Professor Roy Campbell, Chair  
UIUC Senate Executive Committee  
Dept. of Computer Science  
3122 Siebel Center  MC 258

Professor Jorge Villegas, Chair  
UIS Campus Senate  
Dept. of Business Administration  
MS UHB 4054

October 10, 2014

Dear Colleagues

The University Senates Conference is hereby transmitting to you a set of revisions to the University of Illinois Statutes. This revision process began in August 2012 when the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee of the Board of Trustees noted the need for an overall review of the Statutes and General Rules, which had not been done in several decades. The Board’s aim was to resolve ambiguities and to bring the governing documents up to date with current practice.

An ad hoc committee was formed to carry out the review and to propose revisions. In the course of this process, changes were proposed and/or reviewed by UIUC faculty members Nicholas Burbules (who started on the committee but then left on sabbatical), Joyce Tolliver, and Prasanta Kalita; UIS faculty member Lynn Fisher; and UIC faculty members Jerry Bauman and Steve Brantley (Bauman was Dean of Pharmacy, then later appointed VP for Health Affairs). Several representatives of the University Administration also participated: Randy Kangas, Associate Vice President; Maureen Parks (with notes from Jami Painter and Katie Ross), Director of University Human Resources; and Tom Bearrows and Mike Melendez, University Counsel. Finally, the Statutes and Governance subcommittee of the University Senates Conference helped to coordinate the process and gave its recommendations to the ad hoc committee on some early proposed revisions.

Although the proposed revisions came from different sources, the vast majority initially resulted from faculty input. The Conference has compiled all of these revisions into one set of changes in a single document, attached here, and marked with Track Changes.

The Board Committee on Governance, Personnel, and Ethics has reviewed these changes and, with a few minor revisions, submitted them to the University Senates Conference to begin the formal process of review.
The Board, in order to complete their work in a timely fashion, has requested that the USC forward the Senate and USC input to the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee by February 26, 2015. In order to meet this deadline, we need your reviews by February 20, 2015 (see attachment 2).

These changes are of three sorts: clarifications of language that recent experience has shown is subject to conflicting interpretations; updating sections where the information is out of date; and revising sections where (for example, in HR), our actual practices have evolved differently because of legal or other requirements. We have also added rationales and explanations where we think they provide helpful context for the changes.

Finally, we have grouped these changes into eight clusters that we think usefully break up the revisions into manageable pieces. We mark them by page number and line number within the text (see attachment 3). Some clusters are short, containing several changes; others are long, where the changes are relatively sparse.

This grouping is only advisory to the Senates, but we recommend that the Senates consider the proposed revisions as eight separate motions to be dealt with sequentially. Of course, as part of its advice to the President, each Senate has the right to approve, not approve, or propose amendments to any changes within any of these sections.

Sincerely,

Donald A. Chambers, Chair
University Senates Conference

Nicholas C. Burbules, Chair
USC Statutes and Governance Committee

Enclosures

cc: Susan Kies
    Elizabeth Dooley
    Brian Moore
    Jenny Roether
    Members, University Senates Conference