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OpenLine Newsletter

Civil Service Council

4-2022

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Recommended Citation

Civil Service Council, "OpenLine Newsletter, April 2022" (2022). *OpenLine Newsletter*. 2.
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OpenLine

Civil Service Council Newsletter
April 2022



ILLINOIS STATE
UNIVERSITY
Illinois' first public university

Civil Service April Spotlight

The Civil Service Council will feature a civil service employee at Illinois State University each month to highlight an exceptional colleague and the outstanding work being done on campus! This month get a chance to learn about and applaud Connie Blick from the School of Theatre and Dance.



Connie Blick

What is your position on campus and how long have you been with the University?

I am the Office Manager for the School of Theatre and Dance and wear a lot of hats! I help students, support our admin team and faculty, and

oversee the social media, among many other responsibilities. Someone told me once I'm like the "stage manager of the department," keeping everything in this fast-paced department running and in order. I've been in this position since November of 2018, though I started at ISU in July 2017 as a Customer Service Assistant in Facilities Management, ending a 16 year career as a waitress in your friendly neighborhood Chili's.

What do you find most rewarding about your work?

I get to utilize a lot of my personal & creative skills in this position. But mostly, I love the interactions I have with our students as a friendly face in the main office that gets to play a small part in their journey here. I also enjoy being able to witness the result of their hard work because Theatre and Dance is an area where a lot of the student's work & talent is reflected in physical or visual projects, whether that be acting in a show, a dramaturgy display, costume or lighting design, a short film, dance, etc.

What are your hobbies or favorite past-time?

I love collecting anything retro & eclectic, especially mod or mid-century modern vintage made in the 50s-70s and also collect vintage cross-stitch samplers. I am heavily involved in local community theatre in Bloomington-Normal and act and direct. I started a site-specific theatre company called Nomad Theatre where we produce works in locations specific to the play whether it be in an art gallery, bar, or even your front porch; it's quite literally theatre that moves. This passion project has taken off and I feel lucky that my personal passions intersect in many ways with my professional position. Walks in the forest with my family is also at the top of the hobby list!

What else would you like others to know about you or your time at ISU?

I am actually an alum of the department and majored in acting. In 2007, I ended my college journey early, six credits short of graduating. When life brought me back to this department professionally – I was encouraged by my colleagues and motivated to finish my degree. I did just that in 2020, so I guess I just want people to know it is never too late!

More about Connie from Ann Haugo, Director, School of Theatre and Dance:

Connie Blick is an exemplary colleague. In her role as office administrator, she manages student staff, leads our marketing and social media projects, and coordinates much of our communication to students and the rest of the campus. Her inventiveness and ingenuity have made our Birds Give Back campaigns successful on many fronts – engaging with record numbers of students, finding new and fun ways to communicate about what we do, and of course, drawing significant numbers of donors to the project. This year, she has led teams of undergraduates working on social media promotions on Insta, TikTok, and Facebook that are reaching record numbers of audiences, and I'm so happy to say that the University will also be recognizing her team's work and her leadership.

Staff Success Survey due April 29

Staff members have the chance to participate in a survey exploring job satisfaction, work climate, professional development opportunities as well as other areas.

The Staff Success Survey will be sent to all staff members beginning April 11 via campus email. Commissioned by President Terri Goss Kinzy and the University Cabinet, the survey will gather opinions and thoughts about working at Illinois State University, with results used to improve the employee experience.

“To remain a competitive place to work, Illinois State will need to continue to adapt and grow,” said Kinzy. “To understand the best and most innovative ways to move forward, we need the input of our staff.”

The survey is anonymous. Results will be presented in summary format only and analyzed by Planning, Research, & Policy Analysis (PRPA). Identifiable information will be removed from survey comments. Learn more about anonymous surveys at the Qualtrics website.

The survey takes about 15 minutes to complete and is due by April 29.



Illinois State University Earth Day Breakfast, April 22

Campus and community members are invited to the Illinois State University Earth Day Breakfast from 8-10 a.m. Friday, April 22, at the Hancock Stadium Club. The breakfast will feature keynote speaker Chad Pregracke, founder of Living Lands and Waters.

The breakfast will include local foods, vegan options, and fair trade coffee and teas. Ticket prices are \$5 for students and \$10 for non-students and must be purchased at www.sustainability.illinoisstate.edu by April 13.

