MINUTES[1]
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Tuesday, October 10, 2023

PLACE: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, I Hotel & Conference Center,
     Humanities Room

PRESENT: Burbules, Campbell, Dunning, Hobbs, Jenkins, Kalita, Leff (Online), Lyons,
     Moorhouse, Peiravian (Online), Sharma, Symes, Tolliver, Weuve (Chair), Wink

ABSENT: Dallesasse, Danziger, De Groote, Erricolo

GUESTS: Emily Boles, Layne Morsch

  I. Business Meeting Call to Order
    Professor Weuve called the business meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

  II. Public Comment
    No Public Comment

  III. Remarks from the USC Chair
    Professor Weuve provided highlights of the 2023 State Road Tour with the University of
    Illinois System Leadership. The suggestion to participate came from President Killeen at
    the August 2023 USC Meeting when he spoke about this being the third year of the tour.
    Professor De Groote traveled the first leg through the northern region of Illinois
    September 25-27, and Professor Weuve traveled the second leg through the southern
    region October 3-5. The travel included an extensive agenda, meeting with others in
    Illinois Communities to help them become more familiar with the University, and to
    identify challenges within the communities.

    The lack of broadband access creates obstacles, in addition to the inability to obtain
    telehealth services. Rural healthcare also presents challenges for residents making it
    difficult to access healthcare and specialists within their community. By learning more
    about the challenges, the University of Illinois is provided an opportunity to potentially
    solve issues as an institution and extend its reach.

    Professor Weuve hopes to see more faculty getting involved in this great opportunity not
    only for the experience, but also to better understand the reason the System is putting
    forward some of the initiatives.

  IV. USC Committee of the Whole Discussion
    Postponed for the open discussion period tomorrow.

  V. Approval of Minutes
    A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from September 12, 2023. A
    brief discussion was held. The minutes were approved with a voice vote by USC
    Members in-person and by roll call vote for members attending on Zoom.

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[1]Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting on December 11, 2023

Yes:	Burbules, Campbell, Hobbs, Kalita, Leff (Online), Lyons, Moorhouse, Tolliver, Weuve (Chair), Wink	
No:	None	
Abstain:	Jenkins, Dunning	

VI. <u>Classification of Senate Minutes</u>

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

1. University of Illinois Chicago, September 28, 2023

    PR-24.01   Proposal to Eliminate the Comprehensive Examination Requirement in the Master of Arts in History

2. University of Illinois Springfield, October 6, 2023

    Res. 53-03   Proposed Major Curricular Revision to the BA in Liberal Studies*

    *Approved October 11, 2023, by unanimous consent.

3. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, September 18, 2023

    EP.24.003   Revise the Doctor of Philosophy in Information Sciences in the School of Information Science and the Graduate College

    EP.24.004   Revise the Concentration in Higher Education in the College of Education and the Graduate College

EP.24.005   Revise the Concentration in Diversity & Equity in Education in the College of Education and the Graduate College

EP.24.006   Revise the Concentration in Educational Administration & Leadership in the College of Education and the Graduate College

EP.24.007   Establish a Concentration in Instructional Design, Technology, and Organization in the Master of Education in Education Policy, Organization and Leadership in the College of Education and the Graduate College

EP.24.008   Establish the Joint Program in the Bachelor of Science in Sustainable Design and the Master of Landscape Architecture in Landscape Architecture in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College

EP.24.009   Eliminate the Concentration in French Commercial Studies in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in French in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

EP.24.012   Establishing Minimum Hours for Undergraduate Concentrations

EP.24.016   Eliminate the Concentration in Crafts in the Master of Fine Arts in Art and Design in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College

EP.24.017   Eliminate the Concentration in Metals in the Master of Fine Arts in Art and Design in the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Graduate College

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

1. University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, September 18, 2023

SP.23.09   Proposed Revision to the Statutes, Article IX, Section 6b – Severe Sanctions Other Than Dismissal for Cause for Members of the Faculty

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

1. University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, September 18, 2023

EP.24.001   Revision of the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar

EP.24.002   Report of Administrative Approvals through August 28, 2023

EP.24.014   Report of Temporary Suspension of Admissions through August 28, 2023

EP.24.015	Report of Administrative Approvals through September 11, 2023
EP.24.019	Procedures Used by the Senate Committee on Educational Policy to Approve Curricula Revisions
EP.24.021	Senate Committee on Educational Policy Task Force on Undergraduate Curriculum
SP.23.08	Revision to the Bylaws, Part D.2 – Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

A motion was made and seconded to approve the Classification of Senate Minutes. The Classification of Senate Minutes was approved by a voice vote for USC Members in-person and by a roll call vote for members on Zoom.

