AGENDA
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE
Thursday, August 29, 2019
10:00 a.m.

President’s House
711 W. Florida Avenue, Urbana

I. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of June 21, 2019
   Approval of University Senates Conference Organizational Minutes of June 21, 2019

II. Remarks from the USC Chair

III. USC Committee of the Whole Discussion: Preparation for Afternoon 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

IV. Old Business - Action Items

   1. OT-358. Five-Year Faculty Hiring Plan. USC Statement distributed 6/26/19.

      The USC statement on the five-year faculty hiring plan has been distributed and posted on
      the USC website. This item can be considered for removal from the agenda.

V. New Business

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

      Thursday, September 19, 2019      Urbana

   3. OT-361. System-wide committee to develop a process for identifying terminated
      employees who are not eligible for rehire.

      Jami Painter, Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer, System
      Human Resource Services, has asked USC to identify faculty, one from each university, to
      participate on a system-wide committee. The committee plans to begin meeting in
      September and should be active for approximately six months.


      The Conference will discuss plans and topics for the retreat to be held on September 23
      and 24 at the Discovery Partners Institute in Chicago.
VI. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items


The Conference transmitted its advice and the advice of the senates to the President in May. USC will discuss recommendations for the shared governance of DPI from the Academic Governance Advisory Group (AGAG). A draft recommendation from USC provided by Professors De Groote and Johnson will also be discussed.


No new information. USC plans to invite the alumni association leaders from each university to future USC meetings.

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

The September 19 presentation will be given by Professor De Groote and will focus on an overview of the USC agenda for the year. There will be a discussion of what should be included in the report.


The UIC and UIS Senates have acted on this item.


Additional proposed revisions to the section on Intellectual Property have been transmitted to the senates. The UIC Senate has provided advice.


No new information.


No new information.


No new information.

14. **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 a revised document on April 22, which was transmitted to the other two senates on May 7.


Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings.

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

Thursday, July 25, 2019  Chicago  Sandy De Groote

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

No new information.

19. University Updates.

Discussion of university matters for information.

20. OT-142. External Groups with USC Representatives: Policy on Background Checks Review Committee (Maher); DPI Academic Governance Advisory Group (De Groote, Johnson); DPI Academic Executive Committee (Karri); Enrollment Management Policy Council (Wade); President’s Executive Leadership Program (Dallesasse); Establish UI System Guidelines for Invited Speakers Task Force (Span); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee for System Academic Affairs (Tolliver).

Update on activities of the external groups.

21. Reports from USC Committees:

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

VII. USC Committee Meetings, 11:30 a.m.

(The meeting will recess at noon for lunch.)

VIII. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson, 1:00 p.m.

(Continuation of Business Meeting, if needed.)

IX. Adjournment

The next USC meeting is scheduled to be held on Monday, September 23, beginning in the afternoon. The USC retreat will begin with dinner that evening and then resume on September 24. The meetings will take place at the Discovery Partners Institute facility in Chicago.
Pending Items and Items Referred to Committee

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

After discussion with the President, the Conference decided to invite each vice president to meet with USC each year for a discussion of their accomplishments and priorities. The meetings would take place during the session with the President. These meetings will begin in Fall 2019.

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

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

3. 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?

The Executive Vice President’s Office is doing a review of the TEM system and invited USC members to participate. An update has been requested.


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.