

2026-2027 CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL
Wednesday, August 5, 2026
Student Services Building Room 307
1:00 PM

I. Call to Order

The August meeting was called to order by President Elizabeth Cheek.

II. Roll Call of Membership

Present: Elizabeth Cheek, Odessa Colombo, Mickel Cordes, Ann Coward, Liz Franklin, Cyndy Green, Ian Hayano, Amelia Ketzle, Terry Richardson, Marianne Schoonover, Jamie Schrader, Carolyn Smith, Anthony Travelstead, Josh Tripp, and Nicole Wood.

Absent: Kristen Matthews, Diane McIntyre, and Dina Timmons.

Guests: Melissa Laake and Richard Mansfield.

III. Guest Speaker – (none)

IV. Human Resources – *Nicholas Wortman, Vice Chancellor of Human Resources* - (no report)

V. Public Comments - (none)

VI. Approval of the Minutes for July 1, 2026

Motion: T. Richardson

Second: A. Ketzle

A vote commenced: 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions; The minutes from July 1, 2026, were approved as presented.

VII. Announcements – Welcome Ian Hayano to Civil Service Council! Volunteers are needed for move-in day.

VIII. Reports

A. Council President

- 1. Chancellor's Meeting –** The meeting took place on July 14, 2026. Regarding the budget, the Governor's Office initially allocated \$2.6 million, but we only received \$877,000 for FY26. This money was held all year until it was noted it would be released several weeks ago. That equates to \$1.7 million. These funds have been spent to take care of payroll obligations from FY26. Contingent on the state allocation of \$2.6 to \$2.7 million, enrollment being up in the Fall, and as long as strategic hiring remains in place, non-represented staff will get a 1% pay increase effective October 1, 2026, with the potential of another 1% increase effective the same date based on the 10th day class increase in credit hour production. Staff have expressed that the person filling the Ombudsman role is a conflict of interest, and it should be a neutral party instead of an employee of Labor and Employee Relations. Training has been requested to explain the Ombudsman's role. Regarding the CBIZ study, many accountants have expressed concern and frustration regarding pay rate levels between Accountants I, II, and III, and this was brought to the attention of administration for review. The president of the Civil Service Council continues to express the importance of Human Resource attendance and participation at future Civil Service Council meetings. The last meeting attended by a representative from Human Resources was February 2026. The next meeting is August 14, 2026.
- 2. Board of Trustees' Meeting –** The next meeting is September 17, 2026, at Southern

Illinois University Edwardsville, School of Dental Medicine in Alton.

B. School of Medicine Civil Service Council – *Kristie Parkins/Andrea Mumaw* – (no report)

C. Annuitants Association – (no report)

D. Council Committees

1. **Executive/Budget – *Tony Travelstead/Terry Richardson*** – They met and set the agenda.
2. **Bylaws – *Marianne Schoonover*** – The committee met yesterday. They hope to have the bylaws finalized by next week.
3. **Civil Service Benefits – *Odessa Colombo/Amelia Ketzle*** – No report.
4. **Education Assistance – *Tony Travelstead/Diane McIntyre*** – The committee met last Friday. The profits from the fundraisers last spring included the flower sale (\$955.50), Silkworm sale (\$163), MODS sale (\$117), Quatro's sale (\$225), and the basketball concessions (\$399). The profit from payroll deductions was \$313. The money earned last semester was \$2,172.50. That was combined with half of our endowment interest for this year, which was a total of \$3,305. That gave us \$5,477.50 to disperse. There were 17 education assistance applicants this year, but 16 qualified. The committee recommended to the council to approve awards for the 16 qualified students in the amount of \$300. The leftover money will be put back into next semester or into the endowment.

Motion: L. Franklin

Second: T. Richardson

A vote commenced: 0 Nays, 1 Abstention; The motion was approved for the Education Assistance Award Recipients (16 students) to receive \$300 for Fall 2026.

