AGENDA
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

Tuesday, February 26, 2019
10:00 a.m.
Meeting:  206 Student Center West
Luncheon:  213 Student Center West
828 S. Wolcott Avenue
University of Illinois at Chicago

I.  Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson

II.  Meeting with Mr. Paul Weinberger, Director of Federal Relations

   Mr. Weinberger will join the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

(The meeting will recess at noon for lunch.)

III. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of January 24, 2019

IV.  Classification of Senate Minutes

   A.  University of Illinois at Chicago – February 4, 2019
   
   B.  University of Illinois at Springfield – None
   
   C.  University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – February 4, 2019

V.  Remarks from the USC Chair

VI.  USC Committee of the Whole Discussion: Follow-up items from morning session

Explanation of File Numbers

ST - University of Illinois Statutes
GR - The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure
NC - Nominating Committee
OT - Other Topics

VII.  Old Business - Action Items

   None.

VIII. New Business

   1.  OT-356. Discovery Partners Institute.

       The Conference will consider a formal proposal and vote on its advice.
IX. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items


The UIC and UIS Senates have acted on this item.


The USC Statutes and Governance Committee has been working on additional revisions to the Intellectual Property section of the General Rules. If the proposed revisions are ready, USC will consider transmitting them to the senates.


The UIUC Senate has been asked to reconsider the language by sending the document back to its USSP Committee for further consideration in consultation with CAFT. Advice from Legal Counsel has been sought.

The proposed statutory revisions and the response from the UIC Senate were transmitted to President Killeen.


No new information.


No new information.

8. ST-83. Revisions to the Statutes – new proposed revisions and proposed revisions from ST-77 that need further discussion (B File).

No new information.


The UIUC Senate approved statutory changes, which were transmitted to the other two senates.

10. OT-326. USC Presentations to the Board of Trustees.

The January 31 presentation by the Finance, Budget, and Benefits Committee was postponed due to weather. The next presentations to the Board will be given on March 14 and May 16. The reports will be given by the Academic Affairs and Research Committee and the Finance, Budget, and Benefits Committee.

11. OT-123. University Senates Conference guests.

Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings.

12. Report of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

    Thursday, January 31, 2019     Chicago     Aria Razfar

13. USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

    Thursday, March 14, 2019     Urbana     James Brennan

The document was approved at the January 24 meeting and transmitted to various administrators and the senates.


The statement, which was approved by USC on November 18, was transmitted to the Board of Trustees, President Killeen, Executive Vice President Wilson, and various other senior administrators from the system and the universities.

16. OT-355. Staff Engagement Program

USC provided feedback to Jami Painter, Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, on a program that is being developed for academic professional and civil service staff.

17. OT-339. Audit of the University Senates Conference.

Follow-up items were discussed with University Audits and new target dates have been set for three items.

18. OT-343. Proposed Revision to the University Senates Conference Bylaws, Section 3, 3.5 – Term Limits. Approved by USC 2/21/18.

USC approved revisions to its Bylaws at the February 22, 2018 meeting. These will be reported to the senates and to the Board when the Statutes are revised.

19. OT-344. Proposed Revision to the University Senates Conference Bylaws, 4.3.1 – Chair of the Nominating Committee. Approved by USC 5/3/18.

USC approved revisions to its Bylaws at the May 3, 2018 meeting. These will be reported to the senates and to the Board when the Statutes are revised.

20. OT-353. Proposed Revisions to the University Senates Conference Bylaws, 5.5, 6.3(a), 6.3(d) – Removal of the Hospital and Health Affairs Committee and other minor revisions. Approved by USC 1/24/19.

USC approved revisions to its Bylaws at the April 24, 2019 meeting. These will be reported to the senates and to the Board when the Statutes are revised.

21. Campus Updates.

Discussion of campus matters for information.
22. OT-142. External Groups with USC Representatives: DPI Academic Governance Advisory Group (De Groote, Johnson); DPI Academic Executive Committee (Karri); Enrollment Management Policy Council (Wade); President’s Executive Leadership Program (Erricolo); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee for System Academic Affairs (Tolliver).

Update on activities of the external groups.

23. Reports from USC Committees:

- Academic Affairs and Research Committee: Gay Miller, Chair
- Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee: Danilo Erricolo, Chair
- Statutes and Governance Committee: Nicholas Burbules, Chair

X. Review of Agenda Items (proposal to remove inactive items)

Please see the Pending Agenda items for recommendations of the removal of certain items.

XI. Adjournment

The next USC meeting is scheduled to be held on April 2 in Urbana-Champaign.
Pending Items and Items Referred to Committee

1. OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

   USC will determine whether to conduct a review of one of the vice presidents, which would begin in late spring.


   Propose to remove (USC EC).

3. OT-320. Salary increments and campus budgeting priorities.

   This item was referred to the USC Finance, Budget, and Benefits Committee.

4. OT-327. University Strategic Framework. Approved by the Board of Trustees 5/19/16.

   Propose to remove (USC EC).

5. OT-330. Approval and Consultation Processes with the University Senates Conference and the Senates.

   Propose to remove (USC SGC).


   Propose to remove (USC EC).

7. OT-332. Levels of University Review.

   Internal approval processes are often multi-level and time-consuming, resulting in a cumbersome system. Some are internal to the campuses; others occur between the campuses and upper levels of review. As we try to address procurement rules and other external constraints, are there ways to streamline our own operations in order to alleviate unnecessary burdens?

   Propose to remove (USC EC).

8. OT-333. Travel and Expense Management (TEM) System.

   Of particular note concerning cumbersome approval processes is the OBFS TEM System. Purportedly it is taking over 30 days for reimbursements to employees, even for those using their own grant money. The system was supposed to necessitate fewer employees in OBFS to handle travel and expense reimbursements (often by moving more of the responsibility down up.
to the unit level), yet the reason for the delay in reimbursements is supposedly due to fewer employees in this area. Other faculty have raised concerns about the growing requirements for justification, and resultant rejection of justified reimbursements. Is it time to look into fixing this system? This item has been referred to the Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee.

The Executive Vice President’s Office is doing a review of the TEM system and invited USC members to participate. This item is proposed for removal of the agenda.


While, hopefully, the value of shared governance is not disputed, are there ways to increase efficiency and ensure that the processes of shared governance are also happening in a timely and responsive manner? This item has been referred to the Statutes and Governance Committee.

The SGC will weigh in on whether to keep this item on the pending agenda.

10. OT-335. Differentiating Shared Governance Responsibilities from Union Responsibilities.

The University of Illinois has a system of shared governance through the senates and other faculty groups, with some of the processes embedded in the University Statutes and other governing documents. It is of course the decision of the faculty whether to unionize. For the two entities to coexist there should be a clear line of which responsibilities devolve to which group. Typically, for example, the shared governance process would deal with academic issues and the union process, through negotiation, would deal with salary and benefits. How can we ensure that these appropriate spheres of responsibility are respected in both directions? This item has been referred to the Statutes and Governance Committee.

Propose to remove (USC SGC).