

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Thursday, January 22, 2015

PLACE: Videoconference: 414 AOB, 364 HAB, Hatmaker PAC

PRESENT: Burbules, Campbell, Chambers (Chair), Deberry-Spence, De Groote, Erricolo, Fadavi, Francis, Graber, Jackson, Li, Maher, McDermott*, Miller, Mohammadian, Tolliver (Vice Chair), Villegas, Vincent (*ex officio*)

ABSENT: Kalita, LaDu, Leff

GUESTS: Michael Devocelle, Robert Easter, Timothy Killeen, Christophe Pierre

*Attended by phone

Professor Donald Chambers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

I. Meeting with President Easter, President-designate Killeen, and Vice President Pierre

President-designate Killeen discussed the presidential transition process. He commented that he can legitimately use “we” since he is officially on the University of Illinois team, currently on a 30% appointment. He said that working with President and Mrs. Easter has been a pleasure and he believes there will be a graceful transition. Dr. Killeen has met with many university and campus leaders, alumni, and legislators. He has seen incredible loyalty to the University everywhere he goes.

Dr. Killeen commented that he is a complete believer in shared governance and is eager to engage with the faculty. Even though there are limitations and issues to work through, he is an optimist who believes the University has an incredible asset bank and an authentic narrative that needs to be told. He reinforced his belief that it is all about the students.

Dr. Killeen believes that it is time for a visioning exercise that would generate a University-wide strategic plan. Exploring synergies among the campuses should be a part of the process. Not only is it important to look at what goes on within the University, there is also the need for a revitalization of public higher education. The exercise should explore and determine what it means to be a 21st century land-grant institution. He expects that the process would be initiated by the Board of Trustees and last about ten months. Dr. Killeen stressed the importance of following through after the initiative concludes so the end result is not a document collecting dust on the shelf.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of February 25, 2015

Conference members provided advice suggesting that, during the strategic visioning process, the campuses should understand the key components of the exercise, the role of University Administration should be defined, the role of the flagship public university of the state should be explored, and the University needs to understand how to meet the new demands of society.

Professor Chambers thanked Dr. Killeen for the first of many interactions with the Senates Conference.

President Easter commented that these are exciting and challenging times for the University. Students are changing. Industries are changing. There is an expectation that the University will be a significant contributor to the economic revitalization of the state. He noted that Trustee McMillan was elected to be Chair of the Board of Trustees. The President said that the University is trying to fully understand the implications of the new Governor's executive orders, which puts restrictions on travel and hiring.

President Easter said that there will be some growth in tuition revenue this coming year because of the 4-year tuition guarantee. Those graduating are paying less than the newer students. The state appropriation is difficult to predict. The University has some money in reserves. The state is around \$300M behind in payments to the University.

Vice President Pierre agreed with the Conference's suggestion that budget decisions be aligned with the mission of the University. He believes the mechanics are in place to do this. Dr. Pierre commented on the University Administration (UA) budget review process that was instituted last year. The Budget Review Advisory Committee (BRAC) is working in subcommittees that will report back to him later in the spring. He and the President will then make decisions about the UA budget. The group discussed the various campus budget processes and the need for more transparency and faculty participation. Professor Burbules noted that the *Statutes* say the budget must be transparent at every level.

Professor Easter said that he plans to suggest one revision to the *General Rules* document concerning the role of the chancellors.

President Easter said that a Board item has been drafted for USC ST-79 (to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*). He commented that the language seems appropriate as long as the senates agree.

President Easter was asked to comment on the Board's directive that he explore the future of medical education and research at the University and report in March. The President responded that he continues to pull those discussions together. The first public domain discussion will be in the Board's Academic and Student Affairs Committee meeting.

President Easter briefly discussed the draft policy on criminal background checks, which would go into effect for all new employees. He said that it is important to have a fully vented process.

II. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Chambers discussed changes to the Board's Executive Committee. The new Governor has two positions to fill on the Board. Reports from USC to the Board will go back to being presented at the full Board meetings instead of at committee meetings. Professor Chambers noted that he presented the recognition plaques from USC to Chairman Kennedy and Trustee Strobel the night before the January Board meeting. A recognition dinner for Mr. Kennedy is being planned for February 24 in Chicago, which is the day before the next USC meeting. Professor Chambers reported that he and Professor Tolliver are working on the USC white paper.

III. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of December 12, 2014

The minutes were approved as written.

