

APPRENTICE AMBASSADOR WORKGROUP MEETING

Date: November 13, 2025

Time: 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Location: Online

Room: <https://illinoisstate.zoom.us/j/88923994791?from=addon>



Members Present:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anthony Fuhrmann | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jan Keresztes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sheryl Morris |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corey Young | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Hall | <input type="checkbox"/> Taylor Black |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Craig Schmidt | <input type="checkbox"/> Lazaro Lopez | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Terry Stroh |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Daniel Serota | <input type="checkbox"/> Sean Glowacz | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Fitzpatrick |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Danielle Kuglin-Seago | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sheree Speakman | |

Others Present: Jennifer Foil, Antonio Gomez

Quorum: 7

Majority of Quorum: 4

Time	Item
1:00	Meeting Called to Order Mr. Antonio Gomez welcomed the Workgroup members. Ms. Morris called the meeting to order.
1:05	Roll Call of Members and Approval of Previous Minutes Mr. Gomez called for a motion to approve the July 2025 Meeting Minutes as well as the September 2025 Meeting Minutes. Ms. Sheryl Morris made a motion to approve. Mr. Larry Fitzpatrick seconded the motion. Mr. Corey Young, Ms. Danielle Kuglin-Seago, Ms. Jan Keresztes, Mr. John Hall, Ms. Sheree Speakman, Ms. Sheryl Morris, Mr. Terry Stroh, and Mr. Larry Fitzpatrick voted in the affirmative. The minutes were accepted as presented into the public record. Mr. Gomez performed roll call and all present members moved to uphold the motion. The July 2025 Meeting Minutes as well as the September 2025 Meeting Minutes stood approved as presented. Mr. Corey Young, Ms. Danielle Kuglin-Seago, Ms. Jan Keresztes, Mr. John Hall, Ms. Sheree Speakman, Ms. Sheryl Morris, Mr. Terry Stroh, and Mr. Larry Fitzpatrick voted in the affirmative. The minutes were accepted as presented into the public record.
1:10	Prepping for 2026

Time

Item

Workgroup goals:

- *2024: Pilot the program*
- *2025: Improve the program*
- *2026: Execute the program with polish*

Workgroup meeting cadence:

- *Cadence: As the program and curriculum have become well established, the Workgroup will meet quarterly in 2026*
 - *Second Thursday from 1-2pm of each quarter*

Community of practice guidelines

Ms. Sheryl Morris stated that the 2026 Curriculum has already been finalized. Additionally, Ms. Morris stated that there will be a simpler application process for 2026. As participants have provided feedback indicating that many of the events in 2025 seemed last-minute, the workgroup has worked to create a solid curriculum for 2026. For this reason, all changes to the program, barring emergency, shall be held off until 2027, so that the program can focus on a clean execution of the current curriculum. The workgroup will also meet quarterly vs. monthly in 2026, as the workgroup has worked diligently to build the program the previous two years and now the program is in a finalized state. Workgroup meeting discussion will focus on: brainstorming ideas for employer engagement, planning for 2027, and any logistical matters (such as reviewing 2027 cohort applications).

Ms. Morris shared her opinion that virtual meetings may have negatively impacted attendance and engagement. Focus should be spent on engaging the 2026 cohort in a targeted way in a virtual setting.

Mr. Gomez shared the Program Manual with group members, highlighting the workgroup's labor for the last two years in creating the program and congratulated the workgroup on their progress.

Understanding PR – Debrief

1:20

- There were 17 attendees in total.
- Highlights:
 - Ms. Morris noted that the speaker, Ryan Huffer, shared real time best practices with Ambassadors.
 - There was great engagement from the Ambassadors on the call.

Time	Item
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - “Building Muscle,” studying other great speakers, and the proper use of social media were the main speaking points. • Improvements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. Sheree Speakman stated that she appreciated the “say yes” approach and suggested additional advice for individuals who do not receive a call or invitation. • Apprentice Ambassador End of Year Survey: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. Gomez will compile survey results by early December and will share them with the group.
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	Select 2026 Cohort of Apprentice Ambassadors
1:30	The group discussed and approved the 2026 Apprentice Ambassador Cohort.
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	Old/New Business
1:50	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting: End of Year Debrief
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	Public Comment
1:55	Mr. Gomez opened the floor for public comment. There was none.
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	Adjournment
2:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Announcement:</i> Social Media Event and Award Ceremony for 2025 Apprentice Ambassadors to be held at the WBLA Winter Quarterly on December 4, 2025.
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