A. Travelstead and L. Franklin are working on having a Sergio's day for a fundraiser, but details have not been finalized yet. L. Franklin contacted Margie at Plantscape Nursery & Landscape about a potential mum sale during Family Weekend. A mum order of 150 will need to be placed by next Wednesday. E. Cheek stated the Silkworm sale will be August 13-28, 2026.

5. **Elections – *Tony Travelstead*** – No report.
6. **Public Information – *Cyndy Green*** - The committee met Monday and elected Cyndy Green and Kristin Matthews as Co-Chairs.
7. **Range – *Tony Travelstead/Ann Coward*** – The committee has not met.
8. **Legislative Advisory – *Ann Coward*** – No report.

E. Constituency Committees

1. **Academic Calendar Committee – *Todd Duermyer*** – (no report)
2. **Advisory Committee to the Director of Public Safety – *Andy Hawkins*** – (no report)
3. **Technology Advisory Committee – *Ann Coward/Amelia Ketzle*** – The committee has not met.
4. **Honorary Degrees – *Odessa Colombo*** – The committee has not met.
5. **Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory – *Tony Travelstead*** – The committee has not met.
6. **Naming University Facilities – *Marianne Schoonover*** The committee will meet August 13, 2026.
7. **Parking and Traffic Appeals – *Mickel Cordes*** – The committee has not met.
8. **Recreational Sports and Services Advisory – *Richard Mansfield*** – (no report)
9. **Student Center Advisory – *Amelia Ketzle*** – The committee has not met.
10. **Traffic and Parking – *Josh Tripp*** – No report.
11. **University Joint Benefits – *Dina Timmons/Elizabeth Cheek*** – The committee has not met.
12. **Staff Excellence Committee – *Cyndy Green/Nicole Wood*** – The committee has not met.

F. Special/Other

1. **Chancellor's Planning and Budget – *Elizabeth Cheek/Marianne Schoonover***
The committee has not met.

2. Employee Advisory Committee to the Merit Board – *Elizabeth Cheek*

The committee met July 22-23, 2026, in Champaign. At that meeting, we installed Mary Serio from Northeastern Illinois University and Becky Franz from Illinois State University. We continue to discuss three different topics: open and continuous testing, registrar maintenance, and training of HR professionals. We did have a SURS update from Nicole Hemming, who is the Chief Human Resource Officer for the State University's Retirement System. We also have an EAC member, Michael Robinson, from the retirement system who is very knowledgeable in answering retirement questions. If you are within five years of retirement, it is strongly suggested that you get a meeting set up. They mentioned the 30 and out if you were hired before January 1, 2011. What used to be 33 1/3 years to get to your 80% is now 36 years to get to 80% of your salary. The next meeting will be October 14-15, 2026, followed by Council of Councils October 16, 2026, at Eastern Illinois University. The following council members are interested in attending the Council of Councils meeting: Odessa Colombo, Cyndy Green, Anthony Travelstead, and Terry Richardson.

3. Network Empowering Women Committee – *Diane McIntyre* – (no report)

4. System Staff Advisory – *Elizabeth Cheek* – Last week, David Heth completed staff leadership workshops with 72 participants and a rating of 4.9 out of 5.0. More training will be available September 22-24, 2026.

5. COLA Dean Search Committee – *Dina Timmons* – (no report)

6. Provost Search – This is supposed to happen in the Fall.

7. Human Resources Searches – Director of Payroll and Director of Employee Benefits – *Elizabeth Cheek*

Karen McGoy was named the Director of Payroll, and there is no update on the selection of the Director of Employee Benefits.

IX. Old Business

- **Future Guests** – The September guest speaker will be Gail Schiesser, Executive Director of the State Universities Civil Service System.
- **Council Compensation 2030 Working Group** – On July 10, 2026, the Public Access Coordinator received our response, and we have not received a response back.
- **Card & Flower Fund** – Currently, no one has received cards or flowers.
- **Website Photos and Bios** – A few photos and bios are needed to completed the council website. The council group photo was taken before the meeting, and it was requested to be emailed to the group.

X. New Business – (none)

XI. Non-Agenda Items – (none)

XII. Adjournment

Motion: A. Travelstead

Second: A. Ketzle