

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Tuesday, October 27, 2020

PLACE: Videoconference

PRESENT: Brennan, Campbell, Dallesasse, Danziger, De Groote, Dutta, Erricolo, Fisher, Hunt, Kar (Vice Chair), Maher, Razfar, Span, Steinberg, Stroschio, Varden, Wade (Chair), Weuve, Zhan

ABSENT: Jenkins

GUESTS: Phyllis Baker, Bill Jackson, Timothy Killeen, Karen Whitney, Barbara Wilson

Professor Wade, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

I. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson

President Killeen reported that the system's net finances went upwards in FY20 at an estimated increase of \$200M. Those dollars will be moved forward into the current fiscal year. The estimated cost of the pandemic through June is \$188.5M. There were \$49M in expenses for student fee adjustments, \$21M for COVID-19 testing and related expenses, a \$34M loss of clinical income, and \$48M in increased financial aid. The CARES Act provided approximately \$32M to UIC, \$32M to UIUC, \$1.7M to UIS, and \$35M to patient care, leaving about \$3M for student emergency support. Some of the key changes in the FY20 budget included tuition and fees that grew by 3.4%, a 2% increase in patient care, and gifts that went up by 9%. Auxiliary income went down 30.5%. The President commented that 92% of the capital campaign has been reached. Big expenditures are salaries and instruction. There was a decrease in travel expenses.

President Killeen said that the proposed budget for FY22 will be going to the Board in November and will include a request for an 8.3% budget increase. Priorities will include addressing the student/faculty ratio, repair and renovation, libraries, and information technology. Faculty recruiting efforts will continue, but at a slower pace. For the current year, there is an expected revenue loss of \$300M. Higher Education is still advocating for additional federal relief. Executive Vice President (EVP) Wilson added that priorities, including hiring, are driven by each university. The system provides support for the universities in ways such as start-up costs for the distinguished faculty recruitment program and funds for underrepresented faculty. In addition to academic priorities, the President said that the system will stay focused on the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff.

President Killeen and EVP Wilson discussed some of the efforts being made to address possible unrest due to the upcoming national election. They also answered questions about students staying home after the break and how to handle students who remain on campus and in the communities. There will need to be testing and isolating for students who return after break.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of December 1, 2020

President Killeen commented that there can be no complacency. Efforts need to be ramped up, including on the social front. There will most likely be another bump when students return in the spring. Overall, the system is doing very well. EVP Wilson provided information on disciplinary data and processes. Both she and the President expressed their gratefulness to the students for their efforts in this very difficult situation they are facing. The group discussed mechanisms in place to proactively address issues that arise. Also discussed were changes being made to spring break.

President Killeen said that DPI (Discovery Partners Institute) is moving forward very well. There are 85 faculty members affiliated with DPI and the number is growing. He discussed some of the upcoming programs and initiatives as well as some of the ones already in place. DPI has been instrumental in building COVID-19 testing sites for the entire state and with SHIELD T3. The President commented that DPI would be looking forward to hearing USC's comments on the DPI Bylaws.

President Killeen commented that the decision to move \$160M of the system's managed endowment to BlackRock's ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) sustainable investing was a good decision. The fund is tracking well. The U of I System was BlackRock's first ESG client, which provided the system with special benefits. This type of investing removes the system from making decisions about investing in particular companies and relies on BlackRock to make investment priority decisions that are consistent with our guiding values. There were some specific questions about BlackRock's criteria. President Killeen suggested that USC, or its budget committee, meet with Vice President Ghosh. The group also discussed other investment funds and insurance policies on enrollments that have been taken on by some colleges.

The group discussed strategies being developed to address systemic racism and racial justice. President Killeen said that each chancellor is being aggressive in moving forward. There is no top-down approach as this could slow down the process. However, ideas are being shared and synergies are encouraged. The chancellors are focused on alliances and the police chiefs are talking about reforms. EVP Wilson added that the chancellors have been asked to have serious discussions about diversity, equity, and inclusion. Plans should address student enrollments, student success, and diversity faculty hiring and retention and incorporate culture, climate, and inclusion.

EVP Wilson discussed a new vice president position that would bring public relations and governmental relations into the same organization. She welcomed a USC nomination of someone to serve on the search committee.

EVP Wilson said that she would be sending a letter to USC that would provide additional information on the proposed revisions to the Residency Policy, background information, and data.

EVP Wilson announced that there would be a new round of funding for the arts and humanities initiative. The first round provided funding for fourteen selected programs.