Yes: Burbules, Campbell, Dunning, Hobbs, Jenkins, Kalita, Leff (Online), Lyons, Moorhouse, Tolliver, Weuve (Chair), Wink
No: None
Abstain: None

VII. Old Business - Action Items
None

VIII. Today's Business

1. USC Presenters and Observers for Board of Trustees Meetings
Professor Weuve shared insight on the USC Presentation to the University of Illinois Board of Trustees in September. The feedback was positive after the meeting and suggested if there were any big picture concerns, they should be considered for future presentations. Professor Weuve requested topics of concern should be emailed to her. USC mentioned:

   a. Tier II Pension impact on recruiting

   b. Labor relations and potential strikes

   c. Deferred Maintenance

Date	Location	Presenter		Observer	From
11/16/2023	Chicago	Weuve		Wink	Chicago
1/18/2024	Chicago	Symes		De Groote	Chicago
3/28/2024	Springfield	Wink		Weuve	Springfield
5/16/2024	Urbana	Jenkins		Tolliver	Urbana
7/18/2024	Chicago	Weuve		Weuve	Chicago

2. DPI Membership and Outreach
Professor Wink provided an update on a recent meeting of the DPI Membership that was held to update the DPI *Bylaws*. The meeting did not meet quorum, so a vote was not held.

USC inquired about the process to become a DPI Member since there is not an option on the website. Professor Jenkins shared his experience in how he became involved, which required the signature of his department head, and the provost.

USC discussed the DPI Executive Committee and its duties. A question was raised by USC about the DPI Budget. The DPI Executive Committee is informed but not execution driven, and the budget is not shared with this committee. USC will keep this in mind for future discussion.

The current area of focus for DPI is limited to technology which varies from the proposal approved for DPI. USC would like to see DPI focused on additional areas from the approved proposal. If the original scope of DPI is not going to be developed, it could be time to rebrand DPI.

A discussion was held on the effort for DPI to fill a Humanities position. An upcoming meeting is scheduled for October 27th and additional information will be available at the next USC Meeting.

There are concerns with the top-down approach at DPI. There should be more communication and collaboration with faculty. Despite the efforts by USC, this is an ongoing issue. What is the mission of the System and DPI? How will DPI train people to go into positions? How will they engage more partners for the trained individuals?

There is a desire to attract companies back to the state and to have workers that can come here. This is about creating an economic engine in public and private partnership. There is a joint effort to build the building with 500 million dollars from the state and 500 million from the university.

USC mentioned the misunderstanding with arts and humanities. In 2019 the State of Illinois generated 19 billion in revenue on arts and entertainment industries. If the focus of DPI is only on technology by itself, it won't go anywhere.

3. Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings:
    USC suggested consideration for:

    a. Deba Dutta, Senior Advisor to the President, University of Illinois System

    b. Bill Jackson, Executive Director, Discovery Partners Institute

    c. Ranjan Karri, Director of Academic Affairs, Discovery Partners Institute

    d. Katie Ross, Assistant Vice President, System Human Resource Services

    e. Jay Walsh, Vice President, Economic Development and Innovation

4. BOT Observer Reports
    Professor Burbules reported that the BOT Observer Report revision is being worked on. Professor Leff attended the September BOT Meeting and is working on a written report. She provided the following highlights from the meeting:

a. Governor Pritzker was pleased to attend, offered remarks and had a round table discussion with the Board of Trustees. This was the first time a sitting Governor had attended a BOT Meeting in over a decade.

b. Each Chancellor presented their increase in enrollment.

c. Professor Weuve presented a letter of appreciation from USC to Governor Pritzker.

d. The meeting was extremely positive. BOT feedback conveyed they would like to hear USC concerns.

e. Almost every speaker mentioned innovation.

