



The Universities of Wisconsin System Administration Academic Staff Committee

Contact: Cayla Leikin (608) 263-0221
cayla.leikin@business.wisconsin.edu

May 14, 2026
1 - 2 pm

Teams or Room 126 780 Regent St

Present: Sarah Ebben, Cayla Leikin, Jack Moldenhauer, Jenna Swartz, Ka Lia Smith

Not Present: Lindsey Smeaton, Holly Cho

AGENDA

1. Opening of meeting (Cayla)
2. Subcommittee Updates and Goals (All)
 - a. **Awards**
 - i. Have not heard back from Jason and Kelly
 - ii. HR liaison subcommittee to discuss at their next HR check-in
 - b. **Communications**
 - i. Oreo event next week- Monday at 780 Regent St. and Tuesday at Van Hise Hall
 1. Expecting large turnout from UWSS
 2. Cayla to follow up with Holly on trivia
 3. Troubleshooting to occur in room 126, so need to be sensitive about volume
 - ii. Mallards game- contract signed for July 23
 1. Mallards to set up portal for ticket sales
 2. Tickets for our group will be held until July 19
 3. Start promoting during the Oreo event- Sarah to create flyer
 4. Have sign-up for interest sheet to reach out to people once we have the link for sales
 5. Start plugging ASC elections- add a note in the email with the link to tickets
 6. Potential to co-sponsor with University Staff Committee?
 - c. **Elections**
 - i. Thinking about how to promote elections and ASC throughout the year, instead of waiting for the ask for nominations in November
 - ii. Promoting as an opportunity to connect with employees outside of your area/office
 - d. **Personnel Policies/Bylaws and Divisional Representation**
 - i. Merged with UWSA Policy Review and HR Liaison
 - e. **Resolution Drafting**

- i. No updates
 - f. UWSA Policy Review and HR Liaison**
 - i. Working on handbook updates- meeting with Aaron Dumas next week to go through the second half of his comments
 - 1. Still need to do substantial work on the Complaints and Grievances
 - ii. Discussed inclement weather alerts at last meeting- trying to find a way to promote ability to sign up
3. Updates from divisions (All)
- a. ORLR**
 - i. System consolidation coming up- in person on Monday and Tuesday
 - b. UWSS**
 - i. Had quarterly UWSS meeting this week- heard from a Board that they are comfortable with the size of the organization
 - ii. Will be implementing AI program this summer to help with expense reports- will handle simpler reports
 - c. UWSA**
 - i. OBE is hiring food and farm finance advisor
 - ii. Biennial budget work is underway- will not be approved by governor until 2027, but Board will approve in late summer
4. Statewide Rep update (Cayla)
- a. At May 1 meeting, Chris Patton and Amy Bogost stated the goal to name a new President by mid-November
 - i. Named Search and Screen Committee- Academic Staff representation from Becky Mueller of UWW
 - b. Finalized list of policy priorities to submit as part of FY2027 UW System Administrative (SYS) Policy prioritization process
 - i. Official policy priorities memo to be released on June 19
 - ii. Some recommendations require action at higher levels of policy (i.e., biennial budget, Admin. Code) before they can be addressed in SYS policy, but advocacy through this process can shape conversations and future action that might require more lead time
 - iii. Rationale for inclusion or non-inclusion of recommendations to be shared soon after
5. Brainstorming and open discussion as needed (All)
- a. Cayla met with Jeremy Johanski (chair of University Staff Committee) and discussed how to form a more collaborative relationship between committees
 - i. Potential to hold a joint meeting in March to allow both committees to discuss their work and goals
 - b. List of academic staff constituents provided by HR
 - i. Nice to see what offices people are located in
 - ii. Going to be very helpful as we get closer to the elections to ensure the distribution list that we utilize to solicit nominations and votes is accurate
 - c. Proposal to cancel June 11 meeting due to scheduling conflicts- next meeting will be July

Next meeting ~~June 11~~ July 13

<https://www.wisconsin.edu/uwsa/shared-governance/academic-staff/meetings/>

Persons wishing to appear before the Academic Staff Committee to address an issue on the agenda, or wishing to request an issue be added to the agenda, are urged to contact the Academic Staff Committee Chair (608-263-0221, cayla.leikin@business.wisconsin.edu) to do so. Advance notice is requested so that arrangements can be made to appropriately address an issue, including having background information and key contacts available.