

**2025-2026 CIVIL SERVICE COUNCIL**  
**Wednesday, May 6, 2026**  
**Student Services Building Room 307**  
**1:00 PM**

**I. Call to Order**

The May 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, Liz Franklin, Cyndy Green, Amelia Ketzle, Diane McIntyre, Terry Richardson, Marianne Schoonover, Jamie Schrader, Dina Timmons, Anthony Travelstead, and Christopher Vick.

Absent: Kristen Matthews, Jason Phillips, and Rick Pierson.

Guests: Rebecca Dycus, Andy Hawkins, Melissa Laake, Tiffany Vicente, Stacia Werner, and Nicole Wood.

**III. Guest Speaker - (none)**

**IV. Human Resources – *Nicholas Wortman, Associate Vice Chancellor of Human Resources* – (No one from Human Resources was in attendance.)**

**V. Public Comments - (none)**

**VI. Approval of the Minutes for April 1, 2026**

Motion: A. Travelstead

Second: C. Green

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

**VII. Announcements** – E. Cheek stated Faculty & Staff Appreciation Day is May 14, 2026, from 1-4:00 pm. A. Travelstead stated open enrollment started May 1, 2026. May 26, 2026 is Open Forum Program Day. CMS will give a presentation on benefit choice (insurance) at the Student Center. M. Schoonover stated Chick-fil-A will close at the end of the month. The company is changing their focus – doing away with license stores. The new 1869 Grille will open Fall 2026.

**VIII. Reports**

**A. Council President**

1. **Chancellor’s Meeting** – The meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> was moved to April 24, 2026. The attendees discussed the format and survey results of the open forum (survey results are in Teams), the possibility of developing a campus-wide longevity compensation policy to reduce compression, and time devoted to work on FOIAs. The Board of Trustees approved a tuition increase for fiscal year 2027. The next meeting is May 8, 2026.
2. **Board of Trustees’ Meeting** – The next meeting is July 9, 2026, at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine in Springfield.

**B. School of Medicine Civil Service Council – *Tiffany Vicente/Kristie Parkins* – No report.**

**C. Annuitants Association – (no report)**

**D. Council Committees**

1. **Executive/Budget – *Tony Travelstead*** – They met and set the agenda.
2. **Bylaws – *Marianne Schoonover*** – The committee has not met.
3. **Civil Service Benefits – *Odessa Colombo/Amelia Ketzle*** – The committee has not met.
4. **Education Assistance – *Tony Travelstead*** – The committee has not met. The Flea Market was canceled due to low vendor turnout. Refunds were provided. Diane McIntyre will work on the Flower Sale again next year. Today is the last day to do the sale; please turn in your money.

About \$800 in profits is expected. Quatro's Day is May 28, 2026, and today is MOD's Pizza Day. Two award recipients from the fall did not accept their awards. Students have until Friday to accept their money. Signups are ready for fall and spring. The deadlines are June 30<sup>th</sup> and November 30<sup>th</sup>. E. Cheek stated Silkworm store will be delayed for a few weeks.

5. **Elections – *Tony Travelstead*** – The committee met mid-April to review the election results and submitted them to President Cheek.

**Civil Service Council Election Results:**

**Provost/VC Sector:** Ann Coward & Carolyn Smith

**VC Administration & Finance Sector:** Cyndy Green (3-yr term) & Josh Trip (1-yr term)

**VC Student Affairs Sector:** Marianne Schoonover, Jaime Schrader, & Nicole Woods (1-yr term)

**General Sector:** Elizabeth Cheek & Kristen Matthews

Motion: A. Ketzle

Second: T. Richardson

A vote commenced: 0 Nay and 0 Abstentions. The newly elected Civil Service Council members for 2026-2027 were approved as presented.

6. **Public Information – *Thomas Becker*** – The committee has not met. Reminder: The video of the Open Forum with HR is on the website.
7. **Range – *Tony Travelstead/Ann Coward*** – The committee has not met.

**E. Constituency Committees**

1. **Academic Calendar Committee – *Todd Duermyer*** – (no report)
2. **Advisory Committee to the Director of Public Safety – *Andy Hawkins*** – Committee has not met.
3. **Technology Advisory Committee – *Ann Coward*** – The committee met; they are still doing committee housekeeping. The accessibility requirements have been delayed for a year.
4. **Honorary Degrees – *Todd Duermyer*** – (no report)
5. **Intercollegiate Athletics Advisory – *A. Travelstead*** – The committee has not met.
6. **Naming University Facilities – *Marianne Schoonover*** – The committee has not met.
7. **Parking and Traffic Appeals – *Mickel Cordes*** – The committee met yesterday, and there were five people scheduled (2 canceled, 2 were denied, and 1 appealed, which was denied.)
8. **Recreational Sports and Services Advisory – *Shari Garnett*** – A. Travelstead stated Shari's report is in Teams. Interviews for the Membership Services Coordinator position have been completed, a candidate has been selected, and the team is currently awaiting approval from Human Resources to extend an offer. Facilities updates highlight ongoing and completed projects, including repairs to Saluki Courts, completion of the sand filtration system and Aqua Zip Line installation, and continued renovations to the Alumni Lounge to improve acoustics along with the addition of glass entry doors. Several larger projects remain under review or consideration, such as the costly replacement of a hot water tank and booster pump, possible redesigns to reduce expenses, and renewed plans to replace entry turnstiles with a secured glass-door access system. Additional improvements include new carpet in the upper track weight area, restoration of court lighting, increased use of the game arcade, and exploration of installing a new outdoor court near Lentz Hall. Other updates note the replacement of the intramural field scoreboard through alumni support, ongoing drainage concerns on softball/baseball fields, equipment reconfiguration in the personal fitness and wellness studio, and adjusted summer hours with earlier facility closure times. In terms of partnerships, discussions are underway about adding a putting green with the golf program, and intramural fields will be used for the MVC softball tournament. Fall meetings will be scheduled as the semester approaches.
9. **Student Center Advisory – *Todd Duermyer*** – (no report)
10. **Traffic and Parking – *Stacia Werner*** – The spring meeting was Friday. The park mobile app is

