

# EIAC Meeting

Equity & Inclusion Advisory Committee

Date | Time 05/21/2026 1:00 PM | Location Microsoft Teams

<b>Meeting called by:</b>	Tracie Ruether
<b>Type of Meeting:</b>	Virtual
<b>Co-Chairs:</b>	Tracie Ruether
	Shel'rie Wilson
<b>Resource Sponsors:</b>	Tonja Hesselberg
	David Fabie
<b>Subject Matter Expert (SME)</b>	Katie Benson HR Recruitment
<b>Executive Liaison:</b>	Tifene Brown
<b>Time Keeper:</b>	Tifene/Tracie

<b>Members:</b>	<b>Attendance:</b>	
	Present	Excused
Baumgart, Zachary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Blechinger, Kellie	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Benson, Katie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bowen, Varnisha	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ives, Kari	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kragness, Amanda	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Marek, Jennifer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Richards, Jason	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ross, Camille	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ruether, Tracie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Svitavsky, Jim	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Wilson, Shel'rie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Additional Attendees:</b>		
Brown, Tifene	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hesselberg, Tonja	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fabie, David	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Padrutt, Briann	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Wisconsin's open meetings law provides that “the public is entitled to the fullest and most complete information regarding the affairs of government as is compatible with the conduct of governmental business.”

Wis. Stat. § 19.81(1).

## Agenda Items

Call to Order	Tracie	2 minutes
Roll Call	Kari	3 minutes
Ice Breaker – what do you like to do to celebrate your birthday?	Tracie	5 minutes
Statement of conduct	Tracie/Shel'rie	5 minutes
2026 State Council on Affirmative Action Impact Awards	Tifene	15 minutes
Update on Recruitment and Retention Action Plan	Tifene	30 minutes

## Notes:

Call to Order	Started at 1:02 pm
Roll Call	Quorum was not met: This was an informational meeting with no items to vote on.
Ice Breaker	Tracie: “what do you like to do to celebrate your birthday?”
Statement of conduct	Reminder: Our meetings are subject to open records law and can be attended by the public. During discussions please be respectful and let each EIAC member have input without interruption.

<p>2026 State Council on Affirmative Action Impact Awards (formerly known as diversity awards)</p>	<p>Tifene: The 27th State Council on Affirmative Action Impact Awards Program is now accepting nominations through September 11, 2026.</p> <p>All DOC staff nominations must be emailed to the Equity and Inclusion Chief, Tifene Brown, by August 28, 2026. The Office of the Secretary (OOS) will review all nominations before final submission is made to SCAA and DPM by Friday, September 11, 2026.</p> <p>This program celebrates our state’s ongoing commitment to recognizing state employees whose contributions have improved the quality of state programs and services, and expanded opportunities for all Wisconsin citizens. Please review your programs and employees for possible nominations in this year’s award categories.</p> <p>Bring your suggestions and ideas to the July meeting.</p> <p>Communications will be sent department wide with additional information.</p>
<p>Recruitment and Retention Action Plan</p>	<p>Planning Team: Adhoc co-leads meet with Tifene on Tuesdays as they continue working on the Recruitment &amp; Retention Action Plan goals and objectives.</p> <p>The planning team also met with BEI Director, Laurice Lincoln, on May 20, 2026 for draft review prior to submission to DOA.</p>
<p>Current E&amp;I Plan</p>	<p>The current Equity &amp; Inclusion Strategic Plan will sunset the end of June and the new Recruitment &amp; Retention Action Plan will start on July 1, 2026.</p>
<p>Ice breaker for July</p>	<p>Shel’rie</p>
<p>End of Meeting</p>	<p>1:49 pm</p>
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>July 16, 2026</p>

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