

MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: September 22, 2025

PLACE: University of Illinois Springfield, Student Union, Room 222,
2251 Richard Wright Dr, Springfield, IL

PRESENT: Barnwell, Carmichael (online), Clancy, De Groote (Chair), Fisher, Floros, Herrera,
Kalita, Lyons (online), Maher, Mi, Moorhouse, Roseman, Symes, Tolliver (online),
Wink

ABSENT: Danziger, Erricolo, Hale, Schwinn,

GUESTS: Timothy Killeen, Nicholas Jones, Janet Gooch

I. Call to Order

Professor De Groote called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

II. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor De Groote welcomed members to the meeting and reminded USC about
maintaining quorum.

III. Roll Call

Mr. Perryn called the roll. Quorum: Yes

Members physically present: Barnwell, Clancy, De Groote (Chair), Fisher, Floros,
Herrera, Kalita, Maher, Mi, Moorhouse, Roseman, Symes,
Wink

IV. Approval of remote participation

Professor De Groote made a motion for approval of remote participation from USC
Members physically present to allow those attending via Zoom (Carmichael, Lyons,
Schwinn, Tolliver) to vote and participate in the meeting. Professor Floros seconded the
motion. No discussion. A roll call vote was taken by members in the room. Motion
passed.

Yes: Barnwell, Clancy, De Groote (Chair), Fisher, Floros, Herrera, Kalita,
Maher, Mi, Moorhouse, Roseman, Symes, Wink

No: None

Abstain: None

V. Public Comment

None

VI. Approval of the minutes August 21, 2025

Professor Maher made a motion to approve the minutes as amended from August 21,
2025. Professor Moorhouse seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion was

approved by a roll call vote by members in the room and those attending online.

Yes: Barnwell, Clancy, De Groote (Chair), Fisher, Floros, Herrera, Kalita,
Maher, Mi, Moorhouse, Roseman, Symes, Wink

Online: Tolliver

No: None

Abstain: None

VII. Classification of Senate Minutes

Professor De Groote (Chair) made a motion to approve the Classification of Senate Minutes. Professor Moorhouse seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion was approved by a roll call vote by members in the room and those attending online.

Yes: Barnwell, Clancy, De Groote (Chair), Fisher, Floros, Herrera, Kalita,
Maher, Mi, Moorhouse, Roseman, Symes, Wink

Online: Carmichael, Lyons

No: None

Abstain: None

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 University of Illinois Statutes. The 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. UIC: None

b. UIS: September 12, 2025

Class I

- i. Resolution 55-02 Establish a Graduate Certificate for Alternative Principal Preparation

c. UIUC: September 15, 2025

Class I

- i. EP.26.003, Establish the Concentration in Human Resources Data Analytics in the Master of Human Resources and Industrial Relations in Human Resources & Industrial Relations in the School of Labor and Employment Relations and the Graduate College
- ii. EP.26.006, Establish the Graduate Certificate in Health Finance in the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College
- iii. EP.26.007, Establish the Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Analytics in the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College
- iv. EP.26.008, Establish the Graduate Certificate in Healthcare Quality and Strategy in the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College
- v. EP.26.012, Establish the Bachelor of Arts in Sports Media in the College of Media
- vi. EP.26.013, Establish the Concentration in History, Theory and Preservation in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College
- vii. EP.26.019, Establish the Social & Behavioral Science Institute as a Permanent Institute in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation

Class uNusc

- viii. EP.24.068, Adopt a Campus-wide Definition of Upper Division Coursework and Impose a Minimum Requirement of 40 Upper-Division Hours on All Undergraduate Students
- ix. EP.26.002, Report of Administrative Approvals Through September 15, 2025
- x. EP.26.015, Report on Proposals Administratively Saved to Fix Red Boxed Courses in Program of Study Tables
- xi. EP.26.016, Report on Proposals Approved with Altered Workflow that Includes Red Boxed Courses in Program of Study Tables

xii. EP.26.018, Report of Changes in Temporary Admission Status Through
September 15, 2025

VIII. Meeting with President Killeen and EVP Jones – 10:15

Professor De Groote welcomed President Killeen and EVP Jones to the meeting.

President Killeen remarked on the challenges in higher education today. There are at least 500 people on the H-1B Visa. Federal administration has increased the cost to \$100,000 each. There is also a new lawsuit by the Department of Justice filed against Governor Pritzker, et al. This is a federal vs. state statutes conflict. The UI System will support the defense by the attorney general of the State of Illinois. It is not clear why other public universities are not listed. DOE, DOD, NSF and NIH have had favorable findings in court. There are now 240 million dollars of grants that will not be funded for the UI System.