live as of March 16, 2026. The Foundation gets their own parking at the Tedrick Welcome Center. They will still pay for decals. The Saluki Village is on hold, solar canopies will be done in the summer near the Communication's building, Lot 13B has been renamed to 3B, Lot 10 has been returned to a blue lot, they're waiting on an estimate regarding Lincoln Drive repairs, more patrol is happening near Rainbow's End for speeding vehicles, and Lot 24 is a yellow lot that is changing to half red decal and half pay spots. There are new policies for EV cars and there is a proposal for increasing the decals by 5%.

**11. University Joint Benefits –Dina Timmons/Elizabeth Cheek** – The committee has not met.

**12. Staff Excellence Committee – Cyndy Green** – Eight people will receive their awards at the Guyon Auditorium on April 14, 2026. Cay Gerlock (Civil Service) and Michael "Mickey" Soltys (AP Staff) received awards.

#### **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 at ISU on April 21 & 22. They discussed extra help, salary compensation, and survey results from all universities across the state. The next meeting is July 22-23, 2026, at Urbana.

**3. Legislative Advisory – Ann Coward** – No report.

**4. Network Empowering Women Committee – Diane McIntyre** – No report.

**5. System Staff Advisory – Elizabeth Cheek** – The committee has not met.

**6. COLA Dean Search Committee – Dina Timmons** – The committee has not met; the search is on pause.

**7. Interim Provost Search Committee – Thomas Becker**

T. Richardson stated they met 15 days ago after the original search committee resigned. The same interims, Dean Morris and Dean Morgan, were selected as of yesterday. He stated we were not very involved. The feedback from the interviews was on a Microsoft form, the committee didn't select one person, and there was no recommendation made from the committee. The committee was provided the results of the forms.

#### **IX. Old Business**

- **People Finder Update** – E. Cheek has communicated with Wil Clark on Microsoft 365 replacing People Finder. The decision to sunset People Finder was driven by a combination of technical, security, and sustainability considerations.
- **Future Guests – June – Wil Clark, Chief Information Officer**
- **Recognition of Outgoing Council Members: Rick Pierson, Chris Vick, & Jason Phillips**

#### **X. New Business**

- **Council Compensation 2030 Working Group** – A. Coward is the Chair of the working group. The group met yesterday and expect to hear back next week regarding the FOIAs. They will discuss the best way to handle answers or lack thereof and come up with more questions based on answers.
- **T. Becker** stated there was a meeting with the Black Staff and Faculty Council. They discussed the original search committee for the interim Provost position and the committee's resignation letter. Multiple constituencies brought to the Chancellor of having a group meeting; he hasn't agreed to this joint meeting. D. McIntyre suggested using the housing dining hall for a meeting location.

#### **XI. Non-Agenda Items**

- **T. Richardson** stated the Association of Civil Service employees ratified their contract before winter break, and we still don't have our new pay yet. We were just told it'll be on the May 15<sup>th</sup> paycheck. HR is going to send letters to employees regarding their job titles and new pay rates.

- **A. Travelstead** stated ESL is not going to go into effect for range employees (based on the HR Open Forum). E. Cheek stated the policy has to change first for non-represented, but to her understanding it is being worked on. A. Travelstead stated the Civil Service Council budget was \$2,064, and now it is \$600 (since October 2025). The Executive Committee will follow up on this.

**XII. Adjournment**

Motion: T. Richarson

Second: A. Ketzle

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**Student Services Building Room 307**  
**2:30 PM**

**I. Call to Order**

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**II. Roll Call of Membership**

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

Absent: Kristen Matthews and Dina Timmons.

Guests: Rebecca Dycus and Melissa Laake.

**III. Welcome and Introductions** – The Council did brief introductions.

**IV. Orientation**

**A. Council Membership / Meeting Schedule** – Each member received a folder of Council information.

**B. Officers**

**1. Appoint Officer Nomination Committee – Tony Travelstead**

The following council members volunteered to serve on the Officer Nomination Committee: Cyndy Green, Diane McIntyre, Amelia Ketzle, Nicole Wood, and Ann Coward. The Vice President and Secretary positions are up for election.

**2. Officer Candidacy Statement Form – Tony Travelstead** - Forms are due June 3, 2026.

**C. Committees**

**1. Council Committee Preference Sheet – Thomas Becker** - Fill out forms and give to T. Becker by May 19, 2026.

**V. Other Business**

**A. Card and Flower Fund Guidelines – Mickel Cordes** - A \$10 donation to support this fund can be donated by members at the next meeting.

**B. Civil Service Council Bylaws – Marianne Schoonover** – New members must read the bylaws. M. Schoonover will call a meeting.

**VI. Non-Agenda Items**

**A. Biographies and Headshot Photos for Website – Elizabeth Cheek** – Send your information and photo to Melissa Laake.

**VII. Adjournment**

Motion: T. Richardson

Second: M. Schoonover