EVP Wilson discussed follow-up from the Student Mental Health Summit. The keynote speaker was asked to come back to meet with students, faculty, and staff from each

university to discuss further how departments and faculty can help students. The speaker has had success at his institution, and we want to bring that energy here.

President Killeen provided an update on the UIS Chancellor interim appointment and subsequent search.

(The meeting recessed at 12:30 p.m. and resumed 1:00 p.m.)

II. Meeting with Interim Chancellor Karen Whitney, UIS

Chancellor Whitney commented that she became interim chancellor on July 1 and had three weeks with Chancellor Koch. She talked about her various roles in higher education and as a leadership coach. Chancellor Whitney said that she likes the role of interim chancellor and is here to set the table for the next chancellor.

Chancellor Whitney discussed the difficulties of navigating between serving the private good and the public good, having both the student consumer and taxpayer consumer to consider. She strongly believes in liberal arts and humanities as the base for whatever else students might go on to learn. Yet, the university must also be relevant in the constituents' eyes. Chancellor Whitney said that consistent excellence takes consistent funding. Chasing money can cause a loss of focus.

Chancellor Whitney commented on enrollment data patterns and the efforts in the strategic plan to stop the decline. She was not surprised to see reorganization as part of the plan. The reorganization plan has three parts: conversation, planning, and review and approval. The two-year process began in December 2019. She believes it will be helpful to the new chancellor to have the reorganization plan in place so there can be an energized honeymoon period. When asked about managing conflicts and stress during the reorganization, the Chancellor replied that she hopes transparency and trust-building are helping.

Responding to a question about teaching and learning during the pandemic, Chancellor Whitney said that there have been lessons learned that we need to keep track of. Institutions have been forced to innovate. The notion of silos has been blown up. She commented that the U of I System is one of the best systems in the country. Chancellor Whitney said that she appreciates the collegiality here.

III. Meeting with Phyllis Baker and Bill Jackson, Discovery Partners Institute

Mr. Jackson commented on the team effort that went into drafting the Discovery Partner Institute Bylaws. Dr. Baker discussed the founding documents, which call for creating bylaws for the institute. The bylaws are to detail a shared governance model and describe the composition of an elected DPI Executive Committee.

Mr. Jackson said that, in following the guidance from the senates and from the first interim director, Bill Sanders, the purpose of DPI has not changed. Professor Steinberg commented on DPI's role in addressing economic and social challenges. Mr. Jackson responded that DPI is following the path that was laid out. Some examples he gave were DPI's work on community education and workforce education.

Professor Maher had concerns with the lack of information in the definition of the membership body, such as who can be a member, the role of the membership and its relationship to the Executive Committee, quorum of Executive Committee meetings, and information about the Executive Committee meetings – for example, how often the committee meets and who chairs the meeting.

Mr. Jackson stated that the Executive Committee runs DPI. He reports to the Executive Committee. Professor Maher thought that the role of the DPI members should be more than electing an Executive Committee.

Professor Wade said that the USC Statutes and Governance Committee would be asked to provide feedback on the bylaws.

IV. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of September 29 and 30, 2020

Professor Kar moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

V. 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.

Professor Dallesasse moved to approve the classification of senate minutes. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

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

1. University of Illinois at Springfield, October 9, 2020

Res 50-04 Establish Graduate Certificates in Cybersecurity Management and Cybersecurity Administration

2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 19, 2020

EP.21.014 Digital Marketing - Floating (Online) -- Establish a New Graduate Level Concentration titled “Digital Marketing” For the Online Master in Business Administration (iMBA), the Online MS Management (iMSM), and the Online Master of Science in Accountancy (iMSA) Programs in the Gies College of Business

EP.21.015 Entrepreneurship and Strategic Innovation - Floating (Online) -- Establish a New Graduate Level Concentration titled “Entrepreneurship and Strategic Innovation” For the Online Master in Business Administration (iMBA), the Online MS Management (iMSM), and the Online Master of Science in Accountancy (iMSA) Programs in the Gies College of Business

EP.21.016 Global Challenges in Business - Floating (Online) -- Establish a New Graduate Level Concentration titled “Global Challenges in Business” For the Online Master in Business Administration (iMBA), the Online MS Management (iMSM), and the Online Master of Science in Accountancy (iMSA) Programs in the Gies College of Business

EP.21.017 Establish a Master of Science in Integrative Biology (MS in IB) in the School of Integrative Biology