IV. Classification of Senate Minutes

Class I:	Matters of policy affecting one campus only. Item is sent to the President and Board of Trustees for action.
Class II:	Matters affecting more than one campus. Item is sent to Senate(s) for action, then to President and Board of Trustees. At the time of this classification, the Conference member will file with the recording secretary an accurate final copy of the Senate action.
Class III:	Amendments to the <i>University of Illinois Statutes</i> . Procedure is the same as with Class II items. At the time of reporting this classification, the Conference member will file with the recording secretary an accurate final copy of the Senate action.
Class N:	This designation requires no USC action, but alerts one or more Senates to an item of interest from the originating Senate. The "N" is preceded by and followed by a lower case letter(s); c = Chicago; s = Springfield; u = Urbana-Champaign; usc = University Senates Conference. Example: "cNs,u" means that a matter has come up in the Chicago Senate, which may be of interest to Springfield and Urbana-Champaign.

A. The following items were classified I by the University Senates Conference:

1. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, December 8, 2014

- EP.15.22 Proposal from the College of Education to revise the requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education
- EP.15.25 Revision of Certificate in Accountancy program, College of Business
- HD.15.01 Nomination for Honorary Degree

B. The following items were classified III by the University Senates Conference:

2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, December 8, 2014

uNc,s SP.15.06 General Revisions to the *Statutes*, Motions #1 and #2

Explanation of File Numbers

ST - University of Illinois *Statutes*

GR - *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*

NC - Nominating Committee

OT - All other items

V. Old Business – Action Items

None.

VI. New Business

1. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

Thursday, March 12, 2015	Urbana	Roy Campbell
USC Report:		Roy Campbell

2. OT-319. Proposed revisions to *University Senates Conference Organization and Functions*.

Professor Burbules commented that USC does not have bylaws, but instead has the organization and functions document. He said that USC could approve renaming the document now and then consider other changes at a later time. The USC Statutes and Governance Committee will be looking at revising the document. Professor Maher said that the organization and functions document does not meet Robert's Rules standards for bylaws, so he felt it would not be appropriate to rename the document as bylaws. Professor Burbules said that SGC would work on revising the document and bring it to the Conference for consideration.

VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

3. ST-72. Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 (Academic Freedom). Passed UIUC Senate 12/6/10. Passed UIC Senate 9/22/11. Passed UIS Senate 12/14/12. Transmitted to the President 1/18/13. Revised language approved by USC 3/18/14. Transmitted to Senates 3/21/14. Passed UIUC Senate 11/17/14.

Professor Vincent reported that the UIC Senate plans a second reading on January 29. Professor McDermott reported that the UIS Senate will consider this item on February 6.

4. ST-77/GR-46. Revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* – Edits and Updates. *Statutes* transmitted to the Senates 10/10/14. *General Rules* transmitted to the President 12/22/14.

Professor Burbules said that the *General Rule* revisions have been sent to the President. The document will need to go to the Board's Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee before going to the full Board. He noted that the composition of that committee will change in that its chair, Trustee Strobel, will no longer be a trustee.

Concerning the *Statutes*, the UIC Senate has acted on all of the proposed revisions, the UIS Senate has reviewed the first half of the proposed revisions, and the UIUC Senate is done with the first two clusters out of eight. Professor Maher reported that motion 4 and 5 will go to the senate at its next meeting. Motion 3 is about done. Professor Burbules said that the USC SGC will compile the changes so that USC can begin the process of reconciling any differences. Professor Li said that the UIS Senate only had clusters 7 and 8 to complete. The Conference decided that it would not formally transmit anything to the Board until the entire document is ready.

Professor Vincent asked what responsibilities the senates have in regards to revisions to the *General Rules*. Professor Burbules responded that there are none except for the section concerning intellectual property. He added that there will also be a recommendation to move the intellectual property section of the *Statutes* to the *General Rules*.

[This item was brought up again later in the meeting under item 14.]

5. ST-79. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2.b, and Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*. Approved by USC 1/17/13. Transmitted to Senates 4/5/13. Revised language approved by USC 6/18/13. Transmitted to Senates 6/21/13. Passed UIC senate 9/26/13. Alternate language passed UIUC Senate 11/18/13. Transmitted to Senates 11/26/13. Passed UIS Senate 2/21/14. Passed UIC Senate 4/24/14. Transmitted to the President 6/11/14.

Professor Burbules commented that President Easter indicated that this item is ready to go to the Board.

6. OT-316. University Senates Conference White Paper.

Professor Chambers commented that he and Professor Tolliver will be providing an outline to the USC Executive Committee.

7. OT-317. Actions of the State Universities Civil Service System (SUCCS) and preserving public universities' exemption authority. USC support of CIUS "Statement of Concern" 10/8/14. Letter to Chairman Kennedy and President Easter 10/13/14. All three senates have supported the CIUS statement.

