

February 26th, 2026, Meeting Agenda

1:15pm in Stevenson 401 and on Zoom <https://illinoisstate.zoom.us/j/95977849190>

Members Present: Katy Strzepek, Shannon Darling, Amke De Boes, Mark Angleton, Nikki Brauer, Derek O’Connell, Mandy Webster, Marci Rockey, Daniel Freburg, Laurie Helms, Mike Regilio, and Paisley Hartman

Representatives: Cindy Lotz

Members Excused: Stuart Palmer and Melissa Ramirez-Osorio

Guests Present: n/a

Speakers: n/a

1. Call to Order:

- 1.1 Motion: Mandy
- 1.2 Second: Make

2. Approval of Agenda

- 2.1 Motion: Derek
- 2.2 Second: Paisley

3. Approval of Minutes 1/22/2026

- 3.1 Motion: Derek
- 3.2 Second: Mandy

4. Old business (2023-2025 List)

- 4.1 Staff compensation/salary (salary compression, equity, and counteroffers)
- 4.2 Review of Master Plan
- 4.3 [Pedestrian safety](#)
- 4.4 Town/Gown assessment
 - 4.4.1 Going to start meeting March
- 4.5 Faculty/staff release time policy for civic engagement
- 4.6 Connected issues relating to visibility, communication, programming
- 4.7 Develop systemic process for programming events
- 4.8 Advanced planning and sharing of ideas across divisions for flexible work in summer months
- 4.9 Staff Survey results

5. New business

- 5.1 Enhance visibility of council and benefits of participating in terms of having a voice in University governance. **Rebranding things as “Staff Council”
- 5.2 Staff survey results
- 5.3 Staff compensation/salary (salary compression, equity, and counteroffers)
- 5.4 Faculty/staff release time policy for civic engagement
- 5.5 Developing programs to highlight benefits

5.5.1 HR is working on writing articles to share with faculty/ staff

5.5.2 Kelly in HR can share list of questions to ask Optum before they come in May. Send these questions to Katy! Ask your coworkers/office if they have questions

5.6 AP/CS Council Merger

5.6.1 Still time to nominate others or self, until March 1st

5.6.2 Update to the bylaws is approved (number of liaisons for Academic Senate)

5.6.3 Derek will still be involved with Council Merger working group, but not as active as before

5.6.4 Vote to nominate Melissa Ramirez-Osorio as the second Liaison role

Motion: Derek

Second: Amke

5.7 Info CIPD events

6. Chair Remarks – Katy Strzepek

6.1 Appreciates everyone who has been working so hard on the staff merger and the staff awards

6.2 Could not meet with President Tarhule this month. Please let Katy know what questions you have for the president.

6.3 Within the new budget, there is an update with grad students and department/unit budgets covering the tuition waivers for hired grads, outside of allocation. Operates like a “cap” on how many grads a unit can have. Requesting more information because communication is lacking about this update/change

6.3.1 Request for someone from the Graduate School to share more information, instruction, and timeline

7. Treasurer’s Report – Amke De Boes

7.1 Current Balance: \$1,473.65

7.2 AP Council will pay for our three remaining events in February, March, and April/May, which will likely take up most of the remaining funds for the 2026 fiscal year.

8. Human Resources Report – Cindy Lotz

8.1 News and Notes is the name of the written articles, keeping folks in the loop about benefits

8.2 Decisions for AVP roles coming out soon

8.3 HR website has page for learning and development resources

9. Representative Reports

9.1 Awards – Melissa Ramirez-Osorio

9.1.1 Do we let folks who were nominated for an award know that they were nominated?

9.2 Academic Senate – Amke De Boes

9.2.1 Policy 1.17 Code of Ethics and 1.17A Professional Relations revision into a revised 1.17 – briefly revisit to discuss one more proposed editorial change from Exec; see spot revisions summary

9.2.2 Policy 3.2.9 Leave Without Pay: briefly revisit a couple of minor changes proposed by Exec; see spot revision summary

