

MINUTES

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA BOARD OF TRUSTEES

May 8, 2026

The University of Southern Indiana Board of Trustees met on Friday, May 8, 2026, in the Griffin Center on campus. Present were Chair Christina M. Ryan and Trustees Barry E. Cox; Christine H. Keck; C. Wayne Kinney '77; Glen J. Kissel; Jeffrey L. Knight; Ronald D. Romain '73; and Michael J. Solliday '27. Trustee John M. Dunn was absent. Also in attendance were President Steven J. Bridges '89 M'95; Provost Shelly B. Blunt; Vice President for Finance and Administration Jeffrey M. Sickman '94 M'00; Vice President for Marketing and Communication Kindra L. Strupp M'22; Vice President for Development Andrea R. Gentry '05; Vice President for Student Affairs Abeer A. Mustafa; Vice President and Director of Athletics Jon Mark Hall; Vice President for Government Affairs and General Counsel Zachary A. LaGrange; Faculty Senate Chair T. Kyle Mara; and Student Government Association President Leonna O. Benton '26.

Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

SECTION I – GENERAL AND ACADEMIC MATTERS

A. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE MARCH 5, 2026, MEETING

Chair Ryan called for approval of the minutes. On a motion by Mr. Knight, seconded by Mr. Romain, the minutes of the March 5, 2026, meeting of the Board of Trustees were approved.

B. ESTABLISHMENT OF NEXT MEETING DATE AND LOCATION

Chair Ryan called on Vice President Strupp, who reported the next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, July 9, 2026, on campus in the Griffin Center.

C. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Chair Ryan called on President Bridges for a report. Since 1990, current and former Trustees have generously contributed to building a permanent endowment in the USI Foundation for the Trustees Distinguished Merit Award. The award recognizes outstanding achievement in the student's major and the core curriculum. The 2026 recipient of the Trustee Distinguished Merit Award is senior pre-med biology student Reagan Lawrence. Reagan is a first-generation college student whose essay submission described how USI's core curriculum not only shaped her to be a well-educated student but also grow as a well-rounded person who is prepared to flourish in today's society. Ms. Lawrence is another example of the type of student USI best serves, and how our investments of time and teaching have transformational and generational impact. President Bridges thanked the Trustees for their generous support of this important student award.

The President's Medal is the highest honor bestowed to an undergraduate at USI. The 2025-2026 President's Medalist is Timothy Rosignol who graduated summa cum laude with bachelor's degrees in sociology and German studies, and with a certificate in cultural awareness training in December's College of Liberal Arts commencement ceremony. He will be receiving the medallion on Saturday, May 9, during the College of Liberal Arts ceremony. Embracing education outside of the classroom, Mr. Rosignol was involved in both Sociology Club and German Club while also serving as an undergraduate research assistant in the Sociology Department and Vice President of the Sociology Club. He was also a member of Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Sociology Honor Society, and Alpha Mu Gamma, the National Collegiate Foreign Language Honor Society. Deeply dedicated to enhancing the USI student experience, his many leadership roles, including Welcome Week Leader, Orientation Leader, and Academic Peer Advisor, amongst others, ensured fellow students felt connected to the University, while fostering a supportive and respectful environment for his peers. He has excelled in every aspect of his college career, receiving two Endeavor Awards for Research and Creativity, USI Foundation and study abroad ambassador scholarships, the Duffus-Melvin Academic Achievement Award in Sociology and the Distinguished Student Award. Timothy is also a graduate of the Emerging Leaders Program, was a student in the USI Exchange Program at Osnabrück University in Germany, a tenor-baritone vocalist in the USI Chamber Choir, USI's Fall 2025 Commencement Ceremony Reflection Speaker, Vice President of Administration for the Student Ambassador Organization, and secured an internship with the Evansville City

Human Relations Commission. Post-graduation, Mr. Rosignol is attending James Madison University in Virginia, where he has received full funding to complete a master's in quantitative psychology and a doctorate in assessment and measurement. He hopes his future research and teaching career will reflect the student-centered environment he values from his education at USI.

