

MINUTES<sup>1</sup>  
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Monday, December 11, 2023

PLACE: University of Illinois Springfield, Student Union, South Ballroom 222

PRESENT: Burbules, Campbell, Danziger, De Groote, Dunning, Hobbs, Jenkins, Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Sharma, Tolliver, Weuve (Chair)

Online: Erricolo, Peiravian, Wink

ABSENT: Dallesasse, Symes

GUESTS: Timothy Killeen, Nicholas Jones, Deba Dutta, Janet Gooch

Professor Weuve called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

- I. Meeting with President Killeen, Executive Vice President Jones, Dr. Deba Dutta  
President Killeen shared his recent experience attending commencement ceremonies at UIC. At UIS, there are over 600 students invited to this semester, which is likely an all-time high.

President Killeen spoke about the current environment with concerns in the world, vigils, protests, and the recent University of Illinois Board of Trustees (BOT) Meeting that was disrupted in Chicago. The BOT were relocated to a secure area. A statement was released early on about October 7 to help people feel heard. There can be varying degrees of concern when a statement is made, as one person may find something more severe than another. As a public university, the university adheres to the first amendment with open and free expression, as long as it does not cross legal bounds.

Incidents of antisemitism and islamophobia are on the rise. Security personnel are working in some cases longer shifts and overtime since the safety and security of our community is paramount. There are regular meetings with the Chancellors who have been interacting with student groups. Anything proposing violence is a no-go. The University has the Code of Conduct and the Guiding Principles. There have been left-wing and right-wing speakers coming in. It is important to maintain a calm approach and provide as much reassurance to the community as possible. The reputation of the University System is very important. There have been events where there have been groups marching. The security teams are wonderful, and they understand. If things cross the line, then it is important to be prepared. President Killeen would like to have a round-table discussion with USC to obtain input on the approach moving forward.

Discussion was held on free speech, and how it can create an environment that feels hostile or that can threaten the perception of safety and security. There are certain things that can be said that are not conducive to student learning. There are things held dear as an institution.

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<sup>1</sup>Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting on December 11, 2023

Discussion was held about the pressure on Higher Education Presidents and how a question asked can impact the response. A journalist can write an article, not realizing some of the complexities. USC recommended the System have one position on this than each individual university. President Killeen expressed the importance of clarity and sense of purpose in higher education. The System is quite diverse which provides strength.

President Killeen mentioned Jason Lane, Special Advisor to the President's Office will be joining the University of Illinois System next month. He will also have a 0% appointment with the College of Education, in addition to serving as the National Association of System Heads inaugural President. Lane will also be assisting on international fronts where progress is being made, but there is a need for additional coordination to continue this expansive effort. USC expressed interest in learning more about how positions are being created, searched, and filled. President Killeen offered to have further discussion on the topic and mentioned that when he began there were Presidential Advisors, but that he has gone without due to budget constraints.

President Killeen mentioned the Sustainability Congress is scheduled for June 2025 and asked for assistance with the structure from USC for the network and intellectual globalization.

Dr. Dutta shared information about his background and experience. Relationships are at the root of social organizations, and communication is at the center of relationships. Dr. Dutta reported on his efforts to gain additional familiarity with UIC and UIS. While public higher education is being challenged, a lot of things are happening at the University of Illinois which make it stand out among the Big Ten. DPI is a one creation that can really make a difference. If Dr. Dutta were to consider DPI as a social organization, the relationship work needs to be done better. The opportunities are significant, but the last five years do not look like DPI in the next five. This is about institutional impact. The University of Illinois is world famous. Food, climate change, and health are all global problems. It is a big vision that will need more capacity. DPI has grown fast and will need more resources. The process should be conversational as this is a unique opportunity for the University of Illinois to have a global impact.

Professor Weuve encouraged future discussions on DPI with USC to improve communication.

USC discussed respecting the autonomy of all three universities and encouraged constant communication and meetings. It should never be that the System is trying to prevent activities at a university. DPI should work with the universities, doing work with them, instead of to them.

With regard to the global profile and international relationships, Dr. Dutta advised that the universities would continue to conduct their global activities even with the potential overlap. Dr. Dutta advised the work he will assist with will be at the

System Level, working with the universities.

USC inquired about the additional duties taken on by EVP Jones. President Killeen described his role as focusing on the outbound while EVP Jones is both the Chief Operating Officer and Academic Officer, of an 8-billion-dollar system. This addition of Dr. Dutta's role will help increase the capacity.

Dr. Dutta spoke about the additional resources that DPI would need. DPI began with five people and now has seventy-five. The focus has been on revenue, and the fast-paced growth has likely come at the expense of relationships and communication. DPI does not have a base budget. This is similar to the federal area, where no program is guaranteed. Additional focus areas have been on metrics of success, number of students, and faculty.

