

ISU Civil Service Council Minutes

January 28, 2025

Link for meeting via [Zoom](#)

Members present (quorum is 5):

Monica Elkin
Judi Khalilallah
Lawrence Lair
Justin Lawson
Beth Porter
Sarah Ryburn
Matt Wing

Members absent:

Jessica Barringer
Tashauna Divers

Ex officio Members and guests present:

Colette Homan
Christa Lawhun

I. Call to Order: 12:02 p.m.

- a. Motion: Lawrence Lair Second: Matt Wing Vote: All approve

Approval of Minutes: [unapproved 2025.01.14_Civil Service Council Minutes.docx](#)

- a. Motion: Lawrence Lair Second: Matt Wing Vote: All approve

II. Officer Reports:

- a. Chair (Justin L.) –
- i. RISE - The next RISE meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 28
- b. Vice-Chair (Lawrence L.) – [Employee Dining Day at Watterson](#) Friday, February 28 at Watterson Dining Commons Private Dining Room 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. (University Calendar, UMC posting in link) Justin will create a flyer for posting at buildings. Justin will also get a merger slide show for the dining date.
- i. Volunteers to attend and represent CSC – at Dining Day?
 - 1. (11AM-1PM whole event): Justin
 - 2. (11AM-noon): Lawrence
 - 3. (Noon-1PM):
- c. Secretary (open position) -
- d. Treasurer (Beth P.) – No report

III. Reports

- a. **Ad Hoc Committees**
- i. **CS Awards** (Matt W.) – Media Relations will post a release to the website announcing the CS and A/P winners the first week of February. The awards will be posted prior to the luncheon. The council may want to consider reposting this to allow colleagues to come out and support.

- ii. **Scholarships** (Beth P., Judi K., Justin L., and recently appointed ex officio committee members Alek McMath, Tamekia Bailey, and Michelle Schuline) – We begin meeting Feb. 4. to decide on scholarships.
 - iii. **Elections** (Evelyn W., Sarah R., Christa L.) – No Report
 - iv. **CS Scholarship Fundraising Committee** (Tashaunna D., Justin L.) – no report
 - v. **Winter CSC Service Project** (Matt W., Monica E.) – No rep MW
 - vi. **Spring CSC Service Project** (Tashaunna D., Beth P., Justin L.) –
 - 1. Beth proposed the Civil Service Council help promote the Center for Civic Engagement’s ***Bring It Back To Normal*** day of service on April 4. All university staff are invited to participate in this service day, and we would help get the word out to staff.
 - 2. All agreed. Beth will get information to Lawrence and the marketing team to get this opportunity in the OpenLine and social media. send information to Lawrence and the marketing team to promote this opportunity on
- b. **Civil Service Committee Representatives**
- i. **Academic Senate** (Justin L.) – Next meeting Feb 5
 - ii. **Campus Communication** (Justin L.) – Next meeting scheduled for February 3 - Please let Justin know if there is anything on your mind or things you have heard from other C/S staff members that you would like to bring to The Board in our letter.
 - iii. **AP/CS Staff Council Merger** (Beth P., Justin L., Christa L.)
 - 1. Next meeting: Zoom, February 5, 1 p.m. - 2 p.m. All are welcome to join via this Zoom link: <https://illinoisstate.zoom.us/j/85222737221> . Please let Justin or Beth know if there is a better time for you to attend future meetings.
 - iv. **Employee Advisory Committee/EAC** (Christa L.) - Report for January’s EAC meeting will be ready for our next meeting.
 - v. **ISU Annuitants Association Committee** (?) - Need volunteers
 - vi. **ISU Police Chief Advisory Council** (Judi K.) – No Report
 - vii. **Parking and Transportation Advisory Committee** – A response from Parking staff to questions posed by Justin and Tashaunna was shared with them today. No future meetings are yet scheduled.
 - viii. **University Foundation Board** (Monica Elkin) – First board meeting in the new year will be held on February 21st at 1 p.m.
 - ix. **SURSMAC** (Kelly Walker, HR) – no report
- c. **Human Resources** (Colette H.)
- 1. The Social Security Fairness Act was signed into law on January 5, 2025. This law repeals the Windfall Elimination Provision (WEP) and Government Pension Offset (GPO), both of which often reduced payable Social Security benefits those eligible for both Social Security benefits and SURS benefits. The law will apply to Social Security benefits payable after December 31, 2023. Neither Human Resources nor SURS can provide guidance on individual financial impacts based upon this law. For specific questions, please contact the [Social Security Administration](#).
 - 2. Professional development opportunities are featured on the Human Resources learning and development calendar, and registration can be completed at the following link: (<https://hr.illinoisstate.edu/programming/>). Google Chrome, Safari, or Microsoft Edge are the preferred browsers.
 - 3. Search Updates:
 - a. Dean, College of Education: Candidates on campus 1/27-2/4. Open forums scheduled for 1/27, 1/29, 1/30 and 2/3 at 3:00pm. <https://provost.illinoisstate.edu/searches/college-of-education-dean/>

