

**UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE REGULAR MEETING**  
**East St. Louis Center, Building B, Room 2074**  
**Zoom Meeting ID 945 0315 5890**  
**March 6, 2025 – 9:00 am**  
**Approved Minutes**

The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate was called to order at 9:06 am on Thursday, March 6, 2025, by Past President Kelly Jo Hendricks.

**Present:** Kelly Jo Hendricks (Past President), Steven Green (President-Elect), Cindy Cobetto (Treasurer), Angie White (Secretary), Ben Kaminski (CSNP Constituency Rep), Evan Lewis (ASR Constituency Rep), Christy McDougal (CSOR Constituency Rep), Julie Babington, Linda Eilerman, Maria Ferrari, Cheryl Jordan, Shane Kessinger, Sarah Kirkpatrick, Amy Miller, Tiana Montgomery, Angela Pritchett, Dusty Rhodes, Brittany Smith, Michael Tadlock-Jackson (ex officio), Jessica Take

**Absent:** Doug James (President), Mike Hamil, Tim Staples

**Guests:** Denise Cobb, Mark Dochterman, Olaoluwa Animashaun, Keith Becherer, Maureen Bell-Werner, Angie Beyer, Brandi Blackburn, Amy Bodenstab, Cheryl Borowiak, Denise Brown, Tracy Castelli, Karyn Chambers, Terry Clark, Kade Cole, Jonathan Coons, Tayanna Crowder, Kristen Durnan, Katie Eilers, Rachel Garrett, Tracy Gerber, Edith Gray, DaWanda Gresham, Joe Hamilton, Jenna Heng, Brian Hinterscher, Alarice Houston, Dawn Huckelberry, Justin Huff, Autumn Ismail, Lydia Jackson, Stacie Jordan, Scott Kane, Andrea Keller, Brenda Klostermann, Howard Knapp, Jessa Knust, Julie LaTempt-Brazier, Sarah Laux, Steven Lawton, Lindsey Loyd, Laura Mangi, Patricia Merritt, Amy Miller, Laura Million, Kim Monke, Misty Newman, Robert Newman, Michelle Nickerson, Lynn Noe, Jeanette Parmenter, Caleb Pecue, Maile Reinhardt, Telisha Reinhardt, Melissa Ringering, Thomas Rosner, Amanda Russell, Tiffany Shemwell, Teresa Shipton, Kristie Signorello, Jill Smucker, Andre Steiner, Brandon Stookey, Stephanie Stookey, Deb Talbot, Mallorie Vahling, Kyle Warnecke, Tom Willhoit, Pamela Williams, Connie Wyvell

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Meeting minutes from February 6, 2025 were approved as written.

**GUEST SPEAKERS:**

Provost Denise Cobb provided a presentation to Staff Senate regarding Program Prioritization. The presentation established the process in which the Program Prioritization will be considered and gave historical points in which this was nearly done a decade ago. In 2015-16, Interim Chancellor Steve Hansen formed an ad-hoc University Congress to address critical questions including how SIUE should prioritize its academic programs. SIUE's goals at the time were to identify opportunities for investment, strengthen and enhance our academic infrastructure, and meet demand and innovate within the curriculum to grow enrollment. Provost Cobb spoke about the headcount enrollment and full-time instructional faculty between 2013-2024 as a point in why Program Prioritization should be taken now.

Dr. Mark Dochterman, Deputy Director for the East St. Louis Center, welcomed Staff Senate to the East St. Louis Center. Dr. Dochterman went over the campus entities, which include the Charter High School, Health Clinics (SIUE WeCare Clinic, SIU School of Dental Medicine Patient Care Clinic, and UMSL Eye Care Center), the SIUE Small Business Development Center, the SWIC Workforce Equity Initiative, the SWIC Adult Learning—GED, the ICCB Campus Director's Office, Campus PD, Facilities, ITS, Pure Café, and Agencies and Services such as BrightPoint (Family and Child Welfare Services), Department of

Rehabilitation Services, and SWIC Senior Companions Service. Dr. Dochterman provided highlights to the SIUE WeCare Clinic for 2024-25, which include a service award from East St. Louis District 189, two Community Resource Center Days, a grant-funded asthma program, a mobile health unit, student training, and upcoming events: Mobile Health screenings at SIUE Belleville on **March 16 from 11 am – 3 pm**; Spring Forward Health and Wellness Fair on **April 26 from 10 am – 1 pm**. Finally, Dr. Dochterman gave a snapshot of the impact of the SIUE East St. Louis Center, with supporting foster youth, enriching student experiences, fostering lifelong learning, and uplifting vets.

