



## April 24, 2025 Meeting Minutes 1:15pm, Zoom and Stevenson 140

**Members Present:** Amke De Boes, Jeff Helms, Amy Secretan, Kate Weiser, Derek O'Connell, Shannon Darling, Katy Strzepek

**Members Excused:** Daniel Freburg, Paisley Hartman, Marci Rockey, Heidi Verticchio, Cindy Lotz

**Members Joining via Zoom:** Mike Regilio, Nikki Brauer, Melissa Ramirez-Osorio, Mandy Webster

**Guests Present:**

**Speakers:**

- **Approval of Agenda**
  - Motion: Shannon
  - Second: Amke
- **Approval of Minutes 4/10/2025**
  - Motion: Derek
  - Second: Melissa
- **New business**
  - Elections – Mark Angleton, Laurie Helms, Katy Strzepek will be joining AP Council in 2025-2026.
  - RISE Updates – Final RISE group meeting 4/23/25 and 2 town halls this week. Steering committee picked out themes and ideas from suggestions offered, created an executive summary for the overall RISE group to approve. Information will be shared broadly, but details TBD. Reviewed future state framework, which was shared at Town Halls as well. Question – do we want whoever is in the chair role next year to be on the taskforce, or Amy to continue as our representative (Amy is willing). Amy will confirm with them to be able to continue.
  - Scholarships – two different funds – restricted and donor fund. Restricted rules (primarily used) - Has to be the child of current or retired AP employee and the person has to have legal guardianship. Editorial change suggestion – moving from “son or daughter” to “child”. Derek will ask about extending the parameters to include niece, nephew, grandchild. Any changes or parameters will also be applied to Donor Fund.
  - Administrative Professional Council endorses the following resolution passed by Academic Senate on April 23, 2025.

**• RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FREEDOM OF THOUGHT AND INQUIRY  
AND RENEWAL OF ILLINOIS STATE UNIVERSITY'S COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY**

- WHEREAS, we, the members of Illinois State University's Academic Senate, recognize the law of the land and the authority of the judicial, legislative and executive branches of the federal government. We also recognize the importance of key principles of higher education—shared governance and democratic values, integrity of scientific research, freedom of thought and inquiry, the production and

dissemination of knowledge, and support for students and employees from diverse backgrounds,

- BE IT RESOLVED, that we affirm our university's core values of Excellence in Teaching, Learning, and Scholarship; Individualized Attention; Equity, Diversity, Access and Belonging; Collaboration; Community and Civic Engagement; Respect; and Integrity.
- BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we endorse the Faculty Advisory Council of the Illinois Board of Higher Education resolution, which states:
- Recognizing that historical and contemporary discrimination still impacts higher education, we the members of the IBHE-FAC recommend that the IBHE continue to support and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in the recruitment, retention, and promotion of faculty and staff; and in the recruitment, retention, and education of students.
- BE IT RESOLVED, that we stand with our local institution, Illinois Wesleyan University, as they face criticism and attack from the federal government, and we support President Tarhule's efforts to navigate new federal directives while upholding our commitment to our stated values.
- BE IT RESOLVED, that we value the perspectives and contributions of all students and employees, regardless of immigration or visa status, who may be adversely affected by haphazard implementation of immigration policies and offer support and protection to them to the fullest extent of the law.
- BE IT RESOLVED, that we, members of the Academic Senate of Illinois State University, affirm our mission to prepare diverse, engaged, and informed members of society through collaborative teaching, scholarship, and service; further, to support this mission, we will continue to uphold our commitment to democracy and our capacity to challenge policies that threaten our democratic future.

- **Old business (2023-2024 List)**

- **Brainstorming Topics List (On-going)**

- Staff compensation/salary (salary compression, equity, and counteroffers)
- Review of Master Plan
- Pedestrian safety
  - <https://news.illinoisstate.edu/2025/04/illinois-state-and-town-of-normal-launch-pedestrian-roadway-campus-safety-initiative-ask-for-feedback/>
- Town/Gown assessment
- Faculty/staff release time policy for civic engagement
- Connected issues relating to visibility, communication, programming
- Develop systemic process for programming events
- Advanced planning and sharing of ideas across divisions for flexible work in summer months
- Staff Survey results
- AP/CS Council Merger

