

Committee on Academic Staff Issues (CASI) meeting minutes

2:30 p.m. June 7, 2024

Teams (virtual)

Attendees:

Jennie Broecker
Adam Bushcott
Eric Giefer
Rachel Burg
Grace Kube
Andrew Norman
Bonnie Shucha
Scout Slava-Ross

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

Absent:

Sumudu Atapattu
Jenner McLeod
Greg Wiercioch

Guests:

Dustin Brown
Jennifer Hanrahan
Myra Sun

Order of business:

Meeting began at 2:34 p.m.
Next icebreaker idea introduced: favorite food cart.
Jennie Broecker agreed to take minutes.

The minutes from the last meeting of April 26, 2024, were approved.

Dean's Corner:

Dean Tokaji shared that the April conversation at CASI about committees was helpful. He plans to keep the faculty and staff awards committee active. But he does not plan to have the faculty and staff wellness committee continue in 2024-25 (this does not affect the student wellness committee). He suggested that CASI perhaps could carry forward that work, especially community building. CASI members were open to the idea and may invite current members to help carry forward the ideas and execution for wider engagement.

HR updates:

Eric Giefer led the recognition of Associate Dean Bethany Pluymers upon her retirement to thank her for her service over the past quarter-century. She encourages folks to pay attention to the Workday transition to help ensure success and make this change easy for those affected most (Justin Boehm, Kelly Hallmark, Jennifer Gardner and Eric Giefer).

Until her last day in July, Bethany is working with Rebecca Scheller to help her understand the role. She said she is excited about this succession plan because of the strengths Rebecca will bring when it comes to enrollment and presentations overall.

Academic Staff Assembly update:

Eric Giefer says the provost plans to continue working on the remote work policy approach across campus with the Dean's Council.

Also, ASA has voiced concern over the new RISE Initiative, mostly in its request for leadership to be mindful that shared governance needs to be engaged and that proper support is needed for these additional hires and grants administration.

And a task force is coming on graduate admissions tied to the consideration of a new budget model, and Rebecca will serve on that, the dean noted.

Other agenda items:

Dean's Office committee record management, Jennifer Hanrahan and Myra Sun: Myra said she and Jennifer have built a skeleton on Google Drive in the Dean's Office shared drive to start organizing committee files, with committee chairs tasked to make sure files are used and updated for handover as the next year's committee comes in. The Dean's Office will have a light touch in alerting and reminding chairs. The dean is likely to decide next year's committees in the next month or so.

Employee Wellness Committee, Dustin Brown: The committee's biggest project was community lunches to bring together groups of people at the Law School, but it was difficult to schedule over the course of the year with busy schedules and busy use of Lubar. The committee plans to organize three lunches over the course of the summer as an open invite to meet one group instead of matching up two groups with synergy. One will likely be with CASI.

Elections for 2024-25 academic year, 3 seats: Eric and Jennie will initiate next steps via email.

- Terms are up for Sumudu Atapattu, Grace Kube and Andrew Norman
- Watch for date set for an August meeting for overlap of outgoing/incoming and setting of the 2024-25 meeting calendar.

TABLED UNTIL NEXT MEETING DUE TO TIME:

Faculty salary equity review: Should CASI advocate for staff inclusion in the faculty equity review process outlined here: <https://provost.wisc.edu/academic-policies-and-guidelines/standard-salary-equity-review-policy/guidelines-for-implementing-faculty-salary-equity-review/> as staff are excluded? Andrew Norman said in April that he knows someone on campus with more information and will report back to see what if any next steps are for CASI.

Clinicians feeling less valued, Grace Kube: What does this look like, and what role can CASI serve to improve this culture and dissatisfaction?

Adjournment:

Meeting was adjourned at 3:32 p.m.