President Bridges called on Vice President Kindra Strupp to review the commencement schedule and provide a University Marketing and Communication report. Vice President Strupp began by thanking the Trustees for serving at each of the five spring ceremonies and provided information regarding parking, robing and arrival times for platform party participants.

A total of 1,649 students are eligible to graduate across all five ceremonies. Graduates are from 41 different states and 13 countries. The School of Graduate Studies ceremony on Friday, May 8, at 5 p.m. in Liberty Arena is first with nearly 360 graduates. USI's first alumnus to speak is Vladimir A. Kasparov '01 M'05, Managing Director at Portage Point Partners in Chicago, and currently residing in Madrid, Spain. On Saturday, the first ceremony is the Romain College of Business at 9 a.m. with David L. Ramsey '05, Vice President, Data Science & AI Engineering from SYRV.AI in Cincinnati, Ohio providing the keynote address. The Kinney College of Nursing and Health Professions ceremony begins at noon, with Dr. Anthony D. Goodwin '89, Technology Operations Administrator for Ascension Technologies—Indiana Leadership in Evansville delivering the commencement address. The Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education ceremony is at 3 p.m. with Dr. Sarah C. Wannemuehler '74, USI Director Emerita of Clinical Practice, Teacher Education speaking. Lastly, providing the address for the College of Liberal Arts ceremony at 6 p.m. is Chad D. Horrell '04, Vice President, State and Local Practice, BGR Group in Washington, D.C. Tickets are not required for guests, and a streaming option is available to watch all ceremonies from afar. Vice President Strupp directed the Trustees to the Commencement program in their handouts.

Vice President Strupp introduced Director of University Web and Digital Content Brandi Hess '00 M'22, and Senior Web Programmer Jason Provence, who have taken leadership roles in navigating Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications at USI. Their initiative and expertise with this evolving powerful tool allows us to see what AI means for the students we serve, and for our competitive position overall.

USI has been working on AI initiatives since 2023, improving the website and bringing it up to competitive status. We also know how students use the web to discover USI is evolving with the use of AI. USI's web team led initiatives to develop AI powered academic program search and discovery, career-to-degree matching using national data on salaries and job titles to match our degree programs, a chat bot on every webpage that assists visitors to our website 24/7, and more. University Web and Digital Content has led the campus on AI initiatives including providing professional development opportunities, participating in accessibility and AI workshop week, and serving on the AI Advisory Committee.

One of the largest AI projects taken on has been ArchieBot, the University's featured chat assistant. Accessible 24/7, ArchieBot draws its knowledge from USI's website, documents and instructions to help answer live questions from prospective students, parents, current students, employees and the community. ArchieBot doesn't mind if you have a question at midnight or on a holiday—it responds instantly, and always in a polite and friendly way. More importantly, USI has the capability to view ArchieBot's transcripts to identify information gaps that might otherwise go undetected and rectify them. Additionally, it has helped unburden staff by reducing email and call volume.

Mr. Provence and Ms. Hess summarized the strategic projects currently in progress related to search engine AI summaries, USI's campus map, and AI optimization. They concluded their report by demonstrating the differences in trust levels and ways today's prospective student researches and chooses a college, versus those just a few years ago. For many prospects, AI has become the trusted guidance counselor. Lastly, predicting or forecasting what's coming is difficult with AI because it's constantly evolving. USI is staying ahead through networking with colleagues in the industry, attending conferences and webinars, and keeping close watch on what's happening outside of the higher education space.

Trustee Romain asked how ArchieBot or USI compares to other institutions using chatbots and what benchmarking was used for that comparison. Ms. Hess explained as one of the first public institutions in Indiana to implement a chatbot; USI is competitive in the AI chatbot race. About half have a chatbot on their website, but none as robust as ArchieBot in that others are more transactional based, where ArchieBot uses AI to answer questions and make comparisons providing a better experience for the user. Although USI is ahead, as AI evolves challenges will emerge, but those are opportunities to fine tune improvements. USI is also

learning new tools daily to measure how many times USI appears for those students using AI to conduct their college search and how USI might rank in that search.

