I. Meeting with President Killeen, Executive Vice President Wilson, and Vice President Ghosh

(The meeting will recess at noon for lunch.)

II. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of October 31, 2018

III. Classification of Senate Minutes
   A. University of Illinois at Chicago – None
   B. University of Illinois at Springfield – November 9, 2018
   C. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – November 12, 2018

IV. Remarks from the USC Chair

V. 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

VI. Old Business - Action Items

1. OT-351. Shared Governance and System-Wide Academic and Research Initiatives at the University Of Illinois: Guidelines

   An updated draft document will be discussed.

VII. New Business

2. Designation of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:
   Thursday, January 17, 2019   Chicago   ________________
3. ST-84. Proposed Revisions to the Statutes, Article VIII, Section 4 – Changes in Existing Units. Passed UIUC Senate 11/12/18.

The UIUC Senate approved statutory changes, which should be transmitted to the other two senates.


On February 19, 2013, USC approved a resolution that affirmed the Statutes and General Rules as the basic governing documents of the university; documents which cannot be changed by any individual campus or be contravened by any collective bargaining agreement. A draft updated statement is enclosed for consideration.

VIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

5. OT-123. University Senates Conference guests.

Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings, and how to make the best use of USC meeting time.


The UIC and UIS Senates have acted on this item.


The revised section on Intellectual Property has been approved by all three senates.

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.


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.

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

Professor Burbules, Chair of the Statutes and Governance Committee, gave the presentation to the Board on November 15. The next presentation will be given by the Finance and Budget Committee on January 17.
14. Report of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, November 15, 2018       Chicago       Gay Miller

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

Follow-up items were discussed with University Audits and new target dates have been set for three items.


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

17. OT-344. Proposed Revision to the University Senates Conference Bylaws, 4.3.1 – Chair of the Nominating Committee. Approved by USC 5/3/18.

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

18. Campus Updates.

Discussion of campus matters for information.

19. OT-142. External Groups with USC Representatives: DPI Academic Governance Advisory Group (De Groote, Johnson); Enrollment Management Policy Council (Magic Wade); President’s Executive Leadership Program (Erricolo); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (DeBerry-Spence, Tolliver).

Update on activities of the external groups.

20. Reports from USC Committees:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee       Gay Miller, Chair
Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee       Danilo Erricolo, Chair
Statutes and Governance Committee            Nicholas Burbules, Chair

IX. Review of Agenda Items (proposal to remove inactive items)

X. USC Committee Meetings

XI. Adjournment

The next USC meeting is scheduled to be held on January 24 by videoconference.
Pending Items and Items Referred to Committee

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

   USC will determine whether to conduct a review of one of the vice presidents, which would begin in late spring.


   Propose to remove (USC EC).

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.

   Propose to remove (USC EC).

5. OT-330. Approval and Consultation Processes with the University Senates Conference and the Senates.

   Propose to remove (USC SGC).


   Propose to remove (USC EC).

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?

   Propose to remove (USC EC).

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.

The SGC will weigh in on whether to keep this item on the pending agenda.

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.

Propose to remove (USC SGC).