5. System-wide Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Council
Professor Weuve mentioned the request received from EVP Jones to add a USC Member to the System-wide Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Council. A discussion was held on this opportunity. Professor Weuve asked for a volunteer from USC. Professor Moorhouse expressed interest and has agreed to serve on this council.

IX. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

1. 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. The UIC Senate has sent its response.

   Professor Weuve shared that information on ST-83 is forthcoming from the UIS Senate for the next USC Meeting.

2. 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.

3. 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.

4. OT-372. Proposal to establish a consultation process for system policies. Sent to Executive Vice President Wilson 2/3/21. Response from Executive Vice President Wilson 05/06/2021. USC discussed moving forward on 06/24/2021. Transmitted to Senates on 06/08/2023 with feedback requested **by 11/03/2023.**

   Mr. Perryn reported that feedback had just been received from UIC. Professor Burbules reported that UIUC input is on the way to USC. Professor Weuve reported that UIS will have the first reading at the next Senate Meeting. UIS will be a week

late.

USC discussed concerns over the increase in system-wide policies. It's important to review the purpose, benefits, and potential concerns.

5. OT-387. University of Illinois System Values and Principles. Transmitted to the Senates on 03/27/2023 with advice requested to USC by 05/15/2023. 06/26/2023 requesting an extension through Fall 2023. Revised version sent to Senates with feedback requested by 01/17/2024.

6. SI-1. Updates from each University
    a. University of Illinois-Chicago
       Professor Wink mentioned the ad-hoc committee that put out draft procedures to illustrate the process should there be a complaint about faculty behavior in a classroom setting. This is when someone feels they could have been offended. This is not a disciplinary procedure or part of the evaluation record for faculty. This provides steps and decision makers are identified. There is a bias reporting tool. The process allows communication to the faculty in a prompt manner. This is being reviewed by the three different Senate Committees (Faculty Affairs, Academic Freedom and Tenure, and Student Services). This will go back to the Executive Committee for formal feedback.

    b. University of Illinois-Springfield
       Professor Weuve mentioned that UIS is on a good path moving forward.

    c. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
       Professor Burbules mentioned that OT-387 has been sent to General University Policy Committee (GUP), and Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee (AFTC). AFTC may have some serious feedback.

7. SI-2. Updates from Standing Committees:
    a. AARC
       Professor Jenkins spoke about the upcoming presentation by AARC to the University of Illinois Board of Trustees on creative research. Creative research is exploring the nature of what it means to be a human being. The best approach would be to seek input from across the System, and also USC. Working on stage is like working in a laboratory. Creative research is also used in the promotion and tenure process. The pandemic proved how important the arts were with all of the streaming content.

    b. FBBC
       Professor Campbell mentioned that FBBC will want financial information on the items AARC raised in the above update. The committee would like to know how the financial allocations are determined for each budget and who determines which resources will be used. It seems like the whole budget of IIN is goodwill. Who is in charge of IIN? How do the agreements between the State and the Universities work? FBBC is hoping for an update on Tier II next time.

      c. SGC
Professor Burbules highlighted areas mentioned by SGC to address:
1) Governance structure of DPI
2) Governance structure of IIN
3) System-level effort to grow international partnerships. How does that articulate? If there is already an existing partnership with a country, what does it mean for the System? Should the Universities not work to develop partnerships? What is the future direction?

8. SI-3. Updates from External Groups with USC Representatives:
      a. Discovery Partners Institute Executive Committee
A discussion on DPI was held earlier in the meeting.

      b. Enrollment Management Policy Council
Professor Wink mentioned the next Enrollment Management Policy Council Meeting occurs in December.

      c. President's Executive Leadership Program
Professor Lyons shared that PELP will meet at UIUC November 1-3.

      d. University of Illinois System President's Advisory Council
Professor Sharma reported that there is no update at this time.

      e. Workplace Behavior Policy
Professor Weuve indicated this is on hold until OT-387 goes through. It was sent to the group to get feedback.

The meeting recessed for lunch from 12:00 p.m. to 1:15 p.m.

Presentation 1 – DEI post SCOTUS Rulings
Professor Hobbs presented on the recent U.S. Supreme Court Decision: Affirmative action and race-based conscious admission practices struck down. There are nine states with bans on race-conscious admissions policies.