#### **REPORTS:**

**Past President Kelly Jo Hendricks** – Continuing to fill in during Doug’s absence. Attended UPBC in February. Provost Cobb attended, and Anne DeToye highlighted the current Wesley Peachtree recommendations; more will follow. Fielding information from the articles in the news. Hope to receive more clarification from the vague email sent to the campus by the Chancellor.

**President-Elect Steven Green** – Attended Constituency Heads meeting in Doug’s absence. Was given a heads up regarding the information that went out in the Chancellor’s email, but not many other details were shared at this time.

There were no other executive reports.

**Vice Chancellor for Finance & Administration:** Search committee is reviewing application materials next week, and March 19 they will discuss who to move to Zoom interviews. Video interviews will be conducted during the last week of March. Hoping to have a significant update at our April meeting.

**Executive Director for Marketing & Communications:** Search committee is quickly forming. Please give any recommendations for the Staff Senate representative to Kelly Jo Hendricks ASAP.

**Curator of University Events:** This Search is about to start, but not as fast as the one for Marketing & Communications. Please give any recommendations to Kelly Jo ASAP.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Upcoming Staff Senate Elections** – Steven Green reminded those in attendance that the deadline to turn in your candidacy form is on Wednesday, March 26. Complete Online Candidacy Form at [www.siu.edu/ugov/staff-senate](http://www.siu.edu/ugov/staff-senate)

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Shane Kessinger asked if anyone mentioned to the Chancellor the cost savings for hiring a mechanic rather than using a third-party vendor for all repairs, which doubles our bills and keeps fleet vehicles out of commission longer (Shane mentioned his University vehicle has been out for several days for repairs). Due to Doug being out, Kelly Jo and Steven were unsure if anyone had gotten the opportunity to speak to the Chancellor regarding this topic.

#### **COMMITTEE UPDATES:**

**Public Relations** – Understanding Social Security webinar with Jack Myers will be on **April 10, 2025, 11:30 am – 1 pm**

**Scholarship** – Needs a new chair for this committee. Kelly Jo will talk with Andrea Keller and Julie Babington.

**Fundraising** – Finally has a full committee! 😊

**Diversity Initiatives** – Great work from all on the committee! Attended the BOT meeting last month. Key insights from President Dan Mahony and Vice President Sheila Caldwell continuing to support diversity initiatives efforts, despite national cuts. We must be intentional with our efforts.

**Policy Review** – Took a bit to get Spring dates from HR. Committee will meet 3/24 at 10 am and 5/14 at 1 pm. Staff Senate reviewed the Memo for HR regarding Vacation Accrual Amounts. **The memo was approved by Staff Senate for support by acclamation.**

**Staff Wellness** – Successful Drug Take *Backs* on all three campuses last week! SUAA Q&A will be on March 13...Keith Becherer will host.

**Elections & Operations** – Website has been posted. Check The E Today.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- a. HLC Accreditation Visit – March 31 – April 1
- b. SIUE Spring Break – March 10 – 14
- c. Finals – May 5 – 9
- d. Commencement – May 9 - 10

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:**

- a. Upcoming Guest Speakers at Staff Senate
  - i. April – Miriam Roccia – Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
- b. April USS Meeting – April 3 – MS/IL, MUC
- c. May USS Meeting – May 1 – MS/IL, MUC

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Shane Kessinger asked if these meetings can be recorded, and the meetings posted sooner. (Michael will work to post minutes on the website the day they are approved; he will also post a recording of the meeting on Teams for Staff Senate members.) Shane also brought up the vote of no confidence for the Chancellor. Shane mentioned that the Chancellor recently hired a Civil Service employee over the approved pay range, and claimed that the Chancellor is attempting to get mileage reimbursements while in other states. Finally, Shane mentioned that Craig Holan, current Facilities Management Director, is retiring on March 15.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 11:13 am.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock Jackson, University Governance