President Killeen provided highlights. Philanthropy is up and baby boomers are thinking about their estate and how to make a bequest. Enrollment is up. Reputation is growing. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign recently received the donation of 100 million dollars and is renaming Memorial Stadium to Gies Memorial Stadium. President Killeen asked USC to be more engaged with talking about the good things that are occurring. A new economic impact report will be out near the end of September. The UI System has 24.9-billion-dollar economic impact to the state.

Professor Lyons joined the meeting at 10:51 a.m.

A brief discussion was held on protecting academic freedom of faculty. A general comment was made that even text messages can be retrieved under FOIA (Freedom of Information Act).

EVP Jones reported that enrollment is up. UIC and UIUC have record enrollment. There are increases at UIC, UIS, and UIUC. UIUC had a record number of students for the incoming class of 9,207 and UIC had 5,405. The official numbers will be out on the 10th day of class.

President Killeen reported that incoming students at UIUC had enough beds despite facing a challenge last year.

President Killeen reported that the salary program was 1% this year built on state support. There is still strong alignment with the Governor's Office.

USC inquired about tuition dollars going to the UI System. President Killeen advised that tuition dollars flow through the UI System directly to each university.

USC discussed the possibility of offering an academic freedom symposium.

President Killeen spoke about the importance of caring about each student. Measures are

being taken to enhance protection of areas on campus after the recent assassination of Charlie Kirk on a university campus by a 22-year-old.

USC requested the opportunity to collaborate with administration to avoid potential opportunities for criticism.

Professor Carmichael joined the meeting at 11:36 a.m.

EVP Jones mentioned that the numbers are up at the hospitals in Chicago. While Covid is infectious, it's relatively benign.

President Killeen spoke about the decline in enrollment at the Illinois Regional Universities. There is a demographic cliff, the peak year is now, and there will be a decline in the college-ready age group.

President Killeen spoke about the hospital attaining magnet status. There is more demand for healthcare now, so it is important to have a plan for strategic growth.

President Killeen was transparent with the challenges impacting higher education in the UI System and in the State of Illinois. Enrollment is going well.

EVP Jones spoke about the long-term strategic planning at the University of Illinois building a nuts-and-bolts system with partnerships at Urbana and Springfield, emerging at Chicago. This will address the segment of the population (4 million) who have some college but no degree.

USC inquired about Dr. Rashid Bashir's new title as the Vice Chancellor for Chicago Strategic Programs. Dr. Bashir will continue to serve as the Dean of the Grainger College of Engineering in addition to his role as Vice Chancellor. USC requested transparent communication due to the new position being created without a search committee. President Killeen reported that a conversation had previously taken place with Chancellor Jones. President Killeen mentioned that Chancellor Isbell is going through a process to evaluate his cabinet. DPI is being led by Grainger College of Engineering, with Dean Bashir as the Vice Chancellor. The UI System is providing 5 years of significant financial resources to support the operation of DPI. President Killeen mentioned the all hands on deck meeting taking place later this week with the Grainger College of Engineering Leadership at DPI. They are making great progress. The implementation plan will focus on the future of computing. There will be UI System oversight, with UIC involvement. This will still need to go back through IBHE.

President Killeen reported that the bond rating has gone up. The UI System has a very diverse family of income streams.

Professor De Groote expressed appreciation to President Killeen and EVP Jones for attending.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:33 p.m. and resumed at 1:06 p.m.

IX. Meeting with Chancellor Gooch – 1:00 p.m.

Professor De Groote welcomed Chancellor Gooch to the USC Meeting. President Killeen and EVP Jones were also in attendance.

Chancellor Gooch provided background to USC on UIS.

Chancellor Gooch shared an enrollment update with 4,364 students. There is nearly an even split between graduate and undergraduate students. First year students are up 19%. Overall enrollment is down 5.7% due to international student issues with Visa delays. UIS has been working diligently on virtual outreach.

Changes at the federal level are making an impact. With the size and location of UIS, there is less impact than others.

UIS has been making updates as required on the websites.

Chancellor Gooch shared the progress on the curriculum review. Another area UIS is focused on is student retention. UIS continues to invest where growth can occur.

Professor De Groote expressed appreciation to Chancellor Gooch for attending.