How have bans affected Blacks and Latinos?
- After Michigan banned race-conscious admissions in 2006, Black undergraduate enrollment declined at the University of Michigan, the state's flagship school. The share of Black students fell from 7% in 2006→4% in 2021.
- University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA), Blacks made up 7% of undergraduates in 1996→3.43% in 1998→5%in 2022.
- At Florida, in 1999 Latino high school seniors were 16%/14% enrolled freshman→22%/18% respectively in 2008.

Professor Hobbs encouraged USC to consider the following: What does DEI look like after the decision? Will there be a broadening of the scope of inclusion, such as diversity, equity, and access? Will there be a return to looking more at recruitment? What is the measure of success of DEI? Who is doing the measuring? Equity is often not spoken

about since it is difficult to prove success.

Professor Burbules spoke about how in popular discourse there can be several people sitting around a table talking about a topic. While they are each nodding their heads, inside their heads are different notions about what the topic means. This is the aspect of DEI that Professor Burbules finds most interesting.

What does DEI mean, and why is it valuable? From the educational view, the reason why DEI is important is because we are a university. Diversity of students, diversity of faculty, and diversity of different points of view are conducive to the educational environment of the university. There are many kinds of diversity that promote the educationally productive environment: racial, ethnic, gender, urban and rural issues, international students, students with different religious views or non-religious views. These would represent kinds of diversity that would foster a better, more informed, more multi-faceted environment.

From the social justice view, with the focus on African American, Latino, and maybe some other students of color, for the purpose of DEI Policies, to increase enrollment, retention, and success of those students. As the university becomes more racially and ethnically diverse, it would support the educational mission. The educational mission would point to other kinds of diversity than just race and ethnicity.

There are varying thoughts on the success of DEI. Some are concerned about there not being a fundamental agreement about what DEI is, who it is meant to help, and how success if measured. Some think it is failing at its core mission and others think its going very well.

USC discussed inclusiveness, and how focusing on specific groups can mean others may feel they are not included. One faculty member referenced the differences between tenure track and non-tenure track. Inclusivity can be viewed as for some or all. Inclusivity can also involve faculty. Some feel as though they cannot speak up in a meeting. USC questioned why there cannot be a university that includes everyone.

USC considered situations when having a discussion could be uncomfortable, especially if the person didn't feel they were in the included group. USC expressed the importance of having uncomfortable conversations even when the views differ. There was a concern expressed about DEI being a deterrent for being able to have difficult conversations without fear of being reported by a student. Would the System have their back? USC agreed that discomfort can be a path into enlightenment. USC inquired about ways to bring students into the University environment in such a way that they can cope with all of its communication. Should there be outreach to the high schools?

The meeting recessed at 2:25 p.m. for a break and resumed at 2:47 p.m.

Presentation 2 – AI / ChatGPT
Professor Weuve welcomed Layne Morsch, Interim Associate Provost for Online, Professional, and Engaged Learning, and Emily Boles, E Learning Specialist, Center for Online Learning, Research and Service to the USC Meeting.

Hyperlinks for background information:
1) [Generative AI with GPT](#) from LinkedIn Learning (0:46 - 2:40)
2) [Transformers](#) from Google (stop 4:17)
3) [Transformers pt 2](#) from Google (6:06 - 7:40)
4) [Prompt Design](#) from Google (1:50 - 3:31)
5) [Prompt Design pt 2](#) - from Google (4:45 - 5:15)

An interactive discussion was held on issues of concern with AI / ChatGPT, including academic integrity, lack of privacy, and accuracy of the information. It should be noted that non-public information should not be entered. Faculty should include guidance in their Syllabus to let students know if AI can be utilized. USC had the opportunity to utilize the tool during the presentation.

Five areas of expected impact with the use of generative AI in our Universities are:
1) Admissions statements
2) What will students be able to do?
3) What are the ethical considerations in performing research when the data brought in is biased?
4) Should this be included in the curriculum?
5) Are there intellectual property issues?

The meeting concluded at 4:55 p.m.