President Bridges called on Vice President Mustafa for a report from Student Affairs. This year's SpringFest concert opened with USI's own alumnus Lucas Washington '25. The main event featured the Driver Era, an alternative pop duo consisting of brothers Ross and Rocky Lynch. Known for their genre of blending sound and energetic performances, the band has built a strong following since forming in 2018. Ross Lynch, widely recognized for his roles on Disney Channel's teen beach movie franchise, *Austin and Ally* and Netflix's *Chilling Adventures of Sabrina*, brought an added level of excitement and familiarity for many concert goers. Over 1,600 tickets were sold or claimed for the concert, with approximately 1,300 in attendance on the day of the show, compared to last year (2025) where 250 were in attendance. Forty volunteers that included USI students, staff, faculty, friends and family supported the event.

Since 1992, USI has supported students and employees through Archie's food closet, providing essential foods and hygiene items to those in need. Originally inspired by Sandra Lawrence's vision to keep students healthy and happy so they could do their best, this resource has remained a meaningful part of the campus community. After assessing the closet and gathering student feedback, it became apparent an update was needed to better serve current students. Through a collaborative effort across campus and community partners, the space has been reimagined and relocated back to the University Center as Archie's Pantry. This transformation goes beyond the name change. Archie's Pantry now offers expanded food options, menu planning support from nutrition students, and hands-on learning opportunities through a partnership between Student Affairs and Academic Affairs. The opening event was held on April 15, with 44 news, Eyewitness news, and WFIE 14 news highlighting the exciting transformation. Community response has been overwhelmingly positive with many noting the importance of addressing students' basic needs and the significant growth of this resource over time. Data for April 2026 shows that there were 148 card swipes to enter and use the pantry. Sixty-one percent of the entries were after hours or on weekends, with 904 pounds of food distributed. In comparison to 2024 data, the former Archie's Closet had a total of 536 students using the pantry for the entire year and in 2025 there were 605 students.

The USI Tailgating initiative began with a successful pilot during the basketball season opener on November 7, offering an opportunity to test the operations, gather feedback and assess overall engagement. Building on the success, a dedicated 15-member committee was formed to further develop and guide this initiative. Grounded in student feedback, the committee focused on creating opportunities to better engage students during weekends, strengthen campus connection and build lasting traditions. This work reflects broader commitment to enhancing the student experience and fostering a stronger sense of community beyond the classroom. Following this collaborative effort, a comprehensive tailgating guideline was finalized, incorporating insights from students and campus partners. With this solid foundation now in place, leadership of the initiative has transitioned to the Athletics Department to guide implementation and continue growth.

Vice President Mustafa introduced Activities Programming Board (APB) President Sruihika Gangisetty and Student Government Association (SGA) President Leonna Benton, to deliver the 2025–2026 End-of-Year Report. Ms. Gangisetty began by providing an overview of APB's Mission Plan including three goals to 1) give students on campus inclusive programming, 2) give students voice, and 3) give back to stakeholders (students, faculty, etc.). Changes for APB in 2025-26 included a new board structure to better coordinate and market programming and events, new event requirements to promote collaboration and consistency across events, and APB implemented office hours to be accessible and better serve the student body. Leadership development is important to APB. This year, APB was privileged to send members to a variety of National Association for Campus Activities (NACA) events including the Programming Board Institute, where students learned how to build effective, valuable leadership on campus.

APB offered 15 events this year with over 1,070 unique attendees, which is an increase from the 980 unique attendees in 2024-2025. Average attendance at events was 74, which is a 12% increase over the previous year. The Renaissance Fair collaboration with the Fencing Club was the most attended event with over 200 attendees. Other popular events included Movie on the Quad during Welcome Week, Casino Night at homecoming, the Enchanted Ball, and Pottery Painting. Overall, APB's year was successful in engaging the freshman class, increasing retention at its general meetings, and building a solid foundation for next year.

Ms. Benton began SGA's annual report by reviewing their goals for this year of 1) advocating for the student voice, 2) helping students discover their leadership capabilities through SGA, and 3) providing resources and grants to students. To better serve the student body, SGA restructured their governance model for relevance

and to strengthen its foundation. The new model positioned SGA to move from stagnant roles to dynamic advocacy, with targeted representation for student wellness and safety, sustainability of the environment, and communication. Additional strategic restructuring to provide new perspectives added at-large membership for student-athletes and first-year students. To address specific student needs, SGA chartered three specialized committees this year including the Commuter Student Committee, which focused on the unique challenges of USI's off campus population; the Environmental Sustainability Committee, which dedicated a campus-wide green initiative; and lastly, the Gala Planning Committee, which was tasked with creating SGA's inclusive gala event this spring.

