

UNIVERSITY STAFF SENATE REGULAR MEETING
MUC Mississippi/Illinois Room
Teams Meeting ID 296 695 730 161 934
June 4, 2026 – 9:00 am
Approved Minutes

The regular meeting of the University Staff Senate was called to order at 9:03 am on Thursday, June 4, 2026, by President Steven Green.

Present: Steven Green (President), Sarah Kirkpatrick (President-Elect), Doug James (Past President), Jory Chadwick (Treasurer), Evan Lowis (Secretary), Christy McDougal (CSOR Constituency Rep), Maria Ferrari, TiJauna Ingram, Cheryl Jordan, Shane Kessinger, Amy Mitwally, Lisa Mosley, Josie Palitzsch, Dusty Rhodes, Thomas Rosner, Amanda Russell, Jill Smucker, Michael Tadlock-Jackson (ex officio), Jessica Take, Angie White

Absent: Rachel Garrett (ASR Constituency Rep), Benedict Kaminski (CSNP Constituency Rep), Linda Eilerman

Guests: Phyleccia Cole, Kristen Durnan, Ora Lockett, Craig Loyet, Jessica McCawley, Kim McClellan, Misty Newman, Robert Newman, Lynn Noe, Jay Sanders, Brandon Stookey, Jacqueline Straube, Jennifer Wagner, Pollyann Walters, Connie Wyvell

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

Steven Green read a land acknowledgement provided by Julie Zimmermann from the Anthropology department: Southern Illinois University Edwardsville exists in and serves a region that includes the lands of the Kiikaapoi (treaty in Edwardsville, 1819); The Illinois Confederacy, including the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Michigamea, Cahokia, and Tamaroa (treaty in Edwardsville, 1818); Dhegiha Siouan peoples; and others. We affirm their contemporary and ancestral ties to the land and their contributions to this place. In alignment with the academic mission of the institution, we are committed to building responsible relationships with indigenous communities through the development of educational pathways and opportunities for indigenous students and the advancement of research and knowledge about indigenous peoples, cultures, and histories.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Meeting minutes from May 7, 2026 were approved as written.

REPORTS:

President Steven Green – Graduation ceremonies were well-attended, leading to capacity issues and overflow seating problems. The large crowds created challenges, including people trying to enter the gym after it was full and reserved seats being occupied by others.

Past President Doug James – Volunteered at Commencement. Special shoutout to Amy Mitwally and her staff for making line up a seamless effort this time.

President-Elect Sarah Kirkpatrick – Committee assignments have been updated and will be revisited in July for potential changes or chairmanship opportunities.

Secretary Evan Lowis – Still need to send out June padfolios. Those will be sent out by the end of this week.

There were no other executive reports.

Vice Chancellor for Antiracism, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Search is paused.

Director of University Events – Is about to restart since the current Director has left the University.

Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management – Interviewing finalists; continuing to review applicants on a rolling basis, so no decisions made yet.

Dean of the School of Engineering – Search is completed; search committee recommended a top two to the Provost but hasn't heard anything back in a couple weeks.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Steven made a last call for Executive Board nominations. Hearing none, the current nominations will be ratified at the special meeting immediately following this one:

President-Elect: Evan Lewis

Secretary: Lisa Mosley

Treasurer: Jory Chadwick

NEW CANDIDATES:

There is a vacancy in the Civil Service Negotiated & Prevailing category, and we have one person interested in filling the position. Craig Loyet, Plumber in Facilities Management, gave a brief introduction which included his interest in serving on University Staff Senate. His application was unanimously approved.

COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Public Relations – No update.

Scholarship – Funding for Fall 26 and Spring 27 scholarships is being finalized. The scholarship application process will be realigned to meet University requirements, and the application campaign will begin earlier in the Fall semester.

Fundraising – We're still looking and getting to price for the fundraising events we discussed in our last meeting.

Policy Review – A new associate VC of HR, Amanda Duval Norwood, started on Monday and is acclimating to the University. She'll be scheduled for a meeting about policy review after she settles in.

Staff Development & Well-Being – No update.

Diversity Initiatives – No update.

Elections & Operations – Stay tuned for the special election immediately following this meeting.

CALL FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Going forward, rather than read announcements from the E Today, Steven will ask those in attendance if they have any announcements. Here are the ones from today's meeting.

- a. First New Student Orientation is tomorrow, 6/5/26

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Follow-up on why names haven't been added to the Builders of University Plaza.

Follow-up on data on using a third-party vendor for Transportation Services instead of hiring a mechanic.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Several members of Staff Senate thanked Steven Green for his service as President this term.

One of our electricians, Brandon Triplett, sadly passed away last week. Brandon's colleagues hosted a benefit earlier this week. Shane will share a GoFundMe link for donations to help his family during this difficult time.

Steven gave his final remarks as Staff Senate President, emphasizing the importance of a positive work environment for **both** staff and students. Steven express gratitude for the trust and support received during his tenure.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 9:43 am.

Submitted by Michael Tadlock Jackson, University Governance