3. University of Illinois at Chicago, October 21, 2020

PR-21.05 Proposal to Revise the Doctor of Philosophy in Chemical Engineering

PR-21.06 Proposal to Rename and Revise the Concentration in Curriculum Studies in the Doctor of Philosophy in Education: Curriculum and Instruction

PR-21.07 Proposal to Eliminate the Master of Laws in Estate Planning, Master of Laws in International Business and Trade Law, Master of Laws in Privacy and Technology Law, and Master of Laws in Tax Law; and Eliminate the Joint Juris Doctor/Master of Laws Programs in these Areas

PR-21.08 Proposal to Eliminate Seven Concentrations in the Master of Jurisprudence

PR-21.09 Proposal to Revise the Concentration in Advanced Population Health Nursing in the Doctor of Nursing Practice

- PR-21.10 Proposal to Rename and Revise the Concentration in Health Systems Leadership and Informatics in the Doctor of Nursing Practice
- PR-21.11 Proposal to Revise the Neonatal Nurse Practitioner Concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice
- PR-21.12 Proposal to Rename and Revise the Minor in Managerial Skills
- PR-21.13 Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Architectural Studies
- PR-21.14 Proposal to Establish the Minor in Education
- PR-21.15 Proposal to Establish the Minor in Food Science
- PR-21.16 Proposal to Establish the Minor in Civic Analytics
- PR-21.17 Proposal to Establish the Minor in Nonprofit Management

4. University of Illinois at Springfield, October 23, 2020

Res 50-06 Establish a Minor in Art Therapy

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

5. University of Illinois at Chicago, October 21, 2020

Approved the proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article III, Section 3 and 5, and Article VI – Dean, Director, or Campus Librarian (USC ST-86)

C. The following items were classified N by the University Senates Conference:

6. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 19, 2020

uNc,s EP.21.018 Revision to the 2020-2021 Academic Calendar (Spring Semester)

7. University of Illinois at Springfield, October 23, 2020

sNc,u Res 50-05 Allocation of Administrative Support for Campus Senate

Res 50-10 Adopt Test-Optional Admission for the 2021/2022 Academic Year

VI. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Wade forewent remarks in order to have more time for the business agenda items.

VII. USC Committee of the Whole Discussion: Follow-up items from morning session

USC discussed concerns with the budget given the lack of a second stimulus bill, the state's financial condition, and the costs associated with COVID-19 testing.

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

VIII. Old Business - Action Items

1. OT-371. Proposed revisions to the University of Illinois Residency Status Policy.

Professor Steinberg commented that there was too much information in the letter that was just received from EVP Wilson for USC to go through during the meeting. He suggested that the policy be sent to the USC Statutes and Governance Committee. Professor Kar moved to send the document to SGC. The motion was seconded by Professor Steinberg. Professor Kar said that SGC could reach out to EVP Wilson and Dr. Julian Parrott if needed. The motion was approved.

2. OT-372. Proposal to establish a consultation process for system policies.

The group that discussed a consultation process for system policies at the USC retreat agreed to draft a document for consideration. The members of the group are Professors Dallesasse, Dutta, Kar, and Maher.

3. OT-374. System-wide Digital Accessibility Policy Guide Overview.

Professor Wade noted that USC had received answers to its questions and was invited to have a representative on the committee writing the policy guide. She volunteered to serve on the committee.

IX. New Business

4. OT-375. Discovery Partners Institute Bylaws.

The DPI Bylaws were referred to the USC Statutes and Governance Committee for review and advice.

5. OT-376. Consideration of a New System Officer Position.

Professor Wade said that USC had been asked to review the draft position description and provide comments. USC has also been asked to nominate someone to serve on the search committee.

Professor Maher commented that the position qualifications seem to be oriented towards public relations in terms of goals. He suggested adding something that addresses the need to represent, dynamically, what the university does and the value it brings to society as a whole. A desirable qualification would be for the candidate to have a deep understanding of the academic mission, as well as an understanding of what the faculty do and what faculty contribute to the overall mission. The candidate needs to be able to work with faculty. Professor Steinberg thought that ten years of experience in public relations would bring skills in that field but, most likely, not experience in higher education and the academic mission.

Professor Wade was chosen to serve on the search committee.

X. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

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

Professor Kar presented a draft of the report to be given to the Board at its November meeting. The report will be on the main part of the USC retreat, which focused on systemic racism and social justice. USC members made comments and suggestions. Professors Kar, Brennan, and Campbell oversaw the work on the report. Professor Hunt joined the group and agreed to give the presentation to the Board.

