AGENDA
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

Wednesday, August 29, 2018
10:00 a.m.
President’s House
711 W. Florida Avenue, Urbana

I. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson

(The meeting will recess at noon for lunch.)

II. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of June 22, 2018
Approval of University Senates Conference Organizational Minutes of June 22, 2018

III. Remarks from the USC Chair

IV. 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

V. Old Business - Action Items


   The Statutes and Governance Committee has been working on the revisions to the Statutes, including the addition of the system/university language. A document is ready to be considered for transmittal to the senates.


   In response to a request by USC, Vice President Wilson convened a group to consider the Intellectual Property language. A document is ready to be considered for transmittal to the senates.
VI. New Business

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

Thursday, September 27, 2018 Urbana


The Conference will discuss plans and topics for the retreat to be held on October 1 and 2 at Allerton Park and Conference Center.

5. OT-347. Create a USC Descriptive Summary Document.

The Conference will consider putting together a short document that could be given to Board members, guests, and others who will be interacting with the group.

VII. 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. Advice from Legal Counsel has been sought.


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

8. ST-81. Revisions to University of Illinois Nondiscrimination Statement. Received from Vice President Pierre 10/9/15. Transmitted to Senates 10/12/15. Passed UIC

No new information.


No new information.

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

No new information.

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

The next presentation will be the new USC Chair’s report to the Board, which will take place at the September 27 meeting.

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

University Audits requested an update on the status of the recommendations. Professors Rao and Novak responded. There may be additional items for USC to consider in regards to the USC Bylaws.


USC approved revisions to its Bylaws at the February 22 meeting. These will be reported to the senates and to the Board.

14. OT-344. Proposed Revision to the University Senates Conference Bylaws, 4.3.1 – Chair of the Nominating Committee.

USC approved revisions to its Bylaws at the May 3 meeting. These will be reported to the senates and to the Board.

15. OT-345. UIC Proposal to establish a school of law by acquiring the John Marshall Law School. USC advice to President 5/25/18.

USC provided its advice, which was in support of the proposal, to the President.

   Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings.

17. Campus Updates.

   Discussion of campus matters for information.

18. OT-142. External Groups with USC Representatives: Enrollment Management Policy Council; President’s Executive Leadership Program (Erricolo); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (DeBerry-Spence, Tolliver); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (TBD).

   Positions will be filled as needed and as the vice presidents reorganize their groups.

19. Reports from USC Committees:

   Academic Affairs and Research Committee
   Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee
   Hospital and Health Affairs Committee
   Statutes and Governance Committee

   Any committee recommendations may be considered for action.

VIII. Adjournment

The next USC meeting is scheduled to be held at Allerton Park and Conference Center, Monticello, on October 1 and 2. The retreat will begin on October 1 at noon. The meeting will end after lunch on October 2.
Pending Items and Items Referred to Committee

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

   No new information.


   No new information.

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.

   No new information.

5. 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.


   No new information.

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?

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 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.

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.