X. Committee Meetings (AARC, FBBC, SGC) – 1:00 p.m.

The meeting resumed at 2:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Barnwell, Clancy, De Groote (Chair), Fisher, Floros, Herrera, Kalita, Mi, Maher, Moorhouse, Roseman, Symes, Wink

XI. Today's Business – Discussion – 2:30 p.m.

a. USC Response to guest presentations

Professor De Groote held an interactive discussion with USC. Members spoke about shared governance involvement in decision making, risks that can be taken, faculty experiences, the ability to have critical discussion with the President and EVP, and the Chancellor with it being constructive, respectful and positive.

b. Input on the Revised Policy on Integrity in Research and Scholarly Activities

USC held a discussion on the proposed revision and suggested meeting with someone from the committee at the next USC Meeting. Mr. Perryn will extend an invitation.

c. Discussion points for VP Ellinger's meeting at the USC Retreat in October

Professor Floros shared with USC the proposed framework for the Oct. 15 Budget Bootcamp with VP Ellinger. Proposed topics included System revenue and expenses, revenue- and cost-sharing between the System and the universities, and

the extent of shared governance in the System budget process. Professor Floros requested input from USC by Friday (Sept. 26), so a letter to VP Ellinger could be sent.

d. AARC mini conferences

Professor Clancy shared highlights of AARC's approach to implement the AARC mini conferences. The current working title is "Academic Freedom and Civic Engagement in Uncertain Times" and would be a system-wide symposium offered over a half day. The next step is to determine how to obtain funding to support the endeavor.

XII. Today's Business – Action Items

- a. Determine USC Presenters and Observers for Board of Trustees Meetings
Each standing committee should select a date to present.

Professor De Groote held an interactive discussion with USC on potential topics. Professor Barnwell will present on November 13.

Date	Location	Presenter	Title Due	Slides Due	Observer	From
11/13/2025	UIC	Barnwell	10/02/2025	10/22/2025	Floros	UIC
01/15/2026	UIC		11/24/2025	12/15/2025	De Groote	UIC
03/19/2026	UIS		02/05/2026	02/25/2026		UIS
05/21/2026	UIUC		04/09/2026	04/29/2026		UIUC
07/16/2026	UIUC	De Groote	06/04/2026	06/24/2026		UIUC

- b. Determine USC Representation on other Programs & Committees

Professor De Groote expressed the importance of input from USC and offered the following opportunities to serve. Professor Fisher will represent USC on the Digital Risk Council and Professor Wink will represent USC on the Enrollment Management Policy Council.

Name	Previous	Proposed
Digital Risk Council	Campbell	Fisher
Enrollment Management Policy Council	Leff	Wink

XIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

USC held a discussion on the importance of moving the items forward after obtaining the input needed.

- a. ST-83: Revisions to the *Statutes* – newly proposed revisions. Sent to Executive Vice President Wilson 05/01/2020. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes* (USC ST-83 following ST-77) transmitted to UIS, UIC, and UIUC Senates 09/02/2021. UIC responded with Collated Comments 01/12/2022. USC sent a request for bifurcation and clarification to UIC on 02/08/2022. UIC Senate Request for Modifications 12/01/2022. The proposed statutory revisions have been transmitted to UIS, UIC, and UIUC Senates. UIC, UIS, and UIUC Senates have

sent their response. USC has referred ST-83 to SGC. ST-83 was transmitted to the Senates (UIC, UIS, UIUC) and President Killeen 08/28/2024. Addendum to ST-83 sent to the Senates (UIC, UIS, UIUC) and President Killeen 10/18/2024. ST-83 returned from President Killeen 12/02/2024. Letter to the Senates on the next steps for ST-83 sent 01/07/2025. Feedback received from UIC Senate 01/31/2025.

Status: ST-83 is currently being worked on by SGC.

- b. ST-87: Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article I, Section 5 – Chancellors and Vice Presidents, Article II, Section 3a (1) – Faculty Role in Governance, and Article III, Section 1g – The University. Passed UIUC Senate 11/15/2021. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates on 03/02/2022.

Status: Input is needed from UIC and UIS Senates.

- c. ST-89: Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IV, Section 1 – The Department, Section 2 – Department Organized with a Chair (Section 2b – Department Organized with a Chair), Section 3 – Department Organized with a Head (Section 3b – Department Organized with a Head), and Section 4 – Change of Department Administrative Organization. Passed UIUC Senate 04/24/2023. Transmitted to UIC and UIS 06/21/2023.

Status: Input is needed from UIC and UIS Senates.

- d. ST-90: Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Section 7a – Sabbatical Leaves and Unpaid Leaves of Absence for Members of the Faculty. Passed UIC Senate 03/14/2024. USC referred ST-90 to SGC. Letter transmitted to UIC Senate with the request to resubmit after ST-83 has been resolved 08/06/2024. Transmitted ST-90 to UIS and UIUC Senate for input 04/23/2025.