Events hosted by SGA in 2025-26 were designed with intentionality, including a live band and community building activities for Welcome Week that engaged over 200 students. SGA's Alcohol Awareness Week is its most impactful outreach event. By partnering with Public Safety for Donuts on Duty and hosting the Drunk Goggles Obstacle Course, SGA provided high impact education on the dangers of impaired driving and fostered a culture of responsible decision making. SGA also took time to honor its history by celebrating SGA's 56th birthday. SGA's Environmental Sustainability Week featured an eco-pledge drive, sustainability expo, and stargazing events to empower students to take ownership of our campus environment and its future.

SGA provided financial resources to students outside the classroom through four travel grants totaling \$2,700; S.O.S grants totaling \$5,400 and \$1,500 in startup grants. SGA's total investment was \$34,300, representing a significant increase over the previous year, proving SGA's commitment to funding student ambitions.

Lastly, SGA's University Court processed 92 parking appeals, with our Chief Justice identifying permit placement and confusion about temporary passes continue to be the primary causes for violations. SGA used this data to better educate the student body with a goal of reducing citations through better communication moving forward. Ms. Benton concluded her report recognizing the representatives for SGA in 2025-2026. President Bridges presented Ms. Benton with a certificate of appreciation for her service and invited her to provide remarks. SGA's President Elect for 2026-2027, Mackenzie Hinton was introduced.

President Bridges called on Dr. Kyle Mara for a report from Faculty Senate. Faculty are currently wrapping up final exams and completing grades for the end of the semester. It has been a productive academic year, with many faculty looking forward to the summer to catch up on research projects, summer teaching, and other activities that serve USI and its students. The Senate is delighted to see many colleagues receive their deserved promotions at the Trustees meeting later on the agenda today. The Senate celebrates with them and their loved ones, as it is incredibly rewarding to have 54 colleagues advancing this fall. Dr. Mara concluded his report by thanking his fellow faculty senators for their dedicated and thoughtful work this year and announced the 2026-2027 Faculty Senate Chair is Dr. Zachary Ward, Associate Professor of Health Services Administration.

To conclude the President's Report, President Bridges directed the Trustees to the 2026-2027 schedule of meetings and events in their handouts.

D. APPOINTMENT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Chair Ryan noted according to Article V, Section 3, Subsection (a) of the bylaws; the Nominating Committee is appointed annually by the Chair of the Board at the May meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Committee prepares a slate of officers at the Annual meeting.

The 2026-2027 Nominating Committee appointed by Chair Ryan is:

John M. Dunn, Chair
Barry E. Cox
Jeffrey L. Knight

SECTION II – FINANCIAL MATTERS

A. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION REGARDING BANK DEPOSITORIES AND WIRE TRANSFER AUTHORIZATIONS

Chair Ryan called on Vice President Sickman. This resolution establishes the list of banks in which university funds may be deposited and authorizes certain employees to transact business on behalf of the university. The only change from the previous year is the removal of Director of University Accounting from the list of individuals who may make wire transfers. USI currently does not have a director of university accounting and does not plan to fill the role during the next twelve months. Therefore, the title is removed to provide the Board with an accurate list of employees who will transact business for the University.

On a motion by Dr. Kissel, seconded by Mr. Cox, and abstentions by Ms. Keck and Ms. Ryan, the following Resolution Regarding Bank Depositories and Wire Transfer Authorizations was approved.