9.2.3 Minutes: [University Policy Committee](#) and [Academic Senate](#)

9.3 Campus Communications Committee – Daniel Freburg

9.3.1 Board of Trustees meeting was 2/20

9.3.2 Lots of information about undergrad student research grants; posters from the research symposium were displayed

- 9.3.3 Letter draft; excited about the groundbreaking of the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts space
- 9.3.4 Student reps addressed the very cold day we had in December that was not cancelled and wanted to know more about why class was not cancelled
- 9.3.5 School Street Pantry tour

9.4 Foundation – Laurie Helms

- 9.4.1 1/28 met with the Ewing Advisory committee; trying to figure out who makes update to the theatre. Is it the Foundation or Wonsook Kim CFA responsibility to fund?
- 9.4.2 About to attend Board of Directors meeting

9.5 ISU Annuitants Association – Nikki Brauer

- 9.5.1 Has not met
- 9.5.2 Reminder June 3rd is the ISU Annuitants Meeting
- 9.5.3 Nikki is retiring in June!! Party 6/24 from 2-4 in Stadium Club

9.6 Parking Advisory – Mike Regilio

- 9.6.1 No big updates, just more of the same reminders:
 - 9.6.2 Please be aware of the following campus construction and lot closures:**
- 9.6.3 Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts Construction: Beginning Monday, October 27, the following parking areas will be closed to accommodate construction: F26 & F36 (Beaufort Street), the south row of F35 (South University faculty/staff and motorcycle), and the south side of M35 (South University visitor pay lot). Portions of F35 and M35 will remain open. Please use caution in the area and follow posted signage. Closures will remain in effect for the duration of the renovation project.
- 9.6.3 Bone Student Center Pay Lot: Part of the lot is still under construction. Please be caution of construction areas.
- 9.6. 5 **Parking Permits:** Still need a permit? You can purchase one through the Parking Portal before parking on campus. Visit our [website](#) to get started.
- 9.6.6 **Parking Meters:** All parking meters on campus must be paid at all times. If you experience technical difficulties at a meter, please try an alternative payment method. For further assistance, contact the Parking Office.
- 9.6.7 **Stay Connected:** Follow us on social media for the latest parking news and updates! Find

10. Committee Reports

10.1 Merger Working Group – Derek O’Connell

- 10.1.1 See above in New Business

10.2 Elections – Marci Rockey

- 10.2.1 Encourage folks to submit names
- 10.2.2 We need 7 AP’s for Staff Council

10.3 Programming – Amke De Boes & Paisley Hartman

- 10.3.1 Event tomorrow, 2/27: Heart Health Event
- 10.3.2 Women in Higher Education- Panel event in STV 401 on 3/31
- 10.3.3 Discussing end of the year celebration event

10.4 Communication – Mandy Webster

- 10.4.1 February newsletter went out Monday, 2/23

10.4.1 March newsletter will go out last Monday in March 3/30

10.5 **Scholarship** – Derek O’Connell

10.5.1 Group of reviewers have been assembled

10.5.2 Form is ready to go live; it will launch in first week of April

10.5.3 Going to be more info in the March newsletter

10.6 **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiatives** – Katy Strzepek

10.6.1 President Tarhule said that information should be posted higher on the website, so it is more accessible to read/ find

10.6.2 Encourage to look at U of I facts/info page

11. University Updates

11.1 4.15% tuition increase for incoming class

11.2 Tonight the Graduate School has the Three Minute Thesis Presentations at 6pm in the Normal Theatre

11.3 Trends on website metrics: our homepage visits dropped 33% in one year. It might be due to Google AI answering questions on the search page. Also, 4/24 is the deadline for online ADA changes.

12. Adjournment

12.1 Motion: Mike

12.2. Second: Mark

Next Meeting: Joint meeting with CS Council Tuesday, March 10th, 12-1pm – Zoom Only

Next AP Council Meeting is Thursday, March 26th at 1:15pm in STV 401 and Zoom