



Staff Council

THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM

Staff Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 15, 2026

Start / End Time: 3:00 pm / 5:00 pm

Location: MCB Building, Rm 124

Attendance:

	Lewis Benford	✓	Matthew Hanel	✓	Stephanie King		
✓	Miriam Brown	✓	Beto Heredia	✓	Matt Pierce		
✓	Isabel Campos	✓	Fred Hirt	✓	Shyamala Rajagopalan		
✓	Leigh Cherry		Kaylee Lewis	✓	Mandy Stark		
✓	Massey Fowler	✓	Dawn Kerstetter	✓	Mandy Vance		

Guests in Attendance: Korey Castillo.

Call to order at: 3:01 pm by Miriam Brown.

Meeting Minutes - Previous Meeting Minutes will be approved at next month's meeting due to a typo regarding the date that needs to be corrected. **Treasurer's report** was reviewed and discussed along with the proposed remaining budget.

Korey wanted to provide the Chancellor's support and his point of contact information if we were having difficulty making contact. Korey Castillo and Ryan Griffin are available and may be easier to reach for Chancellor guidance and approval. She briefly discussed sitting down with Chancellor Hegar to discuss the possibility of a mentoring program and possible opportunities for job knowledge sharing/discussion for employee growth.

Apparel Sale – Apparel was picked up for distribution by Mandy Vance. Mandy asked about total sales and fundraising amount. She was informed that Teresa Kuklies was out on leave. Mandy will check with CC Creations next week for updates on profit share information. Once totals are provided, they need to be given to Matthew Hanel to update the Treasury Report.

Staff Appreciation Days – discussed staff gift suggestions (custom sunshade for vehicles). Dawn is working on getting quotes for sunshades from TEEX Printing, 4Imprint, and another vendor.

Annual Meeting – Feedback – Food was great; the Chancellor's address was missed by staff. We need to try to locate the pen and pencil set for Katherine Davila. Next year, announcers may need to call out names more slowly to allow pictures. The awards table needs more help (possibly 3 council members to sort awards)

Also, suggestions to place sticky notes with employee names on each award for easier distribution.

Discussed the possibility of switching year of service awards first and EOQ and OESA awards to last.

Profit shares – A staff member asked about a possible apparel sale held in the spring, and Kendra Scott has asked about holding a spring profit share (possibly around Mother’s Day). We are waiting to see how much the first profit share brought in.

Chili Cook-Off – Discussed holding on February 23, 2026, in MCB from 2:00 – 4:00.

Annual Picnic/Silent Auction Items – Scheduled for April 7, 2026 at Legends Event Center. Members have started contacting vendors for silent auction donation items. The venue will contact and coordinate with the DJ. Mandy Stark will begin a to-do checklist to ensure all areas are covered.

Adjournment

- No motion was made due to staff needing to leave. Meeting adjourned at 4:35 pm.

Next Meeting:

February 19, 2026

3:00 – 5:00 PM

(Chuy’s Mexican Restaurant)