



# The University of Kansas Classified Senate Newsletter

May 2004

## FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE CLASSIFIED SENATE

The past two years as president of Classified Senate have gone by very quickly. I cannot say that the way has always been smooth; there have been some significant bumps for Classified Senate. I firmly believe that Senate survived the turbulence of the vote for an alternative to civil service and became stronger. I know that Senate is a stronger presence on campus now than it was several years ago. WE are a more visible presence. That presence is not due solely to the vote to pursue an alternative system. We have had an excellent newsletter that has kept our organization on people's desks on a regular basis. We have had a strong presence on SenEx in Bev Koerner. Senators that were appointed to University committees served well and professionally and served to notify the rest of campus that we are interested in diverse issues and competent to serve in many venues.

I appreciate the confidence that the Classified Senate had in my performance as president and appreciate the vote on May 12th to serve a second and final term as president. I had a great vice-president and secretary and the invaluable assistance of Kathy Reed in the University Governance office. I am sure my new vice president will step in and provide able assistance. Eleanor Kent is the best secretary I have ever had the privilege to work with in any organization.

One of the biggest battles facing the Classified Senate for next year will be to keep the Board of Regents on track to approve the proposal and then to get legislation written and passed. In the meantime we will keep working on other areas of interest and welcome suggestions from all Classified Staff concerning other areas that benefit from the assistance of Classified Senate.

I will get requests over the next few months for people to serve on various university committees, please email me at [kjansen@ku.edu](mailto:kjansen@ku.edu) me if you would be interested in serving in any capacity.

Thank you for your support in the past and I am looking forward to your support in the future.

Kathy Jansen

## LEGISLATIVE REPORT

The 2004 session of the Kansas Legislature has come to an end. "Sort of."

The State's governing body adjourned this year, no doubt proud of itself for doing their business in a timely manner, without having dealt with the pressing issue of

public school finance. Since the existing school finance system has been declared unconstitutional by Judge Terry Bullock, and he is threatening to shut down state spending on education as of June 30, that lack of legislative resolution to the problem has set the stage for a possible call back into a special session. There is other legal maneuvering going on so it may not come to pass, but if the Governor calls the extended session, it throws some uncertainty into the decisions that were made. Most significantly, it could impact budgetary issues.

That being the case, it is with some hesitation that I tell you our 3% C.O.L.A. made it through. Because of how it was funded, it seems unlikely to get drawn into any renewed budgetary wrangling that might occur in a special session. At this point I'd say, watch the newspapers.

A bit of good news is that Senate President Dave Kerr has announced he will not seek re-election. Of course, he could be replaced with someone worse, but he has not been a friend of state employees during his career, and hopefully the next Senate President will be someone more sympathetic to our needs and concerns.

The Legislative Affairs Committee is turning its attention to next year. At this point it appears there will be two main thrusts for our work. One effort will be to advance our traditional issues with the Legislature much as we always have. Additionally, we will also need to be prepared for whatever action or inaction the Board of Regents takes concerning the civil service alternative proposal, which was submitted to them in January.

## PARKING PERMIT PAYROLL DEDUCTION

Don't forget that the deadline to sign up for payroll deduction of your parking permit is

**May 28, 2004**

for 26-pay or

**June 9, 2004** for all other options

Forms available at  
[www.ku.edu/~parking/paydeduct.shtml](http://www.ku.edu/~parking/paydeduct.shtml)

Concerning the first strategy, we have already begun work. We are seeking early appointments with members of the Governor's staff, hopefully laying the groundwork for a meeting with Gov. Sebelius herself. It has become increasingly clear that we need her in our corner, not only to get adequate raises included in the budget up front, but also to help us gain recognition as an important issue to the State of Kansas.

It is also part of our plans to attend next year's session with not only a position paper, and supporting information in hand, but with drafts of proposed legislation as well to enact the position paper points.

The second strategy is harder to formulate. No word has come back from the Regents about the civil service alternative proposal as yet. Hence, we don't know if we will be gearing up to seek support for it in the legislature next session, or if we will still be focusing on persuading the Board of Regents, or if some counter-proposal they make will change everything. At this point, it is another one of those "stay tuned for further developments" issues.

And so the saga continues...

Dennis Constance

#### TUITION ASSISTANCE

##### FALL DEADLINE

**5:00 P.M., FRIDAY, JULY 16, 2004**

The Tuition Assistance program is available to classified and unclassified staff working 50 percent time or greater. To be eligible, employees need to have worked at KU for at least six months by the time classes begin, and classified staff also need to have completed their initial probationary period.

