MINUTES
COMMISSION ON CLASSIFIED STAFF AFFAIRS
APRIL 10, 1990

Present: Judy Nicks (Chair), Lynn Belding, John Bridges, Bruce Herczogh, Shirley Hester (for John McKenzie), Verna Howell, Diane Lollis, Claudia Martin (alt.-Library), Mary Jo McAnally, Mike McLeod, Deborah Padgett, Pat Padgett, Pete Pepinsky, Dixie Schmittou, Bonnie Stevens, Angie Stringer (for Charlie Butts), Ron Herrin, Ray Thompson, Mark Ford (Clemson Weekly).

Absent: Charlie Butts, Linda Cartee, Ann Duncan, Mary Harvey, Paula Henderson, Mildred King, Gary Lemmon, John McKenzie, Jana Mize, Martha Pace, W. Ray Smith, Ruth Taylor.

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Judi Nicks called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Members introduced themselves.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes of the March 13, 1990, meeting were approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Policy--Verna Howell referred commission members to the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting which had been distributed prior to the meeting.

Item #3 which mentioned a possible increase in vehicle registration fees in order to subsidize shuttle services and parking lot construction produced some discussion. Bruce Herczogh (representative to the University Traffic and Parking Committee reported that the committee had discussed a three year plan to increase parking. The committee discussed a scenario of increase from $12 to $24 next year or of increasing 1/2 next year and the balance the following year. The consensus was to increase $6 next year. Members of the Commission expressed concern over the impact of an increase in this fee on those employees at the low end of the pay scale, especially in the current climate of little or no increase in pay, increased insurance costs, etc. Some concern also was expressed over the fact that an increase in this fee would not benefit staff employees since the shuttle service is designed for students and there has been no visible effect on parking lot availability or construction since the original fee was imposed.

Bonnie Stevens moved that the Commission request that the Traffic and Parking Committee table the vote on a proposal to increase parking fees, thus providing the Commission an opportunity to consider the proposal information and provide input. Pat Padgett seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Pat Padgett moved that the Staff Commission sponsor a forum on the parking issue and invite pertinent people to participate on a panel to answer questions. Bonnie Stevens seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Pat Padgett agreed to coordinate plans for the forum, assisted by Bonnie Stevens.
Communications: Chairman Ann Duncan on vacation. Jo McAnally commented that the flyer on contacting legislators was complete and would be distributed through campus mail to all employees.

Verna Howell moved that the Commission express formally its appreciation to the Communications Committee and the specific individuals responsible for their outstanding job in the creation and publication of the "Tips for Legislative Contacts" brochure. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

Elections: Ms. McAnally reported that all nominations had been turned in to Mary Harvey. The results of the election would appear in the Clemson Newsletter.

Welfare: Pat Padgett reported that the committee was making an effort to involve off-campus people in committee work.

Mike McLeod raised a question about retirees and medical coverage. Ron Herrin explained that retirees used to be covered under a Medicare supplement program—it now is a Medicare carveout program. Medicare coverage amount is deducted from what Blue Cross/Blue Shield would pay resulting in little or no payment by BC/BS and leaving the retiree to fund the balance. In some cases this is significant. Mr. Herrin reported that there is an effort to effect a change back to the supplement program. Citizens need to express their opinions to their legislators.

Ms. Padgett reported that Personnel is working with Bruce Herczogh to set up some training for technicians. Ray Thompson noted that the first step would be to develop crafts and trades programs.

A subcommittee of the Welfare Committee is looking into the fringe benefit package.

Mr. Thompson recommended that the Commission take a stand on the legislature paying for non-taxable benefits.

UNIVERSITY COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Joint City/University Committee: Ms. Nicks reported on the downtown revitalization plan which has been endorsed by the City of Clemson and Clemson University.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Nicks reported on the status of two resolutions:

CSA2-9-89 Participation in Graduation Procession
Ms. Nicks is writing the Vice Presidents asking for their support in contacting their staff employees who are eligible to participate in the May graduation procession. Ben Morton will follow up with a contact to each individual asking them to participate. Ms. Nicks expressed thanks from the Commission to Mr. Norton for his efforts to increase participation in graduation by staff members.
CSA5-12-89 Shift differential
No change at this time.

Scholarship: Two students applied for the scholarship benefit. Forms are available at the Development Office for those who wish to contribute. Any ideas or suggestions should be communicated to Mike McLeod or Bruce Herczog.

NEW BUSINESS:
No new business

REPORT FROM SCSEA:
Dixie Schmittou reported that a forum would be held on April 26, sponsored by the SCSEA, dealing with the retirement system and early retirement. Ms. Schmittou reminded Commission members to lobby the Senate Finance Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Ms. Nicks reminded members that nominations for officers would be made at the May meeting.

Results of the recent election would be announced at the May meeting.
The meeting adjourned.

Mail: A reminder was issued to committees to take particular care not to Xerox letters with signatures. The Chair keeps one copy and the Mail Committee keeps one with the signature. All other copies remove the name. IDENTITY OF AUTHOR IS CONFIDENTIAL!

Ray Thompson moved that the University’s top administration endorse the practice of allowing elected representatives of the Commission on Classified Staff Affairs to meet once a quarter for two (2) hours with the employees they represent. The motion was seconded. The motion passed.

Mr. Thompson presented a diagram of the new applicant procedures.

Mr. Thompson showed the Commission a new copy of the updated employee manual.

Respectfully submitted,

Dianne Haselton