I. Report from Professor Jorge Villegas on the search for a Vice President/Chief Financial Officer (OT-340)

II. Remarks from the USC Chair

III. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of October 24, 2017

IV. Classification of Senate Minutes
   A. University of Illinois at Chicago – October 25, 2017; November 30, 2017
   B. University of Illinois at Springfield – October 27, 2017; November 10, 2017; December 1, 2017
   C. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign – November 13, 2017

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

   None.

VI. New Business

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

   Thursday, January 18, 2018     Chicago

VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

2. ST-77. Revisions to the Statutes – Edits and Updates. Received from the Board of Trustees Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee 10/6/14. Transmitted to

The proposed revisions to the Statutes were reviewed by President Killeen, Executive Vice President Wilson, and Legal Counsel. Professor Burbules, Chair of the USC Statutes and Governance Committee, has separated the proposed statutory revisions into two categories: the A file, which includes the revisions approved by the senates that are ready to move forward; and the B file, which includes items that need further discussion and new items. USC will discuss how to proceed with the A file.


The proposed revisions to the General Rules were reviewed by President Killeen, Executive Vice President Wilson, and Legal Counsel. The document will be discussed in the afternoon. In addition, the Statutes and Governance Committee is working on revising the document to include the system/university language.


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.


The Conference approved language that would permit the president to propose statutory revisions in collaboration with USC. The new proposed revisions were transmitted to the senates. In addition, a background statement was transmitted to the senates. The UIS Senate approved the revisions on September 15. The UIC Senate will have second reading on November 30.

This item was transmitted to Vice President Wilson.


All three senates approved identical language that was transmitted to President Killeen.

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

Professor Burbules gave the report on November 16. The next Board report will be on January 18. **There will be a discussion of possible topics, and a presenter will need to be determined.**

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

The audit process is complete and a report has been issued. USC plans to consider the recommendations in the report over this academic year.

10. OT-340. Search for a Vice President/Chief Financial Officer.

Professor Jorge Villegas will report at the beginning of the meeting.

11. OT-123. University Senates Conference guests.

Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings.

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

Thursday, November 16, 2017 Chicago Aria Razfar

13. Campus Updates.

Discussion of campus matters for information.

14. OT-142. External Groups with USC Representatives: Enrollment Management Policy Council (Novak); President’s Executive Leadership Program (Johnson); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (DeBerry-Spence, Novak, Tolliver); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (TBD).
Positions will be filled as needed and as the vice presidents reorganize their groups.

15. Reports from USC Committees:

- Academic Affairs and Research Committee
  Kathy Novak, Chair
- Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee
  Harley Johnson, Chair
- Hospital and Health Affairs Committee
  Mary Jo LaDu, Chair
- Statutes and Governance Committee
  Nicholas Burbules, Chair

Any committee recommendations may be considered for action. A report on the Board’s November 15 meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee is enclosed.

VIII. Meeting with Chancellor Susan Koch and Provost Dennis Papini

(The meeting will recess at noon for lunch. Committees are welcome to meet during that time.)

IX. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson

X. USC Committee of the Whole Discussion: Follow-up items from the session with the President and Vice President

(Any remaining business will be completed at this time.)

XI. Adjournment

The next USC meeting will be held on January 26 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.


   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.

11. OT-338. USC Statement on Faculty/Staff Salary and Benefits. Transmitted to President and Vice President for Academic Affairs 12/7/16.

No new information.