WHEREAS the University wishes to update the list of banks designated as depositories in which funds may be deposited and to update the authorizations required for transactions with the depositories; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED Bank of America, Banterra Bank, Fifth Third Bank, Citibank, First Federal Savings Bank, First Financial Bank, German American Bank, Old National Bank, PNC Bank, Regions Bank, United Fidelity Bank, and Wells Fargo Bank be and hereby are designated as depositories in which funds of this Corporation may be deposited by its officers, agents, and employees; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer is authorized to sign (including using electronic and facsimile signatures) any and all checks, drafts, and orders, including orders or directions in informal or letter form, against any funds at any time standing to the credit of this Corporation with said Bank, and that the said Bank hereby is authorized to honor any and all checks, drafts and orders so signed, including those drawn to the individual order of such officer without further inquiry or regard to the authority of said officer or the use of said checks, drafts, and orders, or proceeds thereof; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer or Assistant Treasurer of the University of Southern Indiana is authorized to enter into a Funds Transfer Agreement with the aforementioned banks; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Treasurer, the Assistant Treasurer, and the Assistant Director of University Accounting be designated as the officers of the University authorized to make wire transfers; and

FURTHER RESOLVED that each of the foregoing resolutions shall continue in force until express written notice of its rescission or modification has been received by the said Bank, but if the authority contained in them should be revoked or terminated by operation of law without such notice, it is resolved and hereby agreed for the purpose of inducing the said Bank to act thereunder, that the said Bank shall be saved harmless from any loss suffered or liability incurred without such notice.

B. REPORT OF CONSTRUCTION CHANGE ORDERS AUTHORIZED BY THE VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

Chair Ryan called on Vice President Sickman for a report.

Vice President Sickman noted the interim financial statements provided for informational purpose for the period ended March 31, 2026, in the Trustees' packets prior to providing his report. There were no significant variances from the last quarter. Campus is analyzing revenues and expenses for development of the 2026-2027 fiscal year operating budget, which will be presented to the board for approval at the July meeting.

The construction change orders authorized by the Vice President for Finance and Administration (Exhibit II-A) are below the threshold for approval by the Construction Committee. All change orders fall within available funding limits for each project and are provided to the Trustees for informational purposes.

C. REPORT ON CURRENT CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS

Chair Ryan called on Vice President Sickman for a report on the status of current construction projects. Mr. Sickman introduced Jim Wolfe, Director of Facility Operations and Planning, to provide an update on the

current construction projects listed in Exhibit II-B. He reminded the Trustees of Mr. Wolfe's retirement on June 1, after nearly 12 years with the University. Vice President Sickman thanked him for his service to USI and wished him well in retirement. Mr. Wolfe's legacy will remain on campus long after he departs through the various construction projects he has overseen during his time at USI, including Liberty Arena, Home of the Screaming Eagles. With deep appreciation, Vice President Sickman welcomed Mr. Wolfe for his final report. In addition to providing status summaries for the current projects, Mr. Wolfe presented a video simulation of the Wright Administration and Health Professions renovation projects that was provided by the architectural firms Hafer Associates and Wold VPS Architecture.

SECTION III - PERSONNEL MATTERS

A. APPROVAL OF PERSONNEL ACTIONS

Chair Ryan called on Provost Blunt, who reviewed recommendations for promotion and tenure. On a motion by Mr. Romain, seconded by Ms. Keck, the following recommendations for promotion and continuous appointment were approved.

1. Promotion and Tenure

Recommendation for continuous appointment and promotion from assistant professor to associate professor, effective August 11, 2026:

Dr. Gregory Blair, Assistant Professor of Art and Design
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Jason Callahan, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Heather Cook, Assistant Professor of Statistics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Dr. Andrew Dill, Assistant Professor of Accounting
Romain College of Business

Dr. Susan Ely, Assistant Professor of Engineering
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Dr. Julie Eyink, Assistant Professor of Psychology
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Jennifer Fehrenbacher, Assistant Professor of Dental Hygiene/Assisting
Kinney College of Nursing and Health Professions

Dr. Junghee Han, Assistant Professor of Social Work
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Sabinah Wanjugu, Assistant Professor of Marketing
Romain College of Business

Mr. Shane White, Assistant Professor of Library Science
David L. Rice Library

Dr. Erika Williams, Assistant Professor of Management
Romain College of Business

2. Promotion

Recommendation for promotion from associate professor to professor effective August 11, 2026:

Mr. Brett Anderson, Associate Professor of Art
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Perry Burnett, Associate Professor of Economics
Romain College of Business

