

# Committee on Academic Staff Issues (CASI) meeting minutes for Aug. 28, 2023

*Location: Room 5215, University of Wisconsin Law School*

## Attendees:

Sumudu Atapattu  
Jennie Broecker  
Rachel Burg  
Eric Giefer  
Moji Olaniyan  
Bonnie Shucha  
Greg Wierchioch  
Jenner McLeod

Bethany Pluymers (ex officio)  
Dean Dan Tokaji (ex officio)

## Absent:

Grace Kube

## Order of business:

### Greeting and opening:

Meeting began at 10 a.m. with a greeting from the dean, who expressed gratitude for CASI's service and the important role it plays in advising him in his leadership.

Introductions were made, and the CASI Bylaws page was shared on the screen.

### Topics for discussion:

While there was no formal agenda, two topics emerged.

#### 1. **CASI Chair:**

- a. Since Amy Arneson left over the summer, one of the first actions needed was to elect a new chair.
- b. Eric Giefer was unanimously elected as temporary chair to keep CASI moving while considering the proposal below.

2. **Proposal to expand CASI to university staff:** Eric Giefer introduced a proposal to include university staff in the CASI to be more inclusive. This practice is in place at a few schools at UW (i.e., School of Engineering).

- a. This change would trigger a change to the bylaws.
  - i. It was additionally suggested that CASI could also consider amending the bylaws to include the associate dean for diversity, equity and inclusion (currently Michael States) as an ex-officio member because of the climate issues that can come forward in CASI.
- b. Bethany Pluymers, Eric Giefer and Moji Olaniyan shared history about CASI, academic staff and university staff as context
- c. The Law School has 101 academic staff and 17 university staff, so if the proposal moves forward, representation may be considered at that 5:1 ratio level.
- d. Bonnie Shucha said she will share the idea with her staff, which has high university staff representation.
- e. CASI agreed to solicit interest by university staff: University staff will be invited to a meeting (Myra Sun in the dean's office to conduct Doodle poll to schedule and use email language written by Jennie Broecker).

Next meetings and adjournment:

CASI has asked Myra Sun to schedule the next meetings in October and December.

Meeting ended at 11 a.m.