- **Chair Remarks** – Amy Secretan
  - Meeting with President moved.
  - The Chair extends her thanks and recognition to staff for the work we’re doing with students during this tumultuous time.
- **Treasurer’s Report** – Heidi Verticchio
  - Our balance is \$1200.18.
- **Human Resources Report** – Cindy Lotz
  - Details regarding benefits choice are slated to go out to campus tomorrow. The FY26 Benefits Choice Handbook is now available on the HR benefits website. May 1<sup>st</sup> is when benefit choice starts. May 12<sup>th</sup> is Benefits Fair.
- **Representative Reports**
  - **Awards** – Melissa Ramirez-Osorio
    - No Report
  - **Academic Senate** – Jeff Helms
    - May 7<sup>th</sup> is next senate meeting – starts 2025-2026 AY meetings – Stuart's first meeting.
    - See Jeff’s Notes
  - **Campus Communications Committee** – Amy Secretan
    - Next meeting is Monday. Brainstorming what to put in letter for BoT meeting.
  - **Foundation** – Heidi Verticchio
    - No Report
  - **ISU Annuitants Association** – Nikki Brauer
    - No Report
- **Committee Reports**
  - **Merger Working Group** – Amy Secretan & Derek O’Connell
    - Derek will work on the first draft of the new staff council's new constitution and bylaws.
  - **Elections** – Marci Rockey
    - See new business item
  - **Programming** – Katy Strzepek & Amke De Boes
    - Scoops of Appreciation: A/P and Civil Service Council Ice Cream Social, May 28, 2:30-4:30 p.m. Circus Room, Bone Student Center, Please RVSP by May 21.
  - **Communication** – Mandy Webster
    - No Report
  - **Scholarship** – Derek O’Connell
    - See new business item
  - **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiatives** – Amy Secretan
  - **Parking Advisor** – Mike Regilio
    - **Third-Level Appeal Review**
      - Based on a previous citation appeal for oversized parking that was upheld, parking guidelines for oversized vehicles and trailers have been updated online and in printed materials.

**(Supports ISU Core Value: *Integrity* — Upholding established policies consistently.)**

- **Summer Parking Maintenance Projects**

- **Bone Student Center Paylot:** Repaving, new lighting, and equipment. Closure begins May 12, with reopening targeted for August 1.
- **Visitor Parking Impact:** Alternative parking will be provided in the North University Garage at \$5/day. UHigh graduation parking will be accommodated nearby.
- **Garage Repairs:** School Street and South University garages will undergo top floor maintenance. Stairwell replacements in School Street Garage to complete before residence move-in.
- **Other Maintenance:** Repaving and sealing across lots F26, G67, F71, G81, and U91.  
**(Supports *Excellence in Learning Environments* and *Individualized Attention* — Improving accessibility and campus infrastructure.)**

- **Parking Technology Updates**

- New meters installed with improved functionality. Issues at Lot M47 have been resolved.
- Transition to new backend permit purchasing software to enhance customer service experience.

**(Supports *Innovation in Service* and *Collaboration* — Responsive upgrades to improve user experience.)**

- **Communication and Stakeholder Engagement**

- University-wide emails and listserv updates planned for Bone lot renovations.
- Feedback from Civil Service Council: EMDH staff face parking issues during events. Staff with permits are encouraged to seek assistance from parking attendants, with G82 available during major events.

**(Supports *Respect and Equity, Access, and Belonging* — Helping employees manage work responsibilities amid campus events.)**

- **Permit Pricing Discussion**

- Fee adjustments under review due to rising construction costs; no decisions have been made yet.
- Acknowledgment of campus-wide budget concerns and commitment to maintaining value through facility improvements.

**(Reflects *Integrity* and *Community Engagement* — Transparent financial planning aligned with broader university priorities.)**

- **Committee Membership and Leadership Transition**

- Membership terms reaffirmed; new chair to be elected in the fall. Members encouraged to consider leadership roles.

**(Supports *Collaboration* and *Shared Governance* — Encouraging participation and leadership development.)**

- **University Updates**

- May 13, 11-3pm, CAUSA will host a session called Supporting Students of Immigrant Families at ISU. Praire Room. Registration required. Invite will come out from CIPD.
- Effective June 15, Jeff will no longer be AP.

- **Adjournment**

- Motion: Katy
- Second: Shannon