Dr. Erin Dennis, Associate Professor of Advertising
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. James Dickerson, Associate Professor of Social Work
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Adrian Gentle, Associate Professor of Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Dr. Cristina Gilstrap, Associate Professor of Business Communication
Romain College of Business

Dr. Chad Gonnerman, Associate Professor of Philosophy
College of Liberal Arts

Mr. Paul Weimer, Associate Professor of Theatre
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Gongjun Yan, Associate Professor of Computer Science
Romain College of Business

Recommendation for promotion from clinical assistant professor to clinical associate professor effective August 11, 2026:

Dr. Katherine Peak, Clinical Assistant Professor of Radiologic and Imaging Sciences
Kinney College of Nursing and Health Professions

Recommendation for promotion from clinical associate professor to clinical professor effective August 11, 2026:

Mrs. Jara Dillingham, Clinical Associate Professor of Social Work
College of Liberal Arts

Recommendation for promotion from teaching associate professor to teaching professor effective August 11, 2026:

Dr. Kevin Allton, Teaching Associate Professor of English
College of Liberal Arts

Dr. Gurkirat Baath, Teaching Associate Professor of Biology
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Dr. Greg Mendel, Teaching Associate Professor of Biology
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Dr. Matthew Merlo, Teaching Associate Professor of Physics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Dr. Susan Seibert, Teaching Associate Professor of Nursing
Kinney College of Nursing and Health Professions

Dr. Darrin Sorrells, Teaching Associate Professor of Kinesiology and Sport
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Dr. Joshua Wildeman, Teaching Associate Professor of Kinesiology and Sport
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Recommendation for promotion from advanced instructor to senior instructor effective August 11, 2026:

Ms. Carrie Andersen, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Ms. Stephanie Bush, Advanced Instructor in Biology
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Mr. Keith Carter, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Ms. Cindi Clayton, Advanced Instructor in Business Communications
Romain College of Business

Ms. Olga Donnelly, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Mr. Thomas Drury, Advanced Instructor in Music
College of Liberal Arts

Ms. Kathleen Elliott, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Mr. Stephen Glueckert, Advanced Instructor in Chemistry
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Ms. George Ann Griffin, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Ms. Jennifer Horn, Advanced Instructor in English
College of Liberal Arts

Mr. James Hunter, Advanced Instructor in English
College of Liberal Arts

Ms. Jill Kinkade, Advanced Instructor in English
College of Liberal Arts

Ms. Mary Knust, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Mrs. Jeanette Maier-Lytle, Advanced Instructor in Accounting
Romain College of Business

Mrs. Patricia Marcum, Advanced Instructor in Kinesiology and Sport
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Mr. Ronald Mitchell, Advanced Instructor in English
College of Liberal Arts

Mr. John Morris, Advanced Instructor in Radio and Television
College of Liberal Arts

Ms. Mary Beth Reese, Advanced Instructor in Communications
College of Liberal Arts

Mr. Anthony Rintala, Advanced Instructor in English
College of Liberal Arts

Mr. David Ritterskamp, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Mr. Christopher Robinson, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Mrs. Amanda Scott, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Ms. Yu-Li Alice Shen, Advanced Instructor in English
College of Liberal Arts

Mrs. Judith Williams, Advanced Instructor in Mathematics
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

Ms. Carrie Wright, Advanced Instructor in Geology
Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education

B. REPORT ON FACULTY, ADMINISTRATIVE, AND STAFF RETIREMENTS

Chair Ryan called on Provost Blunt to review the following faculty, administrative, and staff retirements.

Service Desk Analyst, Gigie L. Hyneman in accordance with the regular retirement policy, retired on March 27, 2026, after 32 years of service.

Archives and Special Collections Metadata Librarian and Teaching Professor of Library Science, Mona L. Meyer in accordance with the revised retirement policy, will retire effective May 1, 2027, after 38.75 years of service, including leave with pay from November 1, 2026, through April 30, 2027.

Associate Professor of Sociology, Steven D. Williams in accordance with the revised retirement policy, will retire effective July 1, 2027, after 27 years of service, including leave with pay from January 1, 2027, through June 30, 2027.

