AGENDA
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

Tuesday, October 29, 2019
10:00 a.m.

Meeting: Room 222C Student Union
Luncheon: Room 223D Student Union
2251 Richard Wright Drive
University of Illinois at Springfield

I. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of September 23, 2019

II. Classification of Senate Minutes
   A. University of Illinois at Chicago – September 25, 2019; October 23, 2019
   B. University of Illinois at Springfield – September 27, 2019; October 11 and 25, 2019
   C. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – October 14, 2019

III. Remarks from the USC Chair

IV. 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

V. Old Business - Action Items


   All three senates have acted on the statutory revisions. The document needs to go back to the senates once the USC Statutes and Governance Committee reconciles the proposed amendments from the senates.


All three senates have approved the Intellectual Property section, with the UIC and UIUC Senates providing advice. The reconciled language is ready to be sent to the President, pending approval from USC.


The UIUC Senate approved new language that needs to be transmitted to the other senates, pending approval from USC.

VI. New Business

4. OT-363. Recognizing and Rewarding Faculty Participation in Shared Governance.

The group will discuss the challenges of participating in shared governance and whether faculty should be recognized and compensated in ways such as stipends or time-release.

VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

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

The next presentation is scheduled for November 14 in Chicago. Professors Burbules, Danziger, Kar, Razfar, and Strahl volunteered to work on the report.


USC’s response to the recommendations for the shared governance of DPI from the Academic Governance Advisory Group (AGAG) were sent to Drs. Baker and Sanders.

7. OT-357. Lifelong Alumni Connections. USC Resolution approved 4/2/19. Transmitted to President 4/18/19.

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

There will be the opportunity for follow-up discussions of the retreat topics.


No new information.


No new information.


No new information.

12. 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. The UIS Senate approved the UIUC Senate revisions on August 30.
   Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings.

15. Designation of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:
    Thursday, November 14, 2019     Chicago     Ann Strahle

16. OT-339. Audit of the University Senates Conference.
   No new information.

17. University Updates.
   Discussion of university matters for information.

18. 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); System-wide Committee to develop a process for identifying terminated employees who are not eligible for rehire (Strahle, Stroscio, Tolliver).
   Update on activities of the external groups.

19. Reports from USC Committees:

   Academic Affairs and Research Committee   Aria Razfar, Chair
   Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee     Roy Campbell, Chair
   Statutes and Governance Committee          Nick Burbules, Chair

VIII. USC Committee Meetings – 11:30 a.m.

(The meeting will recess for lunch at 12:00 p.m. and resume at 1:00 p.m.)

IX. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson

X. Adjournment

The next USC meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, December 3, in Urbana-Champaign.
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 take place in 2019-2020.

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.