DATE: Wednesday, October 11, 2023

PLACE: University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, I Hotel & Conference Center, Humanities Room

PRESENT: Burbules, Campbell, Dunning, Hobbs, Jenkins, Kalita, Leff (Online), Lyons, Moorhouse, Peiravian (Online), Sharma, Symes, Tolliver, Weuve (Chair), Wink

ABSENT: Dallesasse, Danziger, De Groote, Erricolo

GUESTS: Paul Ellinger, Nicholas Jones

Professor Weuve called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m. and welcomed VP Ellinger.

X. Meeting with Paul Ellinger, VP & Chief Financial Officer – 8:00 am
VP Ellinger provided a presentation on the University of Illinois System Budget.
He started at UIUC as an undergrad, became an academic professional, a faculty member, a department head, and most recently was appointed to serve as the Vice President, Chief Financial Officer, and Comptroller of the University of Illinois System. VP Ellinger has two students attending. He discussed the importance of sharing the process to make decisions and the need for uniform planning.

The total System-wide budget is $7.8 Billion. The state is paying the benefits.

USC asked inquired about the funds held back by the System on tuition and institutional funds. The System pulls back 7% for institutional funds. There is nothing pulled back for tuition. Tuition is simply a pass through to each university. The tuition breakdown for FY24 is 1.5 billion dollars with 63.2% from UIUC, 34.4% from UIC, and 2.4% from UIS. If the universities increased their tuition, there is no increase to System Funds.

Total state appropriation FY24 is 697,773 (in thousands). If there is a 7% appropriation increase, then 7% is passed onto the universities. The trend in direct state report indicates a decrease since FY03, with the largest decrease in FY16. State support in FY23 is about half of the state support received in FY03. The University of Illinois System bond rating is as high as it has ever been.

System Office growth has been less than in previous years. It's important to keep in mind that during the budget impasse, the System was most at risk.

Budget Administration begins with the System, flows to the Universities, then to Colleges/Admin & Academic Units, and then to the Departments.

The State Capital Investment in the DPI (Discovery Partners Institute)/IIN (Illinois Innovation Network) is $500. As part of the $500 commitment from the State, as well as the $10 Pritzker Gift, the University of Illinois committed to funding DPI's first five years at $10M-$12M per year. The most recent inflationary period will impact the commitment.

The expected annual economic impact:
- 7000+ students (not University of Illinois) primed for tech jobs in Illinois annually.
- 3000+ individuals from underrepresented backgrounds enter the tech sector annually.
- 200M+ in new R&D every year; dozens of start-ups and corporate innovation centers
- New business start-ups from the University – In Illinois

VP Ellinger mentioned IIN, which is a collaborative of 12 public institutions in Illinois. IIN is under VP Jay Walsh. The extensive IIN organizational chart was shared.

VP Ellinger presented information on University Investments and performance. This is broken down into two areas, with the first being the University of Illinois Foundation (UIF), and the second being the System Financial Assets with reserves also under EVP Ellinger. Funds are invested while they are waiting to be spent.

USC inquired about challenges with Chrome River and a brief discussion was held. VP Ellinger explained some of the considerations with regard to reimbursements.

USC inquired about high profile hires at the System Level while faculty are faced with instances where they operate with less.

VP Ellinger discussed the leadership approach of holding regular meetings, helping work together with others, and asking what can be improved. VP Ellinger will meet with the Chancellors in November. He also mentioned the better alignment with the State with

regards to all three Universities.

Professor Weuve and USC expressed appreciation to VP Ellinger for his presentation.

XI. Committee Meetings
Committee Meetings were held from 9:22 a.m. - 10:08 a.m.

XII. Open Discussion
The meeting resumed at 10:12 a.m. A discussion was held on the System-wide Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Council Charter. USC reviewed the 2019 BOT Action: https://www.trustees.uillinois.edu/trustees/agenda/November-14-2019/001-nov-Resolution-Re-Sexual-Misconduct-Faculty-Relationships.pdf

XIII. Meeting with Executive Vice President Jones
Professor Weuve welcomed EVP Jones to the meeting and expressed appreciation to him for joining USC for dinner after the yesterday's meeting at 10:45 a.m.