Professor Chambers commented that all three senates have approved the CIUS statement. Trustee Montgomery is a member of the Civil Service Merit Board and is working to promote the best interests of the University.

8. OT-318. Resolutions in honor of Chairman Christopher Kennedy and Trustee Pamela Strobel. Approved by USC 12/12/14.

Professor Chambers said that the resolutions, which were put onto plaques, were presented to Chairman Kennedy and Trustee Strobel at the Board dinner the night before the Board meeting.

9. OT-304. Open Access to Research Articles. Transmitted to Senates 10/21/14.

No new information.

10. OT-310. Recommendation for New Policy Language Related to Classified Research at the University of Illinois. Transmitted to Senates 6/25/14. Passed UIS Senate 9/12/14.

Professor Chambers said that UIC and UIUC Senates are still considering this item. He commented that classified research is shifting more from government security research to industrial research. Professor Vincent said this item was discussed by the UIC Senate and was referred back to the research committee. The final position from the committee is to send the policy back to its originators with the request for a new policy once the new administration is in place. Professor Campbell said that a committee created by the VCR will be considering the policy. There is already a classified research policy in place at UIUC. Another concern is that Contracts should be involved in the discussions.

11. OT-313. Search for Executive Director of Governmental Relations.

Professor Villegas reported that finalists will be interviewed in February.

12. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

Guests to invite were discussed.

13. Board of Trustees Reports:

Thursday, January 15, 2015	Chicago	Gay Miller
Wednesday, January 14, 2015	ASAC	Gay Miller

14. ST-77/GR-46. Revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* – Edits and Updates. *Statutes* transmitted to the Senates 10/10/14. *General Rules* transmitted to the President 12/22/14.

[Discussion continued from item 4.] Professor Burbules asked to come back to this item. Since two of the three senates are basically done with the statutory changes, he suggested

that the Intellectual Property section of the *General Rule* be transmitted to the senates at this time. He also suggested attaching to those changes a proposal to move the Intellectual Property section from the *General Rules* to the *Statutes*. Professor Burbules made a motion, based on the recommendation from the USC Statutes and Governance Committee, that the Conference approve moving the Intellectual Property sections from the *General Rules* to the *Statutes*, along with the request that the senates consider the proposed revisions to the Intellectual Property section. Professor Francis seconded the motion. Professor Burbules said that moving the IP section to the *Statutes* would simplify the approval process since the *Statutes* already require senate approval. In addition, the IP section deals with faculty rights that are more statutory in nature and less operational. The motion was voted on and approved.

15. Campus Updates.

Professor Campbell commented that the timing of the hiring process needs to be reviewed. He added that this issue is crucial to all three campuses. Professor Burbules said that adding on background checks to the process will make it even more important to change the process in order to approve appointments before the appointments actually begin. The group discussed the cumbersome processes for hiring employees.

Professor Campbell also discussed the CAFT report, which looked at hiring procedures and made recommendations on the future of Professor Salaita, and a report from current and former senate leaders that responds to the CAFT report. He also commented on the proposed UIUC College of Medicine.

Professor Villegas said that UIS units are using the dashboard process with a response deadline of February 13. The UIS Senate has organized a panel on academic freedom. Budget concerns are a big issue for UIS. Professor Villegas said that the tenure system faculty will soon have a bargaining unit.

Professor Vincent said that Dr. Gislason will be serving as interim chancellor in addition to interim provost. The chancellor-elect, Dr. Michael Amiridis was at the Board meeting. There are currently searches for a VCHA and a provost. Professor Mohammadian is leading the senate budget committee, which is developing principles to guide the budget and looking for new sources of revenue.

16. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

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

Gay Miller
Roy Campbell
Jorge Villegas
Nicholas Burbules

There were no reports.

17. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: Enrollment Management Policy Council (Leff); Pre- and Post-Award Research Money Policy group (Wheeler); Strategic Communications and Marketing Council (Villegas); UI Labs Task Force (Chambers); University Technology Management Team (Campbell); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (Chambers, Mohammadian, Tolliver, Villegas); Vice President for Academic Affairs UA Budget Review Advisory Committee (Mohammadian, Villegas, Wheeler); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Boltuc, Chambers, Villegas, Wheeler).

There were no updates.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:40 p.m.

Pending Items

OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

OT-265. Academy on Capitalism and Limited Government.

OT-288. Faculty/Staff Pension and Benefit Issues (formerly Resolution on Pensions/ Pension Reform).

OT-298. Shared Governance in a Changing Environment.

.OT-307. Leadership Development Program.

OT-315. Proposed University Senates Conference Resolution on Avoiding Cross-Campus Conflicts. Transmitted 8/27/14.