President Killeen highlighted the social connectivity with workforce development with students, young adults, and non-traditional learners. The efforts are being put forth to lift up society and provide foundational support.

President Killeen also spoke about the arts and humanities which will need leadership from faculty. Dr. Dutta will also be working on this. There will be a focus on numbers, relationships, and communication. President Killeen mentioned that Dr. Dutta would focus on DPI and DPI International.

The Pritzker Report described the main challenge as DPI being unable to scale at the level the Pritzker Foundation expected. President Killeen shared that there has been a deeper learning about what companies want for their employees. Some want the full stack and others cannot afford the 35,000 dollars for an apprentice. Instead of waiting for resources to come in, the focus has been to invest for growth. DPI is five years ahead of Michigan, Rutgers, and Perdue. The competition is for talent going to the State of Illinois and City of Chicago.

USC expressed the importance of more communication to front line faculty at the universities that will demonstrate the impact DPI can have on their lives.

Professor Weuve expressed appreciation to President Killeen, EVP Jones, and Dr. Dutta for attending today.

Meeting recessed for lunch at 12:10 p.m. and resumed at 1:08 p.m.

## II. Meeting with Chancellor Gooch

Professor Weuve welcomed Chancellor Gooch to the meeting.

Chancellor Gooch mentioned hiring Provost Brandon Schwab in July and also provided highlights of other positions filled. With the new cabinet, they are working out roles. Enrollment has been one of the major initiatives, if not one of the most important. While UIS is running a deficit, enrollment is a portion, but not the entire answer. There is a new pilot program to offer in-state tuition in the St. Louis County. The student population is up 11% from 4,198 students in the fall of 2022 to 4,661

students in fall of 2023. Residence Halls are running at 82% capacity. The graduate student population is up 28% from last fall. Discussion is being held on future plans for housing.

UIS received a 2.25-million-dollar grant from the Department of Education that will span over the next five years to help build out some of the high impact practices such as the living learning communities, pre-nursing students, and study abroad.

Architectural planning and design efforts are underway on the library commons. The funds appropriated originally will not be enough to build it due to rising costs. The plan is to break ground next year.

UIS Athletic Teams are doing very well. Men's soccer played in the Great Lakes Valley Conference (GLVC) Tournament. UIS received a donation from a family in Springfield to remodel a space for the Esports Arena. UIS currently has two teams.

Chancellor Gooch inquired with USC on the differences between the UIC and UIUC Senate compared to the UIS Campus Senate. For the Campus Senate, it is important to make sure the processes are working correctly. For shared governance, working collaboratively is important, so it's not just about decision making, but also accountability. Encouraging a culture of shared governance working together vs. imposing challenges will make a difference. Sticking to the facts is a helpful step to developing a culture that is not adversarial. Senate committees should make their recommendation to the Senate. USC encouraged Chancellor Gooch to share the process with new administrators for shared governance.

USC mentioned the importance of first year housing. A question was posed on future residential housing or perhaps partnering with local apartment complexes. Chancellor Gooch shared the average age of a UIS Student is 26.

Professor Weuve expressed appreciation to Chancellor Gooch for attending at 1:58 p.m.

III. Committee Meetings

Committee meetings were held from 2:00 p.m. to 2:36 p.m.

IV. Business Meeting Call to Order

Professor Weuve called the meeting to order at 2:36 p.m.

V. Public Comment

No Public Comment

VI. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Weuve mentioned that the USC Meetings in January, February, and March would be held at each University to provide a public meeting place. Each site will connect through Zoom.

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

USC is interested in learning more about the DPI Budget and would like to invite Bill Jackson, the Executive Director of DPI; Dr. Ranjan Karri, Director of Academic Affairs at DPI; and Dr. Deba Dutta, Senior Advisor to the President to a future meeting. USC would like to learn more about return on investment, how DPI is supporting itself, and future plans. USC would like to invite Dr. Jay Walsh, Vice President Economic Development and Innovation to discuss how DPI fits within the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN). USC notes that when DPI was created, it was not involved internationally. Discussion was held on methods in include shared governance.

VIII. Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from October 10-11, 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.