In order to apply, employees must submit a tuition assistance application form, a brief statement explaining how the course will benefit the employee and KU, and a letter of support from the supervisor. Making application does not automatically guarantee acceptance into the program. A number of factors, including availability of funds, are taken into consideration when making awards.

The Tuition Assistance Committee does not approve requests for thesis or dissertation hours, independent study courses, directed readings, classes listed as "by appointment" or accelerated degree programs offered by other universities. Approved courses must be structured classes with set meeting days and times published in the Timetable of Classes. For a listing of available classes, visit the online Timetable at [www.registrar.ku.edu/timetable](http://www.registrar.ku.edu/timetable) since printed copies of the Timetable are no longer available.

While it is encouraged that classes be taken at KU, the committee recognizes some programs, such as library science and vocational specialties, are not offered on this campus. In such cases, an exception may be granted to cover other schools. The committee will also consider

making exceptions when employees live and work outside of the Lawrence area.

The Tuition Assistance application form is available on the Human Resources web page [www.ku.edu/~kuhr](http://www.ku.edu/~kuhr) under the Tuition Assistance link. For more information, contact Lynn George, at 864-7415.

#### CLASSIFIED SENATE MEETING SCHEDULE

The Classified Senate meets on the following dates from 10:30 a.m. – Noon, in the Kansas Union, as listed below. **All meetings are open to the public.**

Date	Room in Kansas Union
June 9, 2004	Walnut Room
July 14, 2004	Walnut Room
August 11, 2004	Walnut Room
September 8, 2004	Pine Room
October 13, 2004	Pine Room
November 10, 2004	Pine Room
December 8, 2004	Pine Room
January 12, 2005	Pine Room
February 9, 2005	301 Relays Room
March 9, 2005	International Room
April 13, 2005	Pine Room
May 11, 2005	Pine Room
June 8, 2005	Pine Room

#### CLASSIFIED EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

The Classified Senate Executive Board meets on the following dates from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., in the Kansas Union, as listed below.

Date	Room in Kansas Union
June 2, 2004	Alcove C
July 7, 2004	Alcove C
August 4, 2004	Alcove C
September 1, 2004	Alcove C
October 6, 2004	Alcove C
November 3, 2004	Alcove C
December 1, 2004	Alcove C
January 5, 2005	Alcove C
February 2, 2005	Alcove C
March 2, 2005	Alcove C
April 6, 2005	Alcove C
May 4, 2005	Alcove C
June 1, 2005	Alcove C

**NEW SENATE COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS****Communication Committee**

Green, Sharon Lee (Chair)  
 Brune, Nancy  
 Luther, Bette  
 Eastland, Allen  
 de Vries Margretta  
 Reed, Debby  
 Hatfield, Ruth  
 Stiers, Kathy  
 Pritchard, Andy  
 Tate, Kristin

**Legislative Affairs Committee**

Constance, Dennis (Co-Chair)  
 Hunsaker, Sam (Co-Chair)  
 Auchard, Mike  
 Barnard, Jay  
 Brune, Nancy  
 Bryce, Tom  
 Finkbiner, Chris  
 Lindeman, Mike  
 Orr, Linda  
 Robart, Jean

**Personnel Affairs Committee**

Sue Hewitt (Chair)  
 Bev Koerner  
 Andes, Janice  
 Gillaspie, Angel  
 Greenberg, Judy  
 Kent, Eleanor  
 Koerner, Bev  
 Nightingale, Bev  
 Stiers, Kathy  
 Younes, Maxine

**Elections Committee**

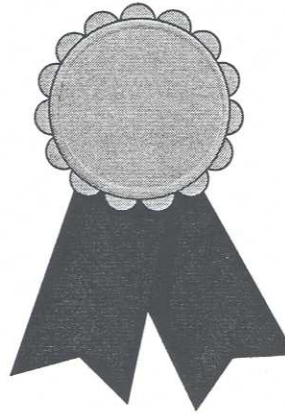
Greenberg, Judy (Chair)  
 Carter, Doug  
 Gillaspie, Angel  
 Green, Sharon Lee

**Web Page (Ad Hoc) Committee**

Reed, Kathy

**EEO Category Representatives:**

Category	Name
EE03	Luther, Bette
EE04	Green, Sharon Lee
EE05	Robart, Jean
EE06	Thomasson, Tim/Bryce, Tom
EE07	Lindeman, Mike

**EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR NAMED**

Congratulations to **Georgia Hunter**, custodial specialist. Georgia was named KU 2004 Classified Employee of the Year at the annual employee recognition ceremony on April 28. She had been named Classified Employee of the Month in August 2003.