Status: Input is needed from UIS and UIUC Senates.

- e. ST-91: Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Sections 3a (1) and 3a (2) – Faculty Role in Governance. Passed UIC Senate 03/14/2024. USC referred ST-91 to SGC. Letter transmitted to UIC Senate with the request to resubmit after ST-83 has been resolved 08/06/2024. Transmitted ST-91 to UIS and UIUC Senate for input 04/23/2025.

Status: Input is needed from UIS and UIUC Senates.

- f. ST-92: Proposed Revision to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Section 6b – Severe Sanctions Other Than Dismissal for Cause for Members of the Faculty. Passed UIUC Senate 09/18/2023. Discussed at 09/22/2025 USC Meeting.

Status: ST-92 will be transmitted to UIC and UIS for input.

Professor De Groote provided background on this proposed revision. It was received by UIUC Senate, but did not move forward due to a processing error in September 2023. It was recently noticed by a UIUC USC Member that it did not move forward to UIC and UIS Senates. It has been assigned as ST-92.

Professor De Groote made a motion to send ST-92 to the senates for input. Professor Barnwell seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion was approved by a roll call vote by members in the room and those attending online. Motion passed.

Yes: Barnwell, Clancy, De Groote, Fisher, Floros, Herrera, Kalita, Maher, Mi, Moorhouse, Roseman, Symes, Wink

Online: Carmichael, Lyons

No: None

Abstain: None:

XIV. Updates from Standing Committees

- a. Academic Affairs and Research (AARC)

Professor Clancy would like EVP Jones to attend the next AARC Meeting to discuss resource sharing. Professor Clancy will email Mr. Perryn for this request.

- b. Finance, Budget, and Benefits (FBBC)

No meeting.

- c. Statutes and Governance (SGC)

Professor Fisher mentioned that teams have been assigned to work through the feedback on ST-83.

XV. Updates and Senate Priorities from each University

- a. University of Illinois Chicago

Professor De Groote shared that the search committee has been formed for a new Provost. A lawsuit has been filed against the College of Medicine over a concern of antisemitism.

- b. University of Illinois Springfield

Professor Fisher mentioned the latest on the academic program portfolio review. Departments were given the opportunity to respond with their recommendations. SEC has determined a way to have a conversation about the matter.

Professor Barnwell shared that it has been clarified several programs will sunset

but that has not been a determination as to what will occur with the faculty which has led to frustration and upset.

- c. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Professor Lyons reported that the first senate meeting occurred last Monday. A concern is that UIUC hired a vice chancellor without a search. Now that DPI is being operated by UIUC, how will that work out with UIC? There is a limited budget for DPI at the system-level to get it started while they obtain other funding.

XVI. Report on the President's Alliance for Higher Education (Schwinn)
No report.

XVII. President's Executive Leadership Program (Moorhouse)
Professor Moorhouse reported that the first meeting took place at UIC. It provided a wonderful opportunity to meet with administrators and tour parts of the medical center. The experience was eye-opening in many respects, offering valuable perspective on the focused research environment there and how it aligns with the broader work of the University and its impact on the city of Chicago.

XVIII. Updates from External Groups with USC Representation

- a. U of I System AI Exchange (Maher)
Professor Maher mentioned the recent meeting on September 9 where the discussion surrounded AI concerns and worries. The next quarterly meeting will occur on December 2. Professor Maher will be out of the country and asked Professor Roseman to attend.

Professor Clancy and Professor Herrera departed at 3:48 p.m.

- b. Digital Risk Council
No report due to USC Vacancy.
- c. Discovery Partners Institute Executive Committee (Wink)
Professor Wink recognized Professor Roseman as the new member of the DPI Executive Committee.

Professor Kalita departed at 3:48 p.m.

- d. Enrollment Management Policy Council
No report due to USC Vacancy.
- e. Research Misconduct in Prior Employment Committee (Tolliver)
No report.
- f. System HR Committee to review the UI System Policy on Background Checks (Schwinn)

No report.

- g. System Research Integrity Policy Committee (Danziger)

No report.

- h. System-wide Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Council (Moorhouse)

No report.

- a. University of Illinois System President's Advisory Council (Lyons)

Professor Lyons mentioned the annual meeting will occur October 13 and 14.

- b. Workplace Behavior Policy (Tolliver)

No report.

- XIX. Closing remarks from the USC Chair

Professor De Groote expressed appreciation to USC for their service and contributions.

- XX. Adjournment – Next Meeting: Wednesday, October 15, 2025, and Thursday, October 16, 2025, at UIUC. The meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.

David Perryn
USC Administration