Yes: Burbules, Campbell, Danziger, De Groote, Dunning, Hobbs, Jenkins, Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Toliver, Weuve (Chair), Wink (online)

No: None

Abstain: Erricolo (online)

IX. 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 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, October 26, 2023

**PR-24.02**, Proposal to Rename the Master of Science in Healthspan Promotion

and Rehabilitation

**PR-24.03,** Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

**PR-24.04,** Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering

**PR-24.05,** Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

**PR-24.06,** Proposal to Revise the Minor in Disability and Human Development

2. University of Illinois Chicago, November 29, 2023

**PR-24.07,** Proposal to Revise the Doctor of Public Health

**PR-24.08,** Proposal to Revise the Master of Arts in Latin American and Latino Studies

**PR-24.09,** Proposal to Eliminate the Intradepartmental Concentration in Global Health in the School of Public Health

**PR-24.10,** Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Spanish by Establishing an Optional Concentration in Spanish for the Professions

**PR-24.11,** Proposal to Eliminate Concentrations and Reorganize the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Germanic Studies

**PR-24.12,** Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Sociology by Establishing Four Optional Concentrations

**PR-24.13,** Proposal to Establish the Minor in Global Middle East Studies

**PR-24.14,** Proposal to Revise the Minor in Art History

**PR-24.15,** Proposal to Establish the Minor in Accounting

**PR-24.16,** Proposal to Establish the Minor in Professional Sales and Relationship Management

**PR-24.17,** Proposal to Revise the Minor in Finance

**PR-24.18,** Proposal to Revise the Major Electives Requirement in the Bachelor of Science in Information and Decision Sciences

**CI-24.01,** Proposal to Eliminate the Center for Public Safety and Justice

**CI-24.02,** Proposal to Establish the Government Finance Research Center

3. University of Illinois Springfield, November 3, 2023  
**Res. 53-11** Revision to Accelerated BA/MA in Political Science
4. University of Illinois Springfield, November 17, 2023  
**Res. 53-13** Modification of English Proficiency Testing Options in Undergraduate & Graduate Admissions  
**Res. 53-14** Revision of Alternative Admissions Option in the Undergraduate Admissions Guidelines  
**Res. 53-15** Revision to the Recognition Guidelines of Baccalaureate Degrees for Graduate Admission
5. University of Illinois Springfield, December 8, 2023  
**Res. 53-12** Modification to the Undergraduate Admissions Criteria
6. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, October 16, 2023  
**EP.24.010** Rename the Department of Atmospheric Sciences in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences to the Department of Climate, Meteorology, and Atmospheric Sciences in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences  
**EP.24.018** Eliminate the Concentration in Chemical & Biomolecular Engineering in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College  
**EP.24.026** Eliminate the Concentration in Painting in the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art in Studio Art in the College of Fine and Applied Arts  
**EP.24.027** Eliminate the Concentration in Photography in the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art in Studio Art in the College of Fine and Applied Arts  
**EP.24.028** Eliminate the Concentration in Printmaking in the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art in Studio Art in the College of Fine and Applied Arts  
**EP.24.029** Eliminate the Concentration in Sculpture in the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art in Studio Art in the College of Fine and Applied Arts  
**EP.24.030** Eliminate the Concentration in New Media in the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art in Studio Art in the College of Fine and Applied Arts  
**EP.24.031** Eliminate the Concentration in General Studio Art in the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art in Studio Art in the College of Fine and Applied Arts

- EP.24.032** Eliminate the Concentration in Fashion in the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art in Studio Art in the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- EP.24.033** Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art in Studio Art in the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- EP.24.034** Revise the Undergraduate Minor in English as a Second Language in the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences

7. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, November 13, 2023

- EP.24.037** Establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Inclusive by Design in Recreation, Sport, and Tourism in the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College
- EP.24.038** Revise the Master of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education, & Communications in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College
- EP.24.039** Establish the Undergraduate Minor in Advertising in the College of Media

8. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, December 4, 2023

- EP.24.011** Eliminate the Institute for Competitive Manufacturing (ICM) in Mechanical & Industrial Engineering n/k/a Mechanical Science & Engineering (MechSE)
- EP.24.040** Revise the Concentration in Bilingual-Bicultural Education in the College of Education and the Graduate College
- EP.24.044** Revise the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Residency Requirement and Update the Language in the Student Code Section 3-801 a.1 to Reflect This Revision
- EP.24.046** Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art Education in the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- EP.24.047** Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art & Art History in the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- EP.24.048** Eliminate the Concentration in Bioengineering in the Master of Science in Bioinformatics in the Grainger College of Engineering and the Graduate College
- EP.24.049** Establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Food



Regulations, Nutrition Policy, and Personalized Nutrition  
in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and  
Environmental Sciences, and the Graduate College

**EP.24.050** Establish the Campus Graduate Certificate in Wetland  
Science and Conservation in the College of Agricultural,  
Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate  
College

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

1. University of Illinois Chicago, November 29, 2023

The UIC Senate provided advice regarding the University of Illinois System Values  
and Principles for Conduct (USC OT-387), which is in an attached letter.

