

Survey Monkey  
August 2007

1. Hi, to everyone in the committee! Great Job. Keep it up! I have some suggestions for activities. We could organize a day of pampering and get a group of people (of just women) to go get facials, nails, or hair done. There are schools such as the Aveda Inst. that are good places for such services at very low prices. Afterwards, we can do dinner or a movie. Also, there are free events sponsored by the city such as the Chicago Summer Dance or Movies in the Park. Also, there are film festivals such as the Latino, International or Gay & Lesbian film festivals shown during different times of the year that we can probably get group discounts to as well as going to musicals such as Wicked or the Ravinia or Lollapalooza festivals. I would be very interested in attending activities that showcase other cultures or lifestyles since we have such a great diversity of people here at the library. We could learn and enjoy more of their own cultural backgrounds and at the same time we would have someone from those communities to explain to us things that we do not understand or suggest food or music that we on our own would not choose.  
Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Thank you for your support and for appreciating our efforts to bring about a Sense of Community within the UIC family. Since the UIC library family is a vast array of different cultures and interest, we believe this to be a good idea. For outings such as you mentioned individuals would be on their own as far as sponsoring such an event. Currently the SOCC is exploring the idea of having a web page with an event and contact person in charge of said event. Would you be interested in posting your ideas to this page?

2. Please provide a formal update on the library's review and position regarding the consolidation of Library Technical Assistants I and II under the recent series-title change. There have been many library initiated, seemingly ad hoc, reclassifications of support staff, which only serve to circumvent fair opportunities for all, especially given the increasingly limited number of promotional possibilities here as well as the relative impossibility to transition, say from a customer service position to a more technical position. Why must the Library continually cop-out with the excuse that the matter is being negotiated with the Labor Relations Bargaining Committee when it is self-evidently within management's power to reward staff meaningfully via promotional reclassification? Why is it, then, that there has been no move to reward those staff, who are exercising supervisory responsibility over other support staff and who have been dramatically affected by the

title change? In the face of and nearly three and a quarter percent wage increase for student employees, 7.76 to 8.01 dollars per hour, I dare not ask what the academic wage year-over-year increase is. This occurred, in spite of the fact that the University continues to quibble over a 1.9 percent increase in the support staff clerical contract. Although I realize that it is not within the Library's authority to determine wage rates, it is no wonder the Technical Assistants moved, not long ago, to unionize. In doing so, we sought to garner any support at all for our cause since absolutely no meaningful support is provided by the organizational unit which we support to the tune of 37.5 hours per week. Under the State's title-change mandate, my suggestion is for the library to immediately reclassify every Library Specialist, who exercises supervisory responsibility daily, to the rank of Senior Library Specialist. It is time for Library Management and Library HR to work to support us, for a change.

Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

Thanks for sharing your thoughts on position titles and wages. Some matters particularly dealing with administrative, personnel, union, or budget matters are outside our areas of useful or meaningful action. The best we can do is forward such questions or comments to the appropriate department or individual. We have passed your concerns on to Library Management and Human Resources.

3. Special Collections would like to suggest getting a book club started.

Anonymous

Dear Anonymous,

We think this is a good idea and think Special Collections would be a good department to get a book club started. How may we assist?