

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

DATE: Tuesday, January 24, 2017

PLACE: Videoconference: 414 AOB, 364 HAB, Hatmaker PAC

PRESENT: Burbules, DeBerry-Spence, Erricolo, Francis, Graber, Johnson, Jackson, Karri, Maher, Miller, Mohammadian\* (Vice Chair), Novak (Chair), Rao, Villegas, Vincent, Weech, Wheeler

ABSENT: De Groote, Kalita, LaDu

GUESTS: Timothy Killeen, Donna McNeely, Edward Seidel, Barbara Wilson

\* Participated by phone.

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

I. Meeting with President Killeen and Vice President Wilson

President Killeen discussed the 2% mid-year merit salary increase, which he said does not predict what will happen next given the uncertainty of the state budget. He commented that he was comfortable with the final decision after several options were considered under the leadership of Vice President Wilson and thanked the Conference for its input. Vice President Wilson said that there were many positive responses regarding the additional gift days that employees received over the holiday break. She did not hear of any challenges or concerns.

President Killeen reported that the University of Illinois Investment, Performance, and Accountability Commitment (IPAC) has been refiled in both the House and Senate (SB222). The President discussed a packet of bills, referred to as the “grand bargain”, which would create a long-overdue budget for the state. The packet is a bipartisan senate effort that includes restoring funding to higher education at FY15 levels, a robust budget for FY18, and procurement relief. If one of the several bills does not make it through, the whole package does not go through.

President Killeen discussed the enrollment strategy that was presented at the recent Board of Trustees meeting. Each university has a plan for around 15% enrollment growth, with each plan having a distinctive path and a different approach. The growth plan will try to reverse the trend of Illinois students leaving the state to go to college and help each university by increasing revenue. The President said that, at the same meeting, the Board approved a zero-percent tuition increase, which keeps tuition frozen for the third year in a row. He added that financial aid is growing.

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<sup>1</sup>Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of February 23, 2017

President Killeen said that the UA Alignment Implementation is moving forward. University Administration is now called University of Illinois System Offices. University Related Organizations, such as the Foundation and the Alumni Association, are being rethought in regards to structure, how they align with each university, and how they work together. The system is gearing up for the next fundraising campaign and the upcoming sesquicentennial.

USC members had additional comments on some of the topics discussed, such as how pension reform might be a part of the state budget, how to proceed with future salary programs, the need for additional statutory changes due to restructuring and renaming of units, the public's