

2026-2027 Administrative & Professional Staff Council

Wednesday, August 26, 2026

1:30 P.M.

Teams meeting

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call and Announcement of Proxies

Present: Lilia Angel-Post, Todd Bryson, Jaime Conley, Caleb Hale, Krystal Hudson, Scott Johnson, Laura Morgan, Amanda Mulch, Chris Pearson, Josi Rawls, Michael Rowell, Agnes Szemborski, Barbara Tuthill, Elyse Weller

Absent: *(none)*

Guest: Melissa Laake, Rose Robinson-Berkman

III. Adoption of Meeting Minutes

Motion: C. Hale

Second: L. Morgan

The minutes from 7/15/26 were approved as presented.

IV. Adoption of Meeting Agenda

Motion: L. Morgan

Second: E. Weller

The agenda was approved as presented.

V. Guest: *Rose Robinson-Berkman, Confidential Advocate - Victims Advocacy Specialist*

R. Robinson-Berkman stated I am the confidential advisor who works with student survivors of gender-based violence. I am the campus victim advocate. When you make one of the SAFE reports, that gets sent to me. I reach out immediately to the students and get them access to supportive measures and accommodations and help guide them through the process if they decide to report to the university or to the police, but they don't have to in order to get support through the university under Title IX. I also do a lot of work with violence prevention education on campus.

VI. Reports

A. Chair – The tenth day student enrollment will be reported on Monday. T. Bryson stated that he has asked for a meeting with Chancellor Lane. The goal is to meet with Chancellor Lane before each council meeting so that information can be shared. There is an expected 1% raise for non-represented staff with maybe another 1% increase depending on enrollment.

B. Representatives to University Committees – *(no report)*

C. Committee Appointments

1. Committee on Committees – E. Weller stated when we get requests for committees we always put it out to the AP Staff Council before we open it up to the other AP Staff members.

The following staff members were appointed for committee service:

a. Provost Search Committee: ***Jim Hunsaker***

b. Honorary Degree Committee: ***Scott Johnson***

2. Constituency Relations – K. Hudson stated the committee met yesterday and discussed ideas to bring AP Staff together. The lack of funds was also discussed. T. Bryson will provide more information about volunteering at the Banterra Center. K. Hudson stated with volunteering at the Banterra Center, maybe we can do something where we help the

Humane Society. We are going to stick with Buckwater Brew Works for a social event, starting with September. We will work on October's event and thereafter. A free activity that was discussed is to walk around the campus lake. M Rowell, C. Pearson, and I are working on some different avenues to do some fundraising with local companies and businesses just to see what we can do.

4. Operating Paper – T. Bryson stated they have not met.

5. Staff Benefits & Welfare – L. Morgan stated the committee has not met. They will meet in early September and go over possible things to look into, e.g., clarifications on policies. If something is going on in your area or you have fresh ideas, just get them to me or anyone on the committee so we can see where to focus. If it can benefit a good majority on campus, then we'll try to dig into it and make improvements.

T. Bryson stated the Staff Appreciation that is based on enrollment is scheduled for October. Another Staff Appreciation is scheduled for May. When we talk about enrollment, people forget that School of Medicine is part of that number. School of Medicine in Springfield is part of that number as well as School of Law, Undergraduate Admissions, Graduate School, and CESL. I think everyone knows about the Staff Advisory Council with the trainings. Melissa has been sending those out. If you haven't taken part of those trainings, please do so. All of this comes from Staff Benefits & Welfare. If there are things that you think we should be doing, please let Laura and her committee know.

VII. Old Business – (none)

VIII. New Business

- L. Morgan advocated for participation in the professional development opportunities provided for staff; they're relevant to everyone. T. Bryson stated those trainings came out in the system-wide staff committee. Those are done at all three campuses: School of Medicine, Edwardsville, and here. The trainings are just for staff, and Dave Heth has done a great job with that.
- L. Morgan stated we need more mid-semester classes. We still have under-enrolled students trying to get into classes, and faculty are saying no to capacity override requests.
- M. Rowell stated we, College of Health and Human Sciences, are having an event tomorrow at Mae Smith in the commons area. We're expecting a great showing.
- C. Hale asked to help spread the word from the Association of a free coffee event for students next Wednesday in front of the C-Wing of Woody Hall from 8:30-10:30 a.m. T. Bryson asked for a flyer so that it can be posted in housing.
- L. Angel-Post stated there has been a lot of challenges for international education. There are changes to the F-1 visa procedures that has affected us a lot. The embassies were closed for F-1 student visas for most of the summer, because they said that they were too busy with the World Cup. And with these new things coming up, that's also going to make it more difficult for students to come and less attractive for them to come to the United States. C. Pearson stated we've also heard some rumblings about CPT, Curriculum Practical Training, for international students going out. Apparently, in the past, we used to do a lot of that and they could be on a F-1 visa and were able to go out and work. But now we're hearing that since it's not a required part of our curriculum, that students won't be able to go out unless we figure some other option out. L. Angel-Post stated that's part of the overall change in the regulations for the F-1 visa procedure. It's going to affect CBT and OPT. It still can happen, but like you were saying, it has to be a requirement. It cannot be if you want to do this internship, you can. No, it's like, if you don't do this internship, you cannot graduate. That's the only way they will be able to do it. All of this will be implemented

September 15th, if they're able to retrain people and update all of their systems before then, which is probably impossible.

- J. Rawls stated that she, E. Weller, and T. Bryson talked about restructuring the sectors; some are very big and some are very small. By default, each sector has two representatives. Depending on how many are in your sector staff wise, that then is an additional seat. We are talking about restructuring, possibly pulling maybe the Foundation, alumni, possibly athletics out into its own sector which would provide better representation for not only those departments, but then the other people in the Chancellor's Sector. If you think we don't have representation from a certain office or group of people and you think redoing the sectors would help that, please let T. Bryson, E. Weller or me know. T. Bryson stated we talked to A. Mulch and B. Tuthill about this yesterday. They are on the Operating Paper Committee. We had eight sectors before and now we have five. Let us know if you have recommendations. They have since added two more Vice Chancellors – one for Enrollment Management and one for Human Resources. We did just lose someone from Sector 4, which is the Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance. We currently have five vacancies.
- K. Hudson asked if AP Staff Council has social media. T. Bryson stated no. It was suggested to look at other ways to communicate such as LinkedIn and social media.
- J. Rawls reminded everyone that the first Saluki football game is tomorrow in Florida, and it'll be on ESPN+.

IX. Adjournment

Motion: C. Hale

Second: E. Weller