



The Roar



KSU Classified Senate Newsletter

November 2005

IMPORTANT!! PLEASE READ

Senate Bill 74, recently passed by the Kansas Legislature would allow, but not require, the state universities to convert classified employee positions to unclassified positions. These unclassified positions would be different from the unclassified positions now on campus. Employees in these newly created unclassified positions would keep all health, leave, and retirement benefits as provided by the state civil service system and not be required to sign an annual contract. The new system would have to contain provisions for a disciplinary and grievance process with rights of appeal and due process procedures.

Additionally, the bill allows universities to implement a different pay plan than the civil service pay plan. Everything else would remain the same. Employees would continue to earn leave as they are now and they would have to participate in the KPERs retirement system. Finally, before this system could be implemented, the university would be required to hold a vote of the affected classified employees and a majority of those employees voting must vote in favor of the proposal.

We are mindful of the questions and apprehension you may have about such a change. As your classified senators, our goal will be keeping you, the classified employees at Kansas State University, informed and educated. Right now we are on step one of the process. We have been granted support by our administration to research this idea. According to SB 74, development of such a plan shall be subject to input from affected classified employees. Your input will be vital as we begin to research this idea.

As your classified senate, we are the vehicle by which you can voice your opinions. We encourage you to talk to your classified senator with your questions and/or concerns. What we ask is that you be patient and understand that this is not something that can be done in a matter of weeks or months. We are in the very beginning stages of discussion and because this could be something of a monumental change for K-State classified

employees, we want you to understand that NO decision will be made without a collective vote by all K-State classified employees.

This is a topic that can easily spin out of control with rumors. We hope that by keeping you updated regularly via the ROAR we can provide factual information regarding this process.

Contact a classified senator:

<http://www.k-state.edu/class-senate/senators.html>

Read senate bill 74:

<http://www.kslegislature.org/bills/2006/74.pdf>

What is Classified Senate?

Classified Senate is a body of representatives that are elected to represent you, the classified employee. Classified Senate as a body is responsible for articulating classified employees interests, concerns, and recommendations to the Vice President for Administration and Finance. In other words, we are your voice to the administration.

In addition, Classified Senate has the responsibility to keep all classified employees informed on issues affecting them. Primarily this is done through the ROAR, the Classified Senate newsletter. Also, our monthly meeting minutes are posted on the Classified Senate web page at www.k-state.edu/class-senate.

Classified Senate is composed of twenty-six Senators chosen by permanent full-time and part-time classified employees in their respective colleges and/or administrative units. (See chart for the number of Senators from each college and administrative unit.) Senate terms are three years and a Senator can be elected for two consecutive terms.

Each month, Senators attend the Classified Senate meetings to discuss and vote on issues pertinent to

classified employees. All Classified Senate meetings are open to anyone wishing to attend.

Every year in the fall, representatives from Classified Senate meet with other regent university's Classified Senates to work on a position paper. This position paper outlines our salary and benefits proposal that we present to the Legislature on Legislative Day in Topeka in February. All classified employees are encouraged to attend.

One of the most important responsibilities of the Classified Senate is annually planning, hosting and organizing the Classified Employee Recognition Ceremony. The Senators spend months in preparation that includes gathering the information for years of service awards and the Employee of the Year awards, selecting and ordering those awards, procuring a speaker, and providing entertainment and refreshments for the actual ceremony. This is a huge endeavor as the ceremony had over 600 in attendance last year.

If you would like to learn more about Classified Senate, please speak with your Classified Senator or contact Paul Connors, President of Classified Senate, at pconnors@ksu.edu. It is an honor and a privilege to be a Classified Senator and a great way to get involved and make a difference for the classified employees here at K-State.

2005 – 2006 Classified Senators

Administration and Finance

Which includes: Vice President's Office, Budget Office, Employee Relations, Controller's Office, Division of Human Resources, Information Systems, Public Safety, and Division of Facilities

- Kristi Fronce
- Theresa McCarthy
- Annette Boddy
- Laverna Leeson
- Jennyfer Owensby
- Richard Herrman

Ag and Extension

- Cheryl Martin
- Cyreathia (Sam) Reyer
- John Wolf
- Roxana Ortiz

Architecture Planning & Design

- Beth Miller

Arts & Sciences.....

- Barbara Nagel

Business

- Claudia Leeds

Education.....

- Janel Harder

Engineering

- Sherry Donahey

Hale Library

- Connie Kisse

Human Ecology

- LaVonne Boetel

Institutional Advancement

Which includes: Vice President's Office, Admissions, Career & Employment Services, Education/Personal Development, Housing and Dining Services, New Student Services, Printing Services, Registrar's Office, Student Financial Aid, Student Life, University Counseling, University Publications, and Lafene Health Center

- Carol Marden
- Cathy Sandoval
- Eddi Devore
- Linda Sorell

Local Agencies

Which includes: Athletics, K-State Student Union, Child Development Center, and Student Publications

President/Provost.....

Which includes: Affirmative Action, Beach Museum of Art, McCain Auditorium, University Attorney, Research & Graduate School, Research/Vice Provost, Telecommunications, Computing & Network Services, Division of Continuing Education, and Regents Educational Community Center

KSU Salina

- Marlene Walker

Veterinary Medicine

- Susan Ekstrum
- Lori Buss

Senate Meetings

All Classified Senate meetings are open to classified employees. You are encouraged and welcome to attend any or all of our meetings. Senate meetings begin at 12:45 p.m. Below are the dates and locations.

- December 7, 2005 KSSU Staterooms 1,2,3
- January 4, 2006 KSSU Room 213
- February 1, 2006..... KSSU Room 213
- March 1, 2006..... KSSU Room 213