition Day

An Employee Recognition Dinner and Ceremony will be held March 13, to honor employees completing 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of service. Dinner will be provided for recognized employees by the University. Employees may purchase dinner tickets for their guests. More information will be coming in the near future from University Relations and Human Resources.

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Bi-Weekly Pay System

How will the new bi-weekly pay system affect your monthly budget? When will pay checks be issued? How will direct deposits be affected? How will time sheets change? Why are we changing to this system?

Beginning January 1, 1996, the State will change to a bi-weekly pay system. Mike Turner, Director of Human Resources, will be available to answer these questions and more on February 22, 1995, 3:30 p.m. in Room 215/217 CAC. **All classified and auxiliary staff are encouraged to attend.**

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