

UI Staff Council Executive Committee  
Monday, July 1, 2024  
2:30 – 4:30 pm  
UCC 2520-B

## Attendance

### Present

Neda Barrett, Nima Chaudhary, Brett Cloyd, Makur Jain, James Jorris, Sam Mitchell, David Stenersen,

### Administrative Liaison

Kellie Digmann

### Unable to Attend

Molly James, Donna Wong-Gibbons

### Guests

None

## Approval of UISC Executive committee meeting minutes

### Minutes approval:

- June 6, 2025 – UISC Executive Committee Meeting – minutes were not yet received. We will check in with Donna Wong-Gibbons who took minutes at this meeting, and review at the July meeting.

## Discussion topics

### July Meeting.

The Executive Committee reviewed the meeting agenda for the July Staff Council meeting.

### Budget Payout for Staff Appreciation Grants

Stenerson reported on conversations with Abigail Schaver about Staff Council's support for Staff Appreciation Grants and Mary Jo Small Staff Fellowship Awards. Funds have been transferred to UI Organizational Effectiveness on a rolling cycle in recent years, and there was a desire to offer a lump sum amount to streamline the process. This will be \$25,000 for staff appreciation grants and \$7,500 for the Small Jo Small awards. Staff Council is a sole supporter of these awards and funds come from the University's Coca Cola contract.

### Feedback from Campus Leadership

**Councilor involvement.** The Executive Committee discussed feedback from some Staff Councilors that they needed more support to participate in Staff Council activities. Jain asked that we collect data from people that are asked by their supervisors or department to limit their participation to a monthly Staff Council meeting – there was an agreement to this approach. Campus Administration offered to help as need. Discussion also included how supervisors are notified of their employee's election to Staff Council – including a letter from President Wilson, and in some cases, perhaps, a workflow notice in HRIS. Barrett will work with the Education Committee and the Election Committee to help with future elections and communicate expectations to supervisors.

## UI Staff Council Executive Committee

Monday, July 1, 2024

2:30 – 4:30 pm

UCC 2520-B

### **Fundraising for Staff**

Molly James is following up on discussion to fundraise for staff to supplement the Coca-Cola funds that are allocated. It was suggested that Staff Council consult with the UI Center for Advancement to explore options. Some work around how Staff Council has supported staff – historical, year-end statistics, gaps and success stories can be part of this approach.

**DEI Committee Changes.** The committee's name will change to Welcoming and Respectful Workplace Committee. SC will work with other shared governance bodies on the strategy. Continue to keep scope inclusive and broad. Bylaws Committee will look at the new language and help Staff Council complete the changes. The DEI Award will also need to change its name – task for the Awards Committee.

### **Fall Staff Council Meetings**

Jain shared topics and visitors that are being scheduled for fall meetings.

### **Health Care Concerns**

Mitchell outlined several ideas to be discussed at the Health Care Committee during the upcoming year, including meetings with UIHC leadership. The goal is to engage in conversation and to help the Health Care Committee better understand the issues relating to policy, legislation, priorities, and funding challenges. The committee is also interested in better understanding the mental health needs in Iowa in terms of scope and degree of crisis. Mitchell identified units and individuals that can help the Health Care Committee engage with these issues. Some topics like Mental Health might lead to presentations to a full Staff Council meeting. The Executive Committee is supportive. Mitchell will work with the Health Committee to help shape a plan for the 2024-25 year.

### **Polo Shirt Choices**

Executive Committee approved 2 styles for new Staff Council Polo Shirts. Thanks to Kellie for selecting polo shirt options.

- Port Authority Ladies Rapid Dry Mesh Polo. Black.
- Port Authority Stain-Release Polo. Black

### **Budget Vote regarding Homecoming Coffee funds**

The Executive Committee reviewed a request from Eric Rossow in the Office of Student Life to fund \$500 toward a Homecoming Coffee event in the IMU on the Thursday of Homecoming Week. Discussions around how this aligns with funding principles and how this event builds relationships occurred. A 4-3 vote approved the request, with caveats that this be considered 1-time funding, and that Executive Committee members could participate and welcome attendees. Stenersen will write to Rossow, and a Teams vote will be set up to consider again after the caveats are discussed.

### **Constituent Concern: GLP1s not covered by Insurance.**

UI Staff Council Executive Committee

Monday, July 1, 2024

2:30 – 4:30 pm

UCC 2520-B

Jain brought up a concern she received from a constituent that this drug is only funded by insurance for people with an active diabetes diagnosis. The role of the FRIC Charter Committee and the University's health insurance plans were briefly discussed. Jain will consult with UI Human Resources to see if there are any options currently available or if this is being discussed for future coverage.

**Adjournment**

- Barrett motioned to adjourn; Jorris seconded; motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:02 pm.

**Next meeting:** August 7, 2024

2:30 pm 2520B UCC