AGENDA
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE
Thursday, December 1, 2016
10:00 a.m.
Meeting: Hatmaker Room, Public Affairs Center
Luncheon: PAC Restaurant
One University Plaza
University of Illinois at Springfield

I. Meeting with President Killeen and Vice President Wilson

(The meeting will recess at noon for lunch.)

II. USC Committee Meetings (12:45-1:30pm)

III. Remarks from the USC Chair

IV. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of October 26, 2016

V. Classification of Senate Minutes

   A. University of Illinois at Chicago – October 26
   B. University of Illinois at Springfield – November 4, November 18
   C. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – November 14

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


   The revisions proposed by the UIUC Senate were transmitted to the UIC and UIS Senates. All three senates have approved identical language.

   The USC Statutes and Governance Committee will report on the proposed revisions to the General Rules.

3. OT-338. USC Statement on Faculty/Staff Salary and Benefits.

   The Conference will consider for action the document drafted by the USC FBBC.

VIII. New Business

No new business.

IX. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items


   (Items 4-6) The Conference has advocated sending the changes to the Statutes where there are no concerns to the Board of Trustees.


This item has been transmitted to the Vice President Wilson.


The policy has been approved by the UIS and UIUC Senates. This item is scheduled for action at the UIC Senate meeting on November 30.

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

The next USC report to the Board will be on January 19.

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

No new information.


No new information.


No new information.

13. 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?


Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings.

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

Thursday, November 10, 2016 Chicago Kouros Mohammadian
16. Designation of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, January 19, 2017  Chicago  Gay Miller

17. Campus Updates.

Discussion of campus matters for information.

18. 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).

19. Reports from USC Committees:

- Academic Affairs and Research Committee
- 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.

X. 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 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-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.

6. 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.