Pregracke is the internationally named 2013 CNN Hero of the Year, and founder and president of Living Lands and Waters, a nonprofit river cleanup organization. Best known for starting out as a young man in East Moline, Illinois, who

wanted a cleaner waterway, Pregracke has become the champion for the Mississippi River. At the age of 17, he decided to begin the work of cleaning the river, and 22 years later, Pregracke and his Living Lands and Waters crew have organized and led over 1,000 community cleanups of 23 rivers in 20 states, removing over 10 million pounds of garbage. Illinois State University students are part of these cleanup efforts from Living Lands and Waters each March through Alternative Spring Breaks.

Parking for the Earth Day Breakfast is available in lots G73 (in front of the Stadium) or G83 (behind the Ropp Agriculture Building).

This is a Zero Waste event, sponsored by the Office of Sustainability, Student Sustainability Committee, Center of Civic Engagement, Alternative Breaks, and the Department of Geography, Geology, and the Environment.

For special accommodations or additional information, please contact the Office of Sustainability at sustainability@ilstu.edu.



Tip of the Hat, March 2022

New Employees:

Danny Bugg, Marketing Associate, Intercollegiate Athletics

Jodee Cesario, Office Administrator, Mennonite College of Nursing

James Durrant, Program Assistant, Intercollegiate Athletics

Rob Fulton, Program Coordinator, School of Theatre and Dance

Justin Herrin, Construction Project Coord II, Facilities Planning

Dillon Horter, Program Assistant, Intercollegiate Athletics

Adam Julian, IT Tech Assoc, Web Interactive Communications

Stephanie Keim, Office Manager, Special Education

Samantha Lowry, Program Coordinator, Alumni Engagement

Jasmin Makely, Building Service Worker, Janitorial

Angelina Marquez, Mailing Equip Opr Expd I, Mail Service Center

Dany Myers, Customer Service Asst, Alumni Engagement

Kelly Schlouch, Program Coordinator, Teaching and Learning

Kim Ward, Office Manager, Educational Admin & Foundations

Promotions/Reclassifications:

Susan Alford, Office Manager, Clinical Exp in Teacher Educ

Jonathan Bowling, Auditorium Technical Dir, Event Mgmt Dining Hospitality

Lenah Fumuni, Food Service Administrator I, Event Mgmt Dining Hospitality

Jim Gee, Marketing Associate, Ctr Teaching, Learning & Tech

Zach Miner, Office Administrator, Illinois Tutoring Initiative

Rachel Purviance, Program Assistant, Learning Spaces & AV Tech

Sally Rowan, Office Administrator, Finance, Insurance and Law

Annette Thoennes, Office Manager, Clinical Exp in Teacher Educ

Ashleigh Weller, Food Service Administrator II, Event Mgmt Dining Hospitality

Retirements:

Stephen Hopkins, IT Support Assoc, Client Services



Years of Service, March 2022

30 Years

Arthur Hosea, Janitorial, 3/9/1992

Alberto Sanchez-Bucio, Janitorial, 3/15/1992

Anita Williamson, Janitorial, 3/15/1992

20 Years

Kenna Fread, Health Services, 3/4/2002

Sally Little, School of Biological Sciences, 3/4/2002

John Williamson, Building Maintenance, 3/25/2002

15 Years

Marianne Oglesby, Advancement & Foundation Opers, 3/16/2007

10 Years

Michael Riley, Building Maintenance, 3/1/2012

Nathan Stien, Web Interactive Communications, 3/1/2012

Sean Thornton, Univ Mktg & Communications, 3/5/2012



FY2023 Sick Leave Bank open enrollment, April 7-20

Human Resources announces the open enrollment for the University Sick Leave Bank (SLB) program from April 7-20, 2022.

In order to participate in the Sick Leave Bank, employees must have a balance of at least five (5) days of earned sick leave after the one-day donation is made. Donations are not taken until the start of the new fiscal year, so the balance on July 1, not the balance at the time of enrollment, determines eligibility. Employees whose sick leave balance is insufficient to meet this requirement will not be eligible to participate in the Sick Leave Bank.

Find more information on the Sick Leave Bank policy.

Those who have questions or concerns regarding the Sick Leave Bank program can contact Human Resources at (309) 438-8311 or hrbenefits@ilstu.edu.