- b. Dean, Milner Library: Zoom interviews 1/27 and 1/28. Anticipating on-campus interviews mid-February
- c. Associate VP Grad Studies & II: Anticipate posting within the next 2 weeks
- d. Associate Provost: Anticipate posting within the next 2 weeks
- e. Athletic Director: Recruitment ongoing. Zoom interviews anticipated in the first week of February.

d. **Standing Committees**

- i. **Discounts** (Lawrence L.) – No report.
- ii. **OpenLine** (Lawrence L., seeking volunteers) – [Openline January](#) set to go out 1/31/25
- iii. **Webmaster** (Lawrence L.) - No report.
- iv. **CSC Governing Documents Review** (Beth P., Christa L., Justin L., Tashaunna D.)
 - 1. Next Meeting Feb. 13 at 3:00 p.m.
 - 2. Beth and Justin suggest all CS Council members read through and become aware of the CS Constitution and By Laws to be prepared for the merger.
- v. **CSC Marketing** (Tashaunna D., Lawrence L. with volunteers: Susan Whitsitt. and Dillon Maher.)-
 - 1. Currently set to attend [Employee Dining Day at Watterson](#)
 - a. General marketing retractable banner job in progress
 - b. Lawrence will print out some wayfinding signage
 - 2. Will schedule another meeting soon to go over [marketing brainstorming sheet](#).
- vi. **CSC Legislative Committee** (?) -
 - 1. **Staff Appreciation 4th Annual Event** (Nov '25)– No report

IV. **Old Business**

a. **Ex-Officio Members and Volunteers**

- i. A letter has been sent out to CS staff requesting Volunteers and recruit Ex-Officio Members
 - 1. Thank you to those who worked on and distributed the letter and to Colette and the HR team for their guidance!
- ii. This has been posted on Open Line
- iii. Please ask co-workers and associates if they are interested in volunteering and serving on the CS Council.
- iv. Once the draft is approved, the executive board will contact those who ran but were not elected to see if they are interested in serving a one-year term as an Ex officio Council member.
- v. Colette recommended we contact anyone who volunteers for a committee or to be an Ex. Officio Council member and are appointed, that the council send their supervisor a letter of their appointment.
 - 1. **Holly Johnson is still interested in helping on the CS Council.** Runner up in group five.

V. **New Business**

VI. **Pulse of our Constituents & What's Happening on Campus**

- a. The Illinois State University Office of Equity and Inclusion is proud to launch a new program for the ISU community called "ISU in Conversation." These open forums will give Redbird faculty, staff, and students the opportunity to discuss themes relevant to campus and to share concerns and suggestions with peers and ISU leadership. Please spread the word with your students and colleagues.
<https://newsevents.illinoisstate.edu/news/2024/09/office-of-equity-and-inclusion-launches-new-isu-in-conversation-events-for-faculty-staff-and-students/>
- b. Read up about the HR update on the Social Security Fairness Act as this does affect Civil Service Staff. It is part of the [News and Notes](#).

VII. Adjournment: 12:26 p.m.

- a. Motion: Beth Porter Second: Monica Elkin Vote: All approved

Submitted by interim secretary Beth Porter