

2025-2026 CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL
Wednesday, March 4, 2026
Student Services Building Room 307
1:00 PM

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call of Membership

Present: Thomas Becker, Elizabeth Cheek, Odessa Colombo, Mickel Cordes, Ann Coward, Cyndy Green, Amelia Ketzle, Kristen Matthews, Diane McIntyre, Marianne Schoonover, Jamie Schrader, Dina Timmons, and Anthony Travelstead.

Absent: Liz Franklin, Jason Phillips, Rick Pierson, Terry Richardson, and Christopher Vick.

Guests: Melissa Laake and Tiffany Vicente.

III. Guest Speaker - (none)

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

V. Public Comments - (none)

VI. Approval of the Minutes for February 4, 2026

Motion: C. Green

Second: D. McIntyre

A vote commenced: 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions; The minutes from February 4, 2026, were approved as presented.

VII. Announcements – R. Pierson's father and J. Schrader's father-in-law passed away.

C. Green stated that if a reconsideration form was submitted and approved for an increase, the new rate was entered into HR's system on 3/3/26 and will take effect on the next paycheck. Retroactive pay will be coming at a later date.

VIII. Reports

A. Council President

- 1. Chancellor's Meeting** – The committee met February 16, 2026. The next meeting is April 10, 2026. Associate Vice Chancellor Wortman confirmed there will be another Steering Committee meeting. The 15-day appeal to SUCSS statement was not communicated in the reconsideration response emails. HR thought they had communicated responses to all who had submitted reconsideration forms. Two were missed and were responded to after the meeting. If someone wants to appeal their reconsideration response from HR, it can be submitted to maggiem@sucss.illinois.gov. The SUCSS' survey results were shared with Chancellor Lane, Chief of Staff David Shirley, and Associate Vice Chancellor Nick Wortman. They are waiting on the budget address to address the possible student tuition increase for incoming students. The last increase was in 2019. Strategic hiring helps with the pay-back which is currently \$5.3 million.
- 2. Board of Trustees' Meeting** – The next meeting is April 16, 2026, at Southern Illinois University Carbondale. All are encouraged to attend.
- 3. Chancellor's Leadership Council** – *(No meeting in February. No report.)*

B. School of Medicine Civil Service Council – *Tiffany Vicente/Kristie Parkins*

T. Vicente stated the School of Medicine hired an Executive Director for HR, Anthony Ray. We are continuing our search for a Dean for the School of Medicine.

C. Annuity Association – (no report)

D. SURS Member Advisory – Elizabeth Cheek – The committee has not met.

E. Council Committees

- 1. Executive/Budget – Tony Travelstead** – They met February 18, 2026, and set the agenda.
- 2. Bylaws – Marianne Schoonover** – The committee has not met.
- 3. Civil Service Benefits – Odessa Colombo/Amelia Ketzle** – The committee met February 11, 2026, to discuss any agenda item they want to pursue or has not been resolved.
- 4. Education Assistance – Tony Travelstead** – The committee has not met. Spring awards are being disbursed. The Foundation is moving to a new electronic system. A. Travelstead, E. Cheek, and Amber Rivers will meet to discuss Academic Works.

There were 30 applicants for the Education Assistance Award, but two dropped all their classes, so it became 28 applicants. The website has been updated with the award winners.

Fundraisers: Silkworm apparel sale is going on now. The Flea Market is April 18, 2026, with a rain date of April 19th. The Flea Market is on the same day as the Cardboard Boat Regatta, Saluki Con and women's softball. Quatro's Day is April 28, 2026. Certificates are available, too. We have been asked to do another concession stand (Monday) for the high school tournament. We need 4-5 people. Contact C. Green to volunteer. A possible Mother's Day Plant/Spring Sale was discussed. D. McIntyre will get a list of plants to sale. She and A. Travelstead will create a flyer for approval from Andy McNitt. A possible cheesecake sale was discussed. D. McIntyre contacted Jen at Schoolhouse Cheesecakes. There is a potential of generating \$300 for selling cheesecake slices/bites.