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

1. University of Illinois Springfield, November 17, 2023

**Res. 53-10** Advisory Response to University Senates Conference  
OT 372

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

1. University of Illinois Chicago, November 29, 2023

The UIC Senate provided advice regarding the Graduate College Faculty Review  
Process.

The UIC Senate provided advice regarding the draft guidelines – “Process for when  
students feel they have been harmed in the classroom.”

2. University of Illinois Springfield, October 20, 2023

**Res. 53-08** Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Awarded to Burks  
Oakley II

3. University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, October 16, 2023

**EP.24.023** Report of Administrative Approvals through October 9,  
2023

**SP.24.03** Revision to the Bylaws, Part F – General Provisions (OMA  
designee)

4. University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, November 13, 2023

**EP.24.025** Revision to Policy Guidelines for Developing Academic Calendars

**EP.24.036** Report of Administrative Approvals through October 23, 2023

**EP.24.042** Report of Administrative Approvals through November 6, 2023

5. University of Illinois Urbana Champaign, December 4, 2023

**EP.24.024** 2030-2031 Academic Calendar

**EP.24.045** Report of Administrative Approvals through November 27, 2023

**SP.24.04** Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part F.7 – Electronic Participation in Meetings of the Senate and its Committees

**SP.24.05** Proposed Revision to the Constitution, Article I, Section 5 and the *Bylaws*, Part A (quorum)

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, Danziger, De Groote, Dunning, Erricolo (online), Hobbs, Jenkins, Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Toliver, Weuve (Chair), Wink (online)

No: None

Abstain: None

X. Old Business - Action Items

None

XI. Today's Business

1. USC Presenters and Observers for Board of Trustees Meetings

Professor Weuve mentioned the following schedule for upcoming meetings.

| Date      | Location    | Presenter | Observer  | From        |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------|
| 1/18/2024 | Urbana      | 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 Jenkins mention that DPI Membership meets to discuss how to grow DPI with additional faculty members. Faculty Senate is one point where DPI could present.

3. Discussion of guests to invite to future meetings

USC discussed inviting Jay Walsh, Vice President of Economic Development and Innovation to a future USC Meeting.

4. BOT Observer Reports

Professor Weuve shared that Mr. Perryn had mentioned the differences in BOT Observer Reports being submitted. An effort is under way to standardize the reports so they are more consistent. Professor Dunning shared that she had a list of items and will forward them to Professor Weuve. Professor Burbules reminded USC the report is highlights, but not another set of minutes.

XII. 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 ST-83 is being worked on at UIS. Professor Jenkins advised UIUC Senate is also working diligently on ST-83.

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 01/17/2023. Input received from UIC, UIS, and UIUC.

Burbules asked USC if SGC should meet to go over OT-372 and provide one set of feedback. This item will be added to the SGC Agenda.

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.

Professor Burbules reported that feedback had been received by UIC, but not UIS or UIUC. Feedback from UIUC should be received at the beginning of the new semester. A status update letter will be sent to EVP Jones.

6. SI-1. Updates from each University
  - a. University of Illinois-Chicago  
No update.
  - b. University of Illinois-Springfield  
Professor Weuve mentioned it has been a productive semester and is looking forward to the Spring Semester.
  - c. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign  
Professor Jenkins spoke about the change in residency requirement for transfer students for the completion of 45 credits reduced from 60 credits.
7. SI-2. Updates from Standing Committees:
  - a. AARC  
Professor Jenkins reported that AARC is reviewing a document. There was no committee meeting today due to low attendance.
  - b. FBBC  
Professor Campbell reported concern over the Tier II Pension Plan not meeting the safe harbor requirement. The concern is that as more enter Tier II, there could be issues where the calculation reveals the requirement is not met. Last month Professor Lyons met with Katie Ross, Assistant Vice President, System Human Resources, University of Illinois System and Suzanne Mayer, Executive Director of SURS (State University Retirement System) to discuss safe harbor and how many were enrolling in Tier II. They also discussed messaging and involving legislators. A meeting will be scheduled at the end of January.
  - c. SGC  
No report.
8. SI-3. Updates from External Groups with USC Representatives:
  - a. Discovery Partners Institute Executive Committee  
Update provided earlier in this meeting.
  - b. Enrollment Management Policy Council  
Professor Wink mentioned the council will meet on December 12.
  - c. President's Executive Leadership Program  
No update.
  - d. University of Illinois System President's Advisory Council  
No update.

- e. Workplace Behavior Policy  
Professor Weuve advised this work is on hold.

XIII. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Next meeting January 25 at UIC, UIS, and UIUC.

David Perryn  
USC Administration