Other Classified Employees of the Month for the past year were:

April 2003	Frances Wales
May 2003	Cindi Hodges
June 2003	Maud Morris
July 2003	Janet Girnius
September 2003	Georgia Damis
October 2003	Tammie Zordel
November 2003	Helen Carr
December 2003	Susie Albers-Smith
January 2004	Arnold Johnson
February 2004	Rory White
March 2004	Linda Shotts

Congratulations to all of you for the recognition of your hard work and for your representation of Classified Employees at KU!

This newsletter created and designed by Margretta de Vries, Kathy Stiers, Bette Luther, Nancy Brune, Ruth Hatfield, Andy Pritchard, Debby Reed, Kristin Tate, Allen Eastland, and Sharon Lee Green. The Classified Senate Communications Committee meets once per month. If you have suggestions for articles, please call Sharon Lee Green (864-5888/5887) or email us at [clsenate@ku.edu](mailto:clsenate@ku.edu).  
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**OFFICERS**

**President**  
Kathy Jansen  
**Vice-President**  
Bev Nightingale  
**Secretary**  
Eleanor Kent  
**Treasurer**  
Angel Gillaspie  
**Ex-Officio**  
Mike Auchard

**COMMITTEES****COMMUNICATIONS**

Sharon Lee Green, Chair  
864-5888(am)/5887(pm)  
[greensl@ku.edu](mailto:greensl@ku.edu)

**ELECTIONS**

Judy Greenberg, Chair  
864-0790  
[fitjudy@ku.edu](mailto:fitjudy@ku.edu)

**LEGISLATIVE**

Dennis Constance, Co-Chair  
864-4261  
Sam Hunsaker, Co-Chair  
864-0106  
[shunsaker@ku.edu](mailto:shunsaker@ku.edu)

**PERSONNEL**

Sue Hewitt, Chair  
864-5533  
[shewitt@ku.edu](mailto:shewitt@ku.edu)

**WEB SITE AD HOC**

Kathy Reed, Chair  
864-5169  
[kreed@ku.edu](mailto:kreed@ku.edu)

**UNITED WAY REPRESENTATIVE**

Judy Greenberg  
[eudorafi@ku.edu](mailto:eudorafi@ku.edu)

**SENATORS**

**Bette Luther - EEO 3 Rep**  
Terry Proctor

**Sharon Lee Green - EEO 4 Rep**

Janice Andes  
Nancy Brune  
Angel Gillaspie  
Carol Gonce  
Susan Hewitt  
Eleanor Kent  
Linda Orr  
Debby Reed  
Kathy Stiers  
Kristin Tate  
Maxine Younes

**Jean Robart - EEO 5 Rep**

Sam Hunsaker

**Tim Thomasson - EEO 6 Rep**

Jay Barnard  
Thomas Bryce  
Doug Carter  
Allen Eastland  
Ken Squires

**Mike Lindeman - EEO 7 Rep**

Dennis Constance  
Chris Finkbinder  
Ed Whittman  
*One vacant seat*

**Representatives At Large**

Bev Koerner  
Judy Greenberg  
Kathy Reed

**WEB SITE UPDATE**

[www.ku.edu/~clsenate/](http://www.ku.edu/~clsenate/)  
Please visit our website and feel free to e-mail the Webmaster. Your input is appreciated.

[clsenate@ku.edu](mailto:clsenate@ku.edu)

**HELPFUL WEB LINKS****KU Home Page**

[www.ku.edu/](http://www.ku.edu/)

**KU Staff Benefits**

[www.ku.edu/~kuhr/faculty\\_staff/benefits/](http://www.ku.edu/~kuhr/faculty_staff/benefits/)

**Meeting Schedules**

For KU Classified Senate  
[www.ku.edu/~clsenate/](http://www.ku.edu/~clsenate/)

On the menu, select 'Meeting Schedules'. Full Senate meetings are open to anyone who would like to attend.

Visit the Academic Computer Center [www.ku.edu/acs/](http://www.ku.edu/acs/) and check out the new Summer 2004 classes and online registration.

KU News, Arts, & Events are available at [www.ku.edu/news/](http://www.ku.edu/news/).

**THE NEXT MEETING OF THE KU CLASSIFIED SENATE WILL BE ON JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup> AT 10:30 A.M. IN THE WALNUT ROOM OF THE KANSAS UNION.**

**UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS CLASSIFIED SENATE**

33 Strong Hall  
Lawrence, KS 66045

REED, KATHERINE JO  
UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE  
1501002