A. Travelstead stated please join the SIU Civil Service Council Education Assistance Program group on Facebook. We have been posting flyers for our events. We would like it if you could share those.

- 5. Elections – Tony Travelstead** – The committee has not met. They plan to meet on April 8th or 9th. Statements of candidacy are due today. Ballots go out March 25, 2026, and the results will be on April 9, 2026. The following people have terms that are ending: Elizabeth Cheek, Ann Coward, Kristin Matthews, Jason Phillips, Rick Pierson, Marianne Schoonover, Jaime Schrader, Christopher Vick, & Cyndy Green.
- 6. Public Information – Thomas Becker** – The committee has not met. The open forum with HR has been confirmed by Associate Vice Chancellor Nick Wortman for March 18, 2026, in Morris Library, Guyon Auditorium. A Teams link was created and all council members can be added to it. The open forum will be publicized on the listserv with the option to join via Teams.
- 7. Range – Tony Travelstead/Ann Coward** – The committee has not met. A. Travelstead stated we are still waiting for the ACSE's union contract to be posted. It's not on the website with Labor and Employee Relations. We want to look at the contract to use it with the letter we are going to submit. We plan to meet soon. D. McIntyre stated the new pay ranges are on the SUCSS website. She also stated she received the new policy, and it can be shared in Teams. E. Cheek stated she will follow up with Associate Vice Chancellor Wortman about policies being posted online.

F. Constituency Committees

- 1. Academic Calendar Committee – Todd Duermyer - (no report)**
T. Duermyer's term is up, and they are not filling the position until July. There is a meeting set for September. The committee meets 1-2 times a year.
- 2. Advisory Committee to the Director of Public Safety – Andy Hawkins – (no report)**
- 3. Technology Advisory Committee – Ann Coward**
A. Coward and A. Ketzle stated they did not attend the meeting. The committee meets regularly and posts in the TAC Teams and in SIU Today. The accessibility deadline for updating websites is in April. A training link was posted in SIU Today.

4. **Honorary Degrees – Todd Duermyer – (no report)**
5. **Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory – A. Travelstead** – The committee has not met.
A. Travelstead stated the lady who was chairing the committee left the university. Athletics assigned it to a gentleman who has now left the university. So, it's up in the air on who's going to oversee this committee. There are a lot of members who have terms that expired, so they are looking to fill those seats, too.
6. **Naming University Facilities – Marianne Schoonover** – The committee has not met.
7. **Parking and Traffic Appeals – Mickel Cordes** – The committee met on February 16th and denied all five appeals.
8. **Recreational Sports and Services Advisory – Shari Garnett – (no report)**
E. Cheek stated a report is in Teams.
9. **Student Center Advisory – Todd Duermyer – (no report)**
10. **Traffic and Parking – Stacia Werner** – The committee has not met. *(no report)*
11. **University Joint Benefits –Dina Timmons/Elizabeth Cheek** – The committee has not met.
12. **Staff Excellence Committee – Cyndy Green**
The committee met on February 20, 2026. Out of five nominees, the committee picked one AP Staff and one Civil Service member for Chancellor Lane to approve.

G. 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 next meeting is April 21-22, 2026, at ISU.
3. **Legislative Advisory – Ann Coward**
Check the Teams folder for information regarding Tier II. A. Coward stated she decided to join SUAA.
4. **Network Empowering Women Committee – Diane McIntyre**
NEW Committee was one of the sponsors for the IL Women ACES Conference that was on campus this year. D. McIntyre stated she joined ACES.
5. **System Staff Advisory – Elizabeth Cheek** – The committee has not met. We are in the process of continuing the professional development with Dave Heth.
6. **COLA Dean Search Committee – Dina Timmons** – The committee has not met.

IX. Old Business

- **Future Guests:** Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, Tim Leonard, has confirmed that he will be a guest speaker for April 2026.

X. New Business

- There were questions raised regarding job descriptions and audit preparation, the employee appreciation committee, and language for job postings, followed by a brief Council discussion.

XI. Non-Agenda Items – (none)

XII. Adjournment

Motion: A. Travelstead

Second: J. Schrader