EVP Jones provided insight on the 2023 State Road Tour that offered the chance to engage in communities where the University is present or embedded and make new friends. This provides an opportunity to learn more about the University efforts as well as challenges communities face. Access to rural healthcare is a concern. It can be difficult to find an OBGYN in a rural area. With many hospitals closing due to the pressure, it also makes the business aspect of being a rural physician challenging. EVP Jones shared that the effort should be placed on thinking of how to help the workforce needs in that space. While a lot of Illinois has access to healthcare, a lot does not. The tour stopped in the Quad Cities for lunch with the Moline Chamber of Commerce and toured the Rock Island Arsenal. They can manufacture items from nothing to meet the needs.

The next morning the tour arrived at Elgin Community College. While the University has good relationships, the question being asked is how to expand what is going well across the state. Some of the students that attend the University of Illinois began their education at a community college.

The tour went to Proviso East High School in the Chicago Suburbs. EVP Jones expressed the need to get the message out about college. Many students do not have someone reaching out to explain what it means to attend. Some think they can only attend a community college. How can educators be more aware of the programs? How will they learn what it means to go to college? What are tuition and fees? How would it be possible to attend? How far will they need to commute to attend?

The next morning the tour attended a forum with the Mayor of Chicago at DPI around youth engagement. Then the tour traveled to Malcomb X College where they spoke with a group called One Million Degrees. There could be a potential collaboration. The salute to academic achievement was held at the forum and the President spoke. There was an alumni event in the evening.

The second week started in Champaign before traveling to southern Illinois where the tour met with SIUC and some of the entities driving broadband in the state. In Champaign, it's

probably the last mile that doesn't have broadband, in rural Illinois it's the last ten miles. There may be emerging technologies that could prevent the need to pull cables.

Next the tour went to SIU Carbondale Transportation Center at the airport. There are flight simulators where they teach students to be pilots. They do a lot of advanced automotive engineering. Students graduate with a degree in automotive engineering. There was an alumni event at Eckert's Family Farms.

The next morning the tour traveled to Alton, IL to look at the downtown revitalization project. Many opportunities exist there to connect. SIUE is very involved under the Illinois Innovation Network. Then the tour went to Havana to look at two field stations, followed by a short trip in a flat bottom boat on the Illinois River to look at the invasive carp. The group attended a reception at the Peoria Waterfront Museum.

The next morning the tour traveled to Cuba, IL to learn about the impacts of challenges accessing rural medicine. This provided insight into the opportunities to do more with technology. This stop concluded the 2023 State Road Tour. EVP Jones mentioned it was nice to see the impact the University is having across the state.

Professor Weuve shared her recent knowledge of the Extension Offices. President Killeen shared that the problems the System is working on is not something just one institution can fix on their own. Professor Weuve will be excited to see the future outcomes.

USC inquired with EVP Jones if there is any effort for the University of Illinois will become the University System for the state and the others would no longer exist. EVP Jones advised he is not feeling that, instead, the pressured by the black caucus to increase the black enrollment in Urbana. The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign is at 6% and the state demographic is 12-13%. While progress has been made, the concern is that increasing students at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign could mean students leave other institutions in Illinois. EVP Jones is not at meetings where that would be discussed. The University of Illinois does a lot for the benefit of the public in the State of Illinois. The Illinois Innovation Network is one example. The University of Illinois manages the Transferology Tool which helps students who want to transfer. The University of Illinois also manages Adobe Licenses on behalf of the public.

USC inquired with EVP Jones if the University of Illinois will take in another institution. EVP Jones has heard this before but has not participated in any serious discussion. Nobody has briefed him on the issue in the way as if it was a possibility.

USC inquired about an effort within the University of Illinois to develop an online presence. EVP Jones mentioned that he is aware of an effort that did not go well a few years ago due to a top down effort without proper engagement across the institutions with faculty. When the COVID-19 Pandemic occurred, it became increasingly important to offer online classes. As the University emerged from COVID-19, online education was more acceptable. Some colleges like Geis and Grainger have continued to balance online in a few areas. They have made money but also reached larger enrollment than they would have reached otherwise. There are opportunities to build on that knowledge we have acquired and reached comfort of a well thought out online modality to extend the

University of Illinois reach. There is a large population out there that might be better served by non-traditional modalities.

