

UI Staff Council Executive Committee

Wednesday, August 6, 2025

2:30 – 4:30 pm

Virtual – Teams

Attendance

Present

Neda Barrett, Josey Bathke, Amanda Bibb, Hilary Jensen, James Jorris, Sam Mitchell, Ashley Peters, Mel Sanders, Bridget Toomey

Administrative Liaison

Kellie Digmann

Guests

Mihaela Bojin

Approval of UISC Executive committee meeting minutes

Minutes approval:

- July 9, 2025 – UISC Executive Committee Meeting – motion by Jensen, second by Mitchell, [approved with no edits]

Discussion topics

Staff Council Agenda Review – Barrett

SCEC reviewed the agenda for August's meeting. After some discussion committee agreed to continue to allow for Discover Your University updates. Digmann to ask Justin Fraase to include a slide on the volunteering policy. Discussed possible council corner topics for August. In light of recent events in the media committee agreed that providing some structured time for councilors to ask questions and provide feedback on what they're hearing about recent events. Mitchell recommended that tips and tricks cover committee collaboration. She will partner with the Communications chairs to present on keeping in touch with your communications liaison.

Collaboration with Charter Committees – Research Council Engagement

Mihaela Bojin attended the meeting. She serves as a staff member on the Research Charter Committee. She provided an overview of what the charter committees are charged with: advising institutional leadership on a wide range of topics from teaching and research to supporting and engaging our campus community. She suggested collaborating more with staff council by introducing who SC is, submitting updates to SC on a periodic basis and identifying councilors that would work directly with Charter Committees on specific initiatives. Executive committee recommended that we could invite the Charter Committees to present at a staff council meeting, to show us what they're working on and what they are hearing.

SCEC debriefed: all members are in favor of inviting Charter Committees to the big meeting to discuss their charge and progress their making. Barrett reviewed the application process as SC's Committee on Committees is charged with soliciting and recommended the best qualify candidates to represent the Charter Committees. Digmann will compile a list of the new Charter Committees chairs and SCEC will discuss at the September meeting.

Council Corner Topics for Next Week – Barrett

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SCEC reviewed July council corner feedback in regards to best practices for gathering feedback from constituents. Discussed feedback: 'schedule time with me' in signature line, offering office hours, suggestion/comment inbox, Qualtrics survey. In discussion around why SC can't publish articles in Noon News, suggestion was made for the Healthcare Committee to review next meeting with Health Care leadership. Digmann will compile best practices suggestions on a slide for August meeting.

Barrett suggested August's topic – feedback and questions around recent events in media. To prepare for SCEC upcoming meeting with President Wilson the committee agreed that it would be prudent to gather questions and feedback that councilors have. SCEC will compile and review all feedback to share with President Wilson. Jensen suggested that a member from SCEC be the leader of each councilor corner group to ensure councilors understand that that personnel matters are confidential.

Agenda Items for Upcoming Leadership meeting – Barrett

Committee reviewed agenda for monthly meeting with President Wilson. Discussion around providing a status update on Staff Appreciation Grant Program. SCEC agreed that keeping a leadership topic on agenda is necessary. Discussed possible topics, engaging questions that are timely and relevant with recent events.

Budget Review: Coca-Cola FY26 – Peters

Peters provided an overview of the proposed budget for FY26. Reviewed previous fiscal year to help committee members understand expenses.

Coca Cola Budget Request – Peters

Barry Schreier | \$2000 | Pecha Kucha | Event Date: 11-13-25 | Workflow ID: 15608296

Peters reviewed request for funds for the Pecha Kucha Event. SC has supported this event in the past. Peters attended in 2024 and outlined that it was well attended event. Barrett suggested that we work with Outreach to ask for volunteers to table the event. Bibb agreed to take this one. Mitchell recommends we provide \$1200 (what we did in 2024) due to our budget shortfall and there being no compelling reason that they're requesting almost double. Peters will respond to workflow and work with Barry.

UI Health Care North Liberty Campus: ORG 66 – Mitchell

Bathke provider overview of needs for NL campus. Discussion around Medical Center Downtown (MCD) having separate bylaws, tax ID, leadership. Question remains do we roll the NL campus into Org 03 or give them their own org rep? Bathke has a meeting scheduled with Cheryl to discuss history, invited Barrett, Jorris, Mitchell and Digmann.

2025-26 ELA Leadership Lab Challenge – Barrett

UHR Organization Effectiveness (OE) reached out to Barrett about SC sponsoring a leadership lab with ELA. In past SCEC has sponsored this program. Volunteers: Bibb, Peters, Jorris and Sanders.

Open Discussion Items

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Discussion around highlighting staff and well-being stories. Mitchell outlined that the communications committee with focus a staff spotlight on well-being.

Constituent question to athletic ticket office regarding the Employee Discount Football game.

Sanders is looking into this and will follow up when he knows more.

Longevity Awards – Possible Inclusion F&S Awards – Jorris

Jorris discussed the option of adding the longevity awards into the institutional awards ceremony. As these types of awards do not fall under being nominated do not think appropriate to honor at this Spring ceremony. Committee discussed other ways we can highlight those 40-50 years of service at the University of Iowa. Communications committee will reach out to Tricia Brown to find the information about longevity awards.

Adjournment

- Sanders motioned to adjourn, Jorris seconded; motion carried.
- Meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Next meeting: September 3, 2025