

Senate Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 23, 2025

ATTENDANCE

	Name	Div/Term		Name	Div/Term		Name	Div/Term
👍	Dan Kernler (President)	2024-2026	👍	Les McTighe	LVPA 2023-2025	AB	Ruby Sanny	CABS 2023-2025
👍	Chris Cunningham (Parliamentarian)	MSE 2024-2026	👍	Liddy Hope	CABS 2024-2026	👍	Ryan Kerr (Chief Negotiator)	CABS 2023-2025
👍	Clark Hallpike	SBCT 2024-2026	👍	Lisa Del Giudice (Comms. Liaison)	UA2 2023-2025	👍	Stacey Shah	ARIT/ABEC 2024-2026
AB	Dave Reich	SBCT 2023-2025	AB	Lisa Hodson	HP 2024-2026	AB	Susan Robinson	LVPA 2023-2025
👍	Josh Thusat	CABS 2024-2026	AB	Luis Martinez (1st VP)	MSE 2024-2026	👍	Tammy Ray (Webmaster, 3rd VP)	UA2, SBCT 2023-2025
👍	Katherine Fletcher (2nd VP)	UA2, MSE 2024-2026	👍	Michelle Kershner	MSE 2024-2026	👍	Terri Birch	UA2, LVPA 2024-2026
👍	Kimberly Tarver (Membership Chair)	HP 2024-2026	👍	Patrick Gordon	SBCT 2024-2026	AB	Tom Limberis	SBCT 2024-2026
NON-VOTING								
👍	Alison Douglas (Secretary)	2024-2025	👍	Steve "Woody" Wood (Treasurer)	2024-2025			

VISITORS

- Kyle Witek, Instructor of Weldine
- Brian Bohr, Instructor of Communication Studies
- Lauren Sullivan, Unit Adjunct II Librarian

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- There are some AMAZING student research projects this semester through the Center for Undergraduate Research, Innovation, and Creativity. Please [check out this flyer](#), and look for ways to support these wonderful students.

OFFICER REPORTS

- **SECRETARY'S REPORT: ALISON DOUGLAS**
 - Approval of minutes from April 9, 2025.

- Michelle Kershner moved to approve the minutes. Kim Tarver seconded. The minutes were approved.
- Liddy Hope abstained
- **TREASURER'S REPORT: STEVE "WOODY" WOOD**
 - See emailed report.
 - We have not yet been charged for the 6 individuals who attended the ULI training; Woody is following up
 - Stipends were mailed to officers. Those who receive more than \$600 will need to provide Woody with their home addresses at tax time.
- **PRESIDENT'S REPORT: DAN KERNLER**
 - Met with the VP and CHRO
 - Annamarie is going to propose changing the Orin G. Thompson award to 10 years between awards (her choice). She is also working on providing a summary of how decisions are made for us.
 - Regarding the process for faculty contesting accommodations; this is still in the works. There are a variety of related discussions going on simultaneously.
 - First amendment audits are happening around the country and in Illinois (Oakton CC is one place). This is where someone comes to campus and films themselves asking for what should be publicly available documents. It's all to get clicks on social media. They often push the line that paper copies need to be available. The college will be reaching out to front-line workers to provide guidance.
 - HR mentioned that they were concerned that some meetings involving Grievance and admin were happening without HR present. We clarified that this was intentionally part of the grievance process to informally resolve the grievance before making it formal and involving HR. We think they understood.
 - Attended the Center for Tax and Budget Accountability's Fiscal Symposium, "40% and Failing: Reinvesting in Illinois Higher Education".
 - The focus was an effort to pass [SB0013 EQUITABLE UNIVERSITY FUNDING](#).
 - The bill both seeks additional funding and creates a formula that distributes any new funding according to need, where institutions functioning furthest from their target get a larger share.
 - At the moment, the bill is focused on university funding only.
 - Refinancing the pension debt was also brought up, and there is still resistance to this, even though the math is clear. Refinancing the debt leads to savings of over \$40+ billion. CTBA has a funding mechanism in mind that has reasonable short-term costs, and we end up in the black after 5 years or so, with significant savings.
 - Met with Ed Martin, Internal Auditor

- We should try not to wait too long before withdrawing a student if they've stopped attending.
 - The college has 45 days from *the date of last attendance* (not the withdrawal date) to recoup and return excess federal student aid.
 - The issue is when a student stops attending and the faculty wait 6+ weeks to withdraw them. The college is then out of compliance for that student and can be hit with fines.
 - Could there be a process to REMIND faculty?
 - Recommendation to add to Ann King's email for 10th day
 - Recommendation to add an additional reminder later in the semester
 - **Senators, please share this information with your constituents!**
- Received an invitation to speak with CHRO finalists 11:15-12:15 on Thurs, 5/1, and Fri, 5/2. Is anyone else able to join? Looking for 2-3 additional ECCFA reps.
 - Please email Dan with suggestions for what to discuss.
 - Interested?
 - Thursday:
 - Katherine Fletcher
 - Stacey Shah
 - Friday:
 - Luis Martinez
 - Michelle Kershner
- **1ST VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: LUIS MARTINEZ**
 - Attended VP/CHRO meeting.
 - Attended ECCFA officer meeting.
- **2nd VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: KATHERINE FLETCHER**
 - Attended VP/CHRO meeting.
 - Attended ECCFA officer meeting.
- **3rd VICE-PRESIDENT'S REPORT: TAMMY RAY**
 - Attended VP/CHRO meeting.
 - Attended ECCFA officer meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Membership** - Kim Tarver
 - No report.
- **Grievance** - Laura Haske and Peter Han
 - See [attached report](#).

