AGENDA
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE
Thursday, May 25, 2017
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 Vice President Wilson

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

II. Meeting with Chancellor Amiridis, 1p.m.

III. Remarks from the USC Chair

IV. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of April 27, 2017

V. Classification of Senate Minutes
   A. University of Illinois at Chicago – None
   B. University of Illinois at Springfield – April 21, 2017
   C. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – May 1, 2017

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. Designation of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

      Thursday, July 13, 2017       Chicago
      (Retreat will be held July 12)
IX. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items


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.


The Conference approved language that would permit the president to propose statutory revisions in collaboration with USC. The new proposed revisions have been transmitted to the senates.


This item has been transmitted to the Vice President Wilson.

6. ST-82. Revisions to the Statutes, Article IX, Sections 3. (Appointments, Ranks, and Promotions of the Academic and Administrative Staff) a., and 4 (Principles Governing Employment of Academic and Administrative Staffs) b. Approved by the UIUC Senate

All three senates approved identical language, which has been transmitted to President Killeen.

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

The Nominating Committee has requested nominations for chair, vice chair, and Executive Committee positions. In addition, members whose committee terms are ending can request to remain on their current committee or change to a different committee.

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

Professor Novak will provide an update on the audit, including comments from University Audits concerning USC standing committees.

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

The next Board presentation will be in July, when the USC Chair traditionally gives an annual report.

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

No new information.


No new information.

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

Thursday, May 11, 2017   Springfield   Jorge Villegas

16. Campus Updates.

Discussion of campus matters for information.

17. 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).

18. 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.

USC will review the pending items to determine whether to keep them on the agenda.

X.  Adjournment

   The next USC meeting is scheduled to be held on June 28 in Urbana.
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.