

2024-2025 Administrative & Professional Staff Council

Wednesday, April 23, 2025

1:30 P.M.

Teams meeting

I. Call to Order

The April meeting was called to order by Chair Todd Bryson.

II. Roll Call and Announcement of Proxies

Members Present: Tena Bennett, Todd Bryson, Amy Eaton, Jeff Franklin, Rachel Frazier, Caleb Hale, Peter Lucas, Rita Medina, Laura Morgan, Layla Murphy, Josi Rawls, Elyse Weller, Jasmine Winters

Members Absent: Carly Holtkamp (Proxy Laura Morgan)

Guest: Melissa Laake

III. Adoption of Meeting Minutes

Motion: L. Murphy

Second: R. Frazier

The minutes from 3/19/25 were approved as presented.

IV. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Motion: J. Winters

Second: T. Bennett

The agenda was approved as presented.

V. Guest Speakers - (none)

VI. Reports

A. Chair – The Board meeting was last Thursday at SIUC. There will be no tuition increase for this upcoming year. The School of Aviation and School of Forestry & Horticulture have increased their fees. The Saluki mental health fee (\$7) and textbook fee (\$26/credit hour) were approved. The academic support fee at Simmons Law school is assessed to all law students enrolled in the Juris Doctor program. It provides students with educational services and materials as part of the comprehensive program through the students' three-year academic career and culminates in a post graduate bar exam preparatory program. Proposed vendor contract rates are scheduled to increase starting in fiscal year 2028 to cover the increased cost of the services at Simmons Law School. The law school academic support fee will go from \$499 to \$520. In 2028-2029 the fee will increase to \$535 and in 2029-2030 the fee will be \$550. T. Bryson stated we did recognize the people who were given the following awards: Lindell Sturgis Award & Dr. McNeese Award.

Fall Break Survey - R. Frazier stated the results from the survey showed overwhelming support from all constituency groups to keep things the way that they are. A summary will be given to the Provost and Chancellor. The Undergraduate Student Government did send over a resolution stating that they would like to move Fall Break day from a Friday to a Monday. This resolution will be included with the summary when it goes to the Provost and Chancellor (from the Academic Calendar Committee).

B. Representatives to University Committees – T. Bennett stated the Associate Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance interviews were this week (Monday and Tuesday). Two candidates were on campus. Both were great and would meet the needs. R. Frazier stated the University Core Curriculum Director search is under way.

C. Committee Appointments

1. Committee on Committees – (no report)

2. Constituency Relations – J. Winters stated the spring luncheon is April 30, 2025.

Susan Graham was identified as the Staff Excellence winner and will speak at the luncheon. J. Winter requested from T. Bryson bios for Stan Reno and Carolyn Harvey. An adjustment/addition was made to the lunch menu to accommodate dietary restrictions for six individuals. The headcount for the luncheon will be 55. R. Medina stated we will play a game of Family Feud that is work related.

3. Operating Paper – T. Bryson stated to J. Franklin we need to meet. We can talk about that after the meeting.

4. Staff Benefits & Welfare – L. Morgan asked for an update from T. Bryson since he is taking the lead with some of the staff incentives that we talked about last time. L. Morgan stated that we talked about maybe working on the newsletter and determine if we want to do that once a semester. We can get a template together for a newsletter this summer and aim to have the newsletter sent out in the fall.

T. Bryson stated the Rec. Center is working on a reduced membership for staff with 20+ years of service (\$125/yr.). Also, anyone hired right now will not be able to start until July 1, 2025. R. Frazier stated I believe that decision was made the the first week of April. Concerns about everyone starting on July 1 were discussed (setting up computers, onboarding, losing candidates, HR being backlogged to get things in the system, etc.). T. Bryson stated he will meet with Chancellor Lane on May 2, 2025, at 11:00 a.m. (1st mtg. of the semester). He also stated to be mindful of what's going on – students who lost their visas. Some of our students' families are being deported/being targeted.

VII. Old Business – (none)

VIII. New Business

J. Rawls stated next Monday and Tuesday, the enrollment management team and the Provost team will be handing out the Provost Scholarship (full ride scholarships, the big check presentations, etc.). We will be going to the community colleges, mainly just around here, but we did have some recipients from Central and Northern Illinois as well. T. Bryson asked if the Provost scholarship is for transfers and if it is similar to the Chancellor Scholarship for undergraduates. J. Rawls stated yes, there's just no housing and food component, but it's full tuition and fees for two years.

C. Hale stated the open forums for the Compensation 2030 Study are on May 7, 2025. What findings will they present? T. Bryson stated they will go through ranges. They will explain what they found, and CBIZ will make their recommendations.

J. Winters asked if there has been any talk about yearly increases? She stated Edwardsville in the last Board of Trustees meeting got a 2% raise. Where is the money coming from to get people where they should be compensated? T. Bryson stated that has not been discussed as far as I know.

P. Lucas stated we're no longer advertising anywhere near the way we have over the last seven years when we helped with this growth.

L. Murphy stated at the law school our seat deposits are up by almost 47% over last year. Our goal is to have 115 people in each class, and right now, we have 142 seat deposits. Between June 16 and August 1, 2025, we will have a partial shutdown to save money, but the law school library will be open. This will be a pilot project, and we will be working remotely.

T. Bryson asked T. Bennett if Starbucks was closing. T. Bennett stated we had to wait on university approval for internal financial loans. That just got approved. Starbucks will be shutting down in June/July for renovations per contractual obligations. In the fall, we're putting Chick-fil-A where the once thought of but never happened 1869 Grill is and expand it. That's all per contractual obligations of a new contract with them.

T. Bryson stated we lost two camps this year. Hopefully, we will be bringing back the Christ in Youth group. They are to be here in 2026-2027. T. Bryson stated University Housing will be losing University Hall as it will be going to another department in September; summer school may look different next year. T. Bryson asked everyone to volunteer for Commencement if available.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: J. Rawls

Second: L. Murphy