- **COPE** - Antonio Ramirez
 - No report.
 - COPE members should check their personal email for details.
- **Faculty Development** - Jessica Carpenter
 1. The last submission date for proposals to be considered by the Committee before summer recess shall be one week before the final scheduled spring meeting of the Faculty Development Committee. [The final meeting of this semester is May 8th]
 2. For UAF: Unit adjunct I and unit adjunct II funding proposals for the ending fiscal year must be submitted by June 30 to access previous fiscal year funds (July 1 - June 30). Anything submitted afterwards will fall under the next fiscal year.
 3. We do not meet over the summer. Anything that does not make the last meeting will be on the agenda for next semester.

Reminder: The funding request form is here:

<https://elginedu.jotform.com/230037068451955>. (My elgin-- spaces-- TLSD-- forms).

- **Elections Committee** - Chris Cunningham
Elections concluded on Friday 4/18.

85 people voted in this year's ECCFA elections. It is possible that we should send out more reminders in future years. The elections chair is hesitant to send too many mass emails, but perhaps only one at the start of the election was too few.

It is important to note that no UA1s voted.

The elections committee met Tuesday, 4/22 to count ballots and audit the process. We will be reaching out to all candidates this week to let them know what happened and thank them for volunteering.

We will report the final results at the May 7 meeting when the new senators are seated.

We will also elect a Negotiations Chair at that meeting.

One person who was not a member voted. Chris Cunningham contacted them and referred them to Kim Tarver who is working to enroll them as members.

If you are a senator who did not run for re-election, this is your last meeting! Thank you for your service!

- **Amendments Committee** - Chris Cunningham and Diane Flahaven
 - See [attached report](#).
 - Changes to the constitution need to be made by the membership at the next general membership meeting

- Senators can provide feedback on these amendments before the end of the Spring 2025 semester. General discussion will occur at the Fall Opening Day meeting. In the membership meeting, the proposed amendments will be voted yay or nay, but not “revised.”

ELECTIONS & COMMITTEE REQUESTS

Outstanding Committee Requests

1. **Grievance** (Chairs: Peter Han and Laura Haske)
Meetings: E/O Wednesday 4:00-5:00 pm (virtual meetings)
 - 1 UAF2
 - 1 UAF1

Elections and Appointments

None.

OLD BUSINESS

- Faculty Evaluation Handbook discussion recap.
 - [Here are the results from our internal survey of Senators.](#)
 - 12 responses
 - Dan will share the results with the administration

NEW BUSINESS

- Confirming details for reimbursing members who attend IFT training over the summer (librarians, in particular).
 - Adjunct librarians typically work 21 hours at their usual rate. The average rate on the salary schedule is about \$60, which equates to \$1,260/wk.
 - Some FT librarians work 28 hours (7 hrs/day for 4 days). The rate for FT librarians is \$66/hr. This equates to \$1,848/wk.
 - Teaching faculty loads vary. For Summer 2024, the average weekly stipend was \$1,209.
 - Per credit class for FT faculty -- \$720
- How many tend to go each year?
 - In non-negotiating years, around 3
 - More interest in negotiation years
 - It is very beneficial for all members of the negotiating team have this training
- Members interested in attending summer ULI training: (not all work during summer)

- Kim Tarver moved to transfer \$6000 to ULI budget line, creating \$12,000 for ULI expenses plus reimbursement for lost pay. Lisa Del Guidice seconded the motion.
 - Kim Tarver amended to include proportional division of funds if the remaining ULI balance is not sufficient to cover all who need to be reimbursed. Katherine Fletcher seconded. The amendment passed.
 - The motion passed
- Tammy Ray made a motion to send those listed below to the ULI training. Stacey Shah seconded the motion. The motion passed.
 - [Effective Grievance Administration](#)
 - [Michelle Kershner](#)
 - [Introduction to Negotiations and Contract Campaigns](#)
 - [Beth Hultman](#)
 - [Lauren Sullivan](#)
 - [Kim Tarver](#)
 - [Katherine Fletcher](#)
 - [Powerful Partnerships - Uniting Families and Educators to Build Strong Communities](#)
 - [Union Leadership Skills to Build a Strong Union](#)
 - [Chris Cunningham](#)
- Note: The Senate assumes that those attending will serve the union in a related capacity in the future
- End of semester party details
 - Luis will handle the details
 - Approximately \$2400 is available for the event (our budget + admin contribution)
 - Some discussion ensued regarding the date and location for the event
 - Luis Martinez will look into Carmina's
 - Katherine Fletcher will explore other options
 - Luis and Katherine to email Dan with findings. We will need to decide via email

FUTURE ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 2025-2026 ECCFA Senate meeting dates and times
 - Consider adjusting the time to accommodate senators who have 2:00 classes
 - Continue keeping C120 open for librarians to attend senate meetings.
- A concern was shared regarding the number of new staff and faculty and the lack of campus community due to a lack of opportunities for face-to-face interactions.
 - After some discussion, Liddy Hope moved to form an ad hoc committee to address this next fall. Patrick Gordon seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Michelle Kershner made a motion to adjourn. Tammy Ray seconded the motion.



The Senate meeting adjourned at 4:28 pm

ECCFA SENATE SPRING 2025 MEETING SCHEDULE: 3:15-4:45 P.M.

- 5/7/2025

ECC BOARD OF TRUSTEE MEETINGS

Faculty are encouraged to attend ECC Board of Trustee Meetings. Please sign up in [this form](#) and we'll send you an Outlook reminder.

- Finance Committee (2:00-3:30, E 100.01)
 - May 12
- Committee of the Whole (3:00-6:00, E100.01)
 - May 12
- Board of Trustees (6:30-9:00, Siegle Auditorium)
 - May 13