DPI saw an opportunity to build an online presence for the University of Illinois. There was an engagement with Arizona State University. This could be the same path the University went down 15 years ago. EVP Jones suggested the effort be paused to reevaluate how to be the most effective. A taskforce is being formed with representatives from each of the Universities and from the System-level to have a series of meetings over the months ahead, six months or so, to thoughtfully recommend a strategy. EVP Jones would like to encourage a consensus on a base-line support level infrastructure would look like, building it centrally, on a platform where each University can develop their platform in a way that makes sense. Programming is owned by the faculty, the University and the College.

There are other opportunities that go beyond traditional thinking, reaching out to high schools and community colleges. Some schools do not have access to any AP courses. Are there ways that the University can work to get content to those locations in ways they are comfortable with? This would mean teachers and high schools partner with the University. The goal is to reach a consensus on what the infrastructure might look like, where it should be placed within the University of Illinois System, but most importantly, how it should be designed, and where it should live within the System. Gies already has built this. The goal would be for Gies to want to use the new System instead of supporting a standalone system.

USC inquired about problems with the existing structures. EVP Jones advised he was not aware of any, it's just that there are opportunities to reduce the number of platforms and resources to host.

USC conveyed issues with obtaining internet access, affordability of the program, and the need to hire additional faculty remain obstacles even with a new platform.

Professor Weuve inquired about the request received to add a USC Member to the System-wide Sexual Misconduct Response Council since each University has their own process for addressing this. EVP Jones responded that he believes this is to provide support for the request from the University of Illinois Board of Trustees. It was noted that USC did not have representation on this council and they are being invited to serve.

USC mentioned that there are not faculty representatives from each University. There is a suggestion from USC to request an update to the charter. USC would also recommend at least one to two faculty representatives serve from each University. EVP Jones will provide an update on this to Joda Morton, Director Enterprise Risk Management, University of Illinois System.

Professor Moorhouse volunteered to serve as the USC Representative on this council.

The meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. for lunch and resumed at 1:15 p.m.

Due to the next USC Meeting not occurring until December 11, 2023, the October 6, 2023

Classification of Senate Minutes for the University of Illinois Springfield received October 10, 2023, were added to the Classification of Senate Minutes in yesterday's meeting with consent of the room: Burbules, Campbell, Jenkins, Leff (online), Lyons, Moorhouse, Symes, Tolliver, Weuve (Chair), and Wink were in attendance. There were no objections or abstentions.

Presentation 3 – Academic Freedom – Carol Symes
Professor Symes offered insight on the current state of academic freedom at 1:19 p.m. A discussion was held on the content for the upcoming presentation to the University of Illinois Board of Trustees. Considerations for the presentation included:
1) Examples of academic freedom in action
2) Ways faculty are protected with academic freedom
3) Balancing support for academic freedom with inclusive environments
4) Importance of communication to the students advising the intent to increase their knowledge through discussion of topics and allowing them to draw their own deductions. This can include discussion of difficult topics that could be uncomfortable to expand knowledge.
5) Being aware of issues arising in the academic year with classroom content while supporting current and future challenges
6) Offering concrete positive examples of academic freedom
7) Would the faculty be supported by the System if they gave a zero for a grade when the student did not perform the work?
8) Students should trust faculty since they have been hired to teach them.
9) There is a concern over being hypersensitive due to the reaction from some students when
   discussing a topic. Making the distinction between the notion of accommodation to the students' comfort
   level which is anti-educational, or an accommodation requested through the:
   a) Disability Resources Center at UIC
   b) Office of Disability Services at UIS
   c) Disability Resources and Educational Services at UIUC
10) There are not check boxes for promotion and tenure.

XIV. Retreat wrap-up discussion
USC included UIS Classification of Senate Minutes from October 6, 2023, by consent of the room.

Professor Weuve requested input from USC and a discussion was held on:
1) Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Council Charter
   Suggested changes to the language and membership will be sent to EVP Jones. USC Members are encouraged to speak with their Chancellor to encourage faculty representation from each University.
2) New Online Platform Model
   USC recommends not funding a vendor for this endeavor when it can be developed in-house.
3) DEI Presentation
   USC would like to continue to learn, and discuss DEI, including encouraging uncomfortable conversations when necessary.

    4) AI Presentation
       USC expressed satisfaction with the presentation, hands on learning, and found
       it to be very helpful.

XV. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m. Next meeting December 11 at UIS.