



May 8, 2025 Meeting Agenda 1:15pm, Zoom and DeGarmo 551

Members Present: Amke De Boes, Stuart Palmer, Amy Secretan, Kate Weiser, Derek O'Connell, Shannon Darling, Daniel Freburg, Marci Rockey, Heidi Verticchio, Mike Regilio, Katy Strzepek

Members Excused: Paisley Hartman

Members Joining via Zoom: Cindy Lotz, Mandy Webster, Nikki Brauer, Melissa Ramirez-Osorio

Guests Present:

Speakers: Dr. Roopa Rawjee will be attending our meeting for about half an hour to discuss issues facing our international students.

- **Approval of Agenda**
 - Motion: Shannon
 - Second: Derek
- **Approval of Minutes 4/22/2025**
 - Motion: Mike
 - Second: Derek
- **New business**
 - Dr. Roopa Rawjee
 - CCC Representation – original plan when Geno left was to leave the position open until the end of this year. 2 year term. Position needs to be elected according to constitution bylaws. Amy motioned to nominate Daniel, Derek seconded. Daniel Freburg is our new CCC rep for 2025-2026 academic year.
 - Shannon is interested in stepping up as secretary with Kate's departure.
- **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

- Amy met with President Tarhule yesterday. Discussed the general mood on campus amongst staff and students. He is very aware of the stress. He is aware of the emotional labor faculty and staff are putting in this semester. Acknowledged the tension around faculty union getting a raise and staff not getting a raise. He is welcoming ideas for other benefits for staff that could offset a raise for now – ideas include matching parental leave to union. Free or reduced cost access to the rec – perhaps in off-times. Reduced parking rates or tied to percentage of salary. Broadening wellness policy to include off campus opportunities. President's goal is to not go 2 years without staff raises.
- **Treasurer's Report** – Heidi Verticchio
 - Our balance is \$1200.18
- **Human Resources Report** – Cindy Lotz
 - Benefits Choice is now. Health Alliance folks need to change plans or will be defaulted to a specific plan. Monday is benefits fair. First meeting for MCN Dean search is scheduled for 5/15.
- **Representative Reports**
 - **Awards** – Melissa Ramirez-Osorio
 - No update
 - **Academic Senate** – Stuart Palmer
 - Introduction
 - See Stuart's notes from 5/7/25 meeting. Welcoming of new members.
 - **Campus Communications Committee** – Amy Secretan
 - See new business item. BOT meeting tomorrow.
 - **Foundation** – Heidi Verticchio
 - No report
 - **ISU Annuitants Association** – Nikki Brauer
 - June 13 and 14 – Regional meeting held here in Normal.
 - Meeting Wednesday, May 14, next meeting
- **Committee Reports**
 - **Merger Working Group** – Amy Secretan & Derek O'Connell & Mike Regilio
 - Discussed having constitution and bylaws for new council versus just having constitution. Revisited idea of consultant. CS Council gave idea to hire a consultant for a short period of time and mostly just to run ideas by as working group continues – there are some names. Looking at 1-2 hours of work. Spent \$800 for new staff council merch – logo, tablecloth, etc. Draft goal for constitution and bylaws is July 1st.
 - **Elections** – Marci Rockey
 - No report
 - **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
 - Derek reached out about the process for changing eligibility language. He has yet to hear back. He suspects it could take a while before we get a response.
- **Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Initiatives** – Amy Secretan
 - American Council on Education webinar “More research cuts and a research lawsuit” next week.
- **Parking Advisor** – Mike Regilio
 - No report
- **University Updates**
 - May 13, 11-3pm, CAUSA will host a session called Supporting Students of Immigrant Families at ISU. Praire Room. Registration required. RSVP ended, but email Melissa if you still want to go.
- **Adjournment**
 - Motion: Amke
 - Second: Daniel

Next Meeting: May 22, 2025 / Zoom or Stevenson 140