Professor Hunt said that there needed to be a paradigm shift on how the university police and students interact. The campus forces should be acclimatized to student needs and make students feel that the police are there to protect them. Also, there should be professionals on staff to serve social needs that police officers are not equipped to handle.

7. ST-83. Revisions to the *Statutes* – new proposed revisions and proposed revisions from ST-77 that need further discussion (B File). Sent to Executive Vice President Wilson 5/1/20.

Professor De Groote reported that the Statutes and Governance Committee will be working on the additional revisions to the *Statutes* with EVP Wilson and other system administrators.

8. ST-84. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article VIII, Section 4 – Changes in Existing Units. Passed UIUC Senate 11/12/18. Transmitted to Senates 12/18/18. Revised UIUC Senate document transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 5/7/19. Passed UIS Senate 8/30/19. Passed with amendments UIC Senate 1/30/20. UIC Senate amendments transmitted to UIS and UIUC Senates 3/2/20. Passed UIS Senate 4/3/20. Passed with amendments UIUC Senate 4/27/20. Reconciled language approved by USC 5/29/20. Reconciled language to Senates 6/2/20. UIUC Senate USSP response 6/5/20. UIC SEC response 6/10/20.

There was no new information.

9. ST-85. Proposed Revisions to the *Statute*, Article X, Section 1 (Tenure of Academic Staff) (a) 6 and 7 – to permit the use of five-year appointments for non-tenure track faculty. Passed UIC Senate 4/22/20. Transmitted to UIS and UIUC Senates 5/1/20.

There was no new information.

10. ST-86. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article III, Sections 3 and 5, and Article VI – Dean, Director, or Campus Librarian. Passed UIUC Senate 4/27/20. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 5/1/20.

There was no new information.

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

There was no new information.

12. OT-366. Policy on Integrity in Research and Publication. Sent to USC by the Executive Vice President 3/16/20. Transmitted to Senates 4/2/20.

There was no new information.

13. OT-367. Clarification of the *General Rules* sections on intellectual property in relation to course materials. Approved by USC 5/29/20. Transmitted to Senates 6/2/20. UIC SEC response 6/10/20.

There was no new information.

14. OT-368. USC in the next academic year.

There was no new information.

15. OT-369. Addressing Systemic Racism and Racial Justice (formerly Proposed action plan for Black Lives Matter). Letter to President Killeen 6/25/20.

The USC report to the Board will be on this topic.

16. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

The Conference discussed guests to invite to future meetings.

17. USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, November 12, 2020

Livestream

Lynn Fisher

18. University Updates.

Professor De Groote said that the Student Government Association at UIC petitioned to have credit/non-credit grading, passed a resolution to ban monitoring software, and sent qualifications for passing.

Professor Fisher said that the UIS SGA led the charge against cancelling spring break. She also commented on the reorganization process, which many at UIS feel is moving too quickly and not allowing enough time for dialogue among the units. Professor Weuve felt

that there had been opportunities for cross-campus dialogues. Science starting talks earlier on and has set up a framework.

Professor Kar said that UIUC overwhelmingly approved cancelling spring break week and, instead, canceling classes for several single days during the semester. He commented that the pandemic is hitting institutions differently. We are doing well and have strong shared governance and communications in place.

19. OT-142. External Groups with USC Representatives: Enrollment Management Policy Council (Wade); President's Executive Leadership Program (De Groot); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee for System Academic Affairs; Student Mental Health Services Summit Working Group (Hunt); Sexual Misconduct Implementation Group (Kar, Strahle, Strosio); U of I System Going Forward: Excellence Amid COVID-19 Steering Committee (John Dallesasse); DPI Bylaws Task Force (De Groot).

PELP: Professor De Groot said that the first session of PELP was all virtual. The schedule has been rearranged, with the Chicago visit being pushed back until June. The group hopes to meet in person in Springfield in March.

Student Mental Health Summit: Professor Hunt said that the summit was very successful. The speaker was invited to come back and speak with individual groups. Faculty need training to help students.

Sexual Misconduct Implementation: Professor Kar said that there is a full training video ready for consensual relations. UIUC has expanded its policy to include harassment.

Excellence Amid COVID-19: Professor Dallesasse said that the steering committee is meeting less than it did over the summer. The group is getting updates, but decision-making is being pushed down.

20. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

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

Aria Razfar
Roy Campbell
Sandy De Groot

There were no reports.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.