Director of Facility Operations and Planning, James E. Wolfe in accordance with the regular retirement policy, will retire effective June 1, 2026, after 11.75 years of service.

C. APPROVAL OF EMERITUS STATUS

Chair Ryan called on Provost Blunt for approval of the following emeritus titles. On a motion by Ms. Keck, seconded by Mr. Knight, the emeritus titles were approved.

Archives and Special Collections Metadata Librarian Emerita and Teaching Professor Emerita of Library Science Mona L. Meyer

Associate Professor Emeritus of Sociology Steven D. Williams

Director Emeritus of Facility Operations and Planning James E. Wolfe

D. APPROVAL OF REVISED EMERITUS STATUS

Chair Ryan called on Provost Blunt for approval of a revised emeritus title. Dr. Blunt explained the promotions approved in Section III, item A of this agenda, requires a revision to one emeritus status title.

On a motion by Dr. Kissel, seconded by Mr. Cox, the revised emerita title was approved.

Senior Instructor Emerita in Mathematics George Ann Griffin

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeffrey L. Knight
Secretary

**Summary of Construction Change Orders
Authorized by the Vice President for Finance and Administration**

HEALTH PROFESSIONS RENOVATION PHASE IV

Empire Contractors – General Contractor

CO 012 **\$ 24,673**
Added a shadowbox frame around inscription. Added a secondary HVAC hot water expansion tank. Reduced duct return size to fit within existing structure. Rerouted existing storm lines from floor penetrations to existing shaft.

CO 013 **\$ 29,777**
Removed wall between two rooms to create a classroom, Changed/added electrical for the Market. Added additional bracing for south canopy. Upgraded panic button model.

WRIGHT ADMINISTRATION RENOVATION/ADDITION

Empire Contractors – General Contractors

CO 002 **\$ 32,455**
Properly disposed of asbestos material.

STEM DISCOVERY LAB, RICE LIBRARY

Garmong Construction – General Contractor

CO 003 **\$ 15,963**
Expedited arrival of partition walls and doors with air freight.

Summary
Construction Projects

May 8, 2026

Projects Under Construction

Health Professions Renovation/Addition Phase IV

Project Cost **\$ 50,000,000**

Funding Source: Legislative Appropriation - 2023

Planned Completion: August 2027

Wright Administration Renovation/Addition

Project Cost **\$ 32,000,000**

Funding Source: Legislative Appropriation - 2023

Planned Completion: December 2027

University Creative and Print New Building

Project Cost **\$ 2,500,000**

Funding Source: Legislative Appropriation - 2019

Planned Completion: March 2026

Center for Applied Business Technologies, Romain College of Business

Project Cost **\$ 1,300,000**

Funding Source: USI Foundation

Planned Completion: August 2026

University Home Improvements and Updating

Project Cost **\$ 1,250,000**

Funding Source: Legislative Appropriation - 2019

Planned Completion: July 2026

New Harmony Beal/Dr. Houses Renovation

Project Cost \$ 795,000

Funding Source: Lilly Grant

Planned Completion: January 2027

STEM Discovery Lab, Rice Library

Project Cost \$ 730,000

Funding Source: USI Foundation

Planned Completion: June 2026 (currently in use)

**Orr Center Lower Level Partial Renovation for Online and Adult Learning,
and Student Financial Success Center**

Project Cost \$ 625,000

Funding Sources: Special Projects \$ 379,857

State Repair and Rehabilitation \$ 245,143

Planned Completion: April 2026

Education Center Classroom, ED1101, Renovation

Project Cost \$ 625,000

Funding Source: State Repair and Rehabilitation

Planned Completion: August 2026

New Harmony Double Log Cabin Roof Replacement

Project Cost \$ 135,000

Funding Source: New Harmony Project Reserve

Planned Completion: April 2026

Liberty Arena Lighting and Controls Replacement

Project Cost \$ 125,000

Funding Source: State Repair and Rehabilitation

Planned Completion: August 2026

Projects in Design

Physical Plant Boilers 1 & 2 Replacement

Project Cost \$ 1,600,000

Funding Source: State Repair and Rehabilitation

David L. Rice Library 1st Floor Renovation

Project Cost \$ 875,000

Funding Source: State Repair and Rehabilitation