I. Remarks from the USC Chair

II. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of February 23, 2017

III. Classification of Senate Minutes
   A. University of Illinois at Chicago – March 16, 2017
   B. University of Illinois at Springfield – March 3, 2017; March 24, 2017
   C. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – March 6, 2017

IV. USC Committee of the Whole Discussion: Preparation for the meeting with the President

   Explanation of File Numbers

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

V. Old Business - Action Items

   None.

VI. New Business

   1. Designation of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

      Thursday, May 11, 2017    Springfield    

   2. NC-23. Nominating Committee for 2017-18 Officers, Executive Committee, and USC Committees.

      Professor Novak will appoint the committee in accordance with the University Senates Conference Bylaws, which state:

      “The Chair of the University Senates Conference will appoint a three person Nominating Committee to be announced no later than the third from the last
meeting of the academic year, and will designate the Chair of the Committee. The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall be a continuing member of the Conference, and each Senate shall be represented on the Nominating Committee.”

VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items


The Conference will discuss the possibility of additional amendments to this section of the Statutes.


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.


The Conference has advocated sending the changes to the Statutes where there are no concerns to the Board of Trustees.


This item has been transmitted to the Vice President Wilson.

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

The most recent USC report to the Board was on March 15. The next Board meeting is May 11 in Springfield.

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

No new information.


No new information.

11. OT-338. USC Statement on Faculty/Staff Salary and Benefits. Transmitted to President and Vice President for Academic Affairs 12/7/16.

No new information.


No new information.


Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings.

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

Wednesday, March 15, 2017 Urbana-Champaign Sally Jackson

15. Campus Updates.

Discussion of campus matters for information.
16. **OT-142. Updates on External Groups with USC Representatives:**
Enrollment Management Policy Council (Jackson); President’s Executive Leadership Program (to be determined - begins 2017); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (Burbules, DeBerry-Spence, LaDu, Mohammadian, Villegas); Vice President for Academic Affairs UA Budget Review Advisory Committee (Mohammadian, Villegas, Wheeler); Vice President for Finance Faculty Advisory Committee (DeBerry-Spence, Weech); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Burbules, Miller, Villegas, Wheeler).

17. **Reports from USC Committees:**

   - Academic Affairs and Research Committee: Meena Rao
   - Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee: Harley Johnson
   - Hospital and Health Affairs Committee: Mary Jo LaDu
   - Statutes and Governance Committee: Nick Burbules

   Any committee recommendations may be considered for action.

(The meeting will recess at noon for lunch. Committees will have the opportunity to meet during this time.)

**VIII. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson**

**IX. Meeting with Chancellor Robert Jones (2:45 p.m.)**

**X. Adjournment**

The next USC meeting is scheduled to be held on April 27 in Springfield.
Pending Items and Items Referred to Committee

1. OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.
   USC will consider in the spring whether there will be a review.

2. OT-320. Salary increments and campus budgeting priorities.
   This item was referred to the USC Finance, Budget, and Benefits Committee.

3. OT-330. Approval and Consultation Processes with the University Senates Conference and the Senates.
   This item was referred to the USC Statutes and Governance Committee.

4. 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?

5. 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 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.

   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.

7. 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.