

## CIVIL SERVICE e-IN TOUCH NEWSLETTER - MAY 2006

***ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER: It is the goal of the Civil Service Committee to keep all constituents informed of issues that can affect employment, salary and benefits at the University of Minnesota. For this reason, we send our monthly e-In Touch to all Civil Service employees so identified through data in the Human Resources (PeopleSoft) system. If you have received this newsletter incorrectly, we cannot remove your name from the database. Instead, please contact your HR representative to check your employment data in the system.***

### CHAIR'S REPORT

The spring season is in full swing and the semester is drawing to a close.

The May meeting of the Civil Service Committee will be held from 9 a.m. to Noon Thursday, May 25, in 101 Walter Library. Susan Rafferty, Office of Human Resources, will give a presentation on Human Resource issues.

Thanks to everyone who applied to be on the Civil Service Committee. The selection committee received many strong applications and has submitted a list of nominees to the President's office for approval. We will announce the new members in the June issue of the ***e-InTouch*** newsletter.

Senate elections are under way and will continue through May 19. Thanks to all the candidates for their participation. All eligible voters should have received an email with voting instructions. If you have not had a chance to vote, take a few minutes to vote today.

Thanks to all of you who applied for positions on various Senate committees. See the article in this month's issue about more opportunities to serve.

### April Meeting Recap

At our April meeting, the Civil Service Committee elected new officers. Cathy Marquardt, Minneapolis campus, was elected vice-chair for 2006-07 and will become chair in 2007-08. Gary Wilhite, Crookston campus, was elected treasurer. Peg Wolff, 2005-06 Vice Chair, will serve as chair for 2006-07 beginning July 1. Congratulations to all!

The new Civil Service Committee website will be up and running on July 1. We have updated our website to meet the University style standards. We will be enhancing information about CSC's committees while retaining and adding valuable links to University-wide information. Many thanks go to Heather Powell, Sue Gustafson, and Linda Olcott, members of the Communications Committee for their hard work on the website transformation. We also extend our thanks to Sara Balick and Julia Johnson from the University Senate Office for their editing suggestions and technical expertise.

Look for changes in Office of Human Resources procedures. New job postings and job applications will soon be all electronic. Human Resources is committed to updating its processes to take advantage of technology and to streamline the processing of postings and applications. Human Resources is also looking at changes to New Employee Orientation beginning in 2007. Changes are being proposed to update the orientation and make it a more effective tool for new and returning staff members.

### Coming in June

Our June meeting is scheduled from 9 a.m. to Noon on Thursday, June 29 in Conference Rooms B and C in the Campus Club in Coffman Union.

There are still many concerns about health care benefits, wellness, and prescription drug services. We continue to work closely with the Benefits Advisory Committee on these issues. Dann Chapman, Director of Benefits from the Office of Human Resources, will be at our June meeting to discuss health care benefits and answer questions.

Also in June, Vice President Kathy O'Brien will give a progress report and answer questions about strategic positioning.

Everyone is invited to attend any of our meetings, including subcommittee meetings. Please see the Civil Service Committee website at <http://www1.umn.edu/csc> for meeting schedules.

Many thanks to all of you who sent in comments and suggestions to us this month. We appreciate hearing from you. Your participation, whether you serve on a committee or send in a question or comment, is vital to the success of the Civil Service Committee.

*Matt Bowers*  
*Civil Service Committee Chair*  
[matt@umn.edu](mailto:matt@umn.edu)

***For More Civil Service Information . . .***

For more information on Civil Service Committee meetings, the committee membership and the work of its subcommittees, please visit the Civil Service Committee website at <http://www1.umn.edu/csc> or e-mail the committee at [UM-UCSC@LISTS.UMN.EDU](mailto:UM-UCSC@LISTS.UMN.EDU).

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE!**

It is not too late to apply for 2006-07 Senate Committee membership! ***Civil Service Senators are especially encouraged to apply!!***

Positions available:

- TC Facilities & Support Services Committee (2 positions).
- **NEW!** All-University Honors Committee (2 positions).

Please visit the University Senate website at <http://www1.umn.edu/usenate/office.html> to learn more about the work of these committees.

The application for civil service representation on committees is found on the Civil Service Committee website at <http://www1.umn.edu/csc/application/subcommittee/subcommittee.html>

Applications may be submitted on-line or emailed as an attachment to Brenda Boever at [boeverba@morris.umn.edu](mailto:boeverba@morris.umn.edu). **Application deadline: May 19, 2006.**

Please consider joining other Civil Service employees on a University committee as we strengthen our role in the University governance process.

**A Successful Year of Professional Development!**

The Civil Service Committee is pleased to announce that all of its Professional Development Funds have been awarded for the 2005-2006 year! Funds for the 2006-07 year will be available beginning July 1. Keep this in mind as you find classes, seminars and training that enrich your skills and knowledge. Then plan to submit an award application when funds become available.

The Professional Development subcommittee is asking for feedback from awardees as to how the programs awards enriched their skills and knowledge. Please send us your stories to share!

**Watch for the next Civil Service e-In Touch Newsletter on JUNE 8, 2006.**

**Editor's Note:** *Due to circumstances beyond our control, you may not be able to access all the hyperlinks by simply clicking your mouse on the link. An option is to highlight the URL, copy, then paste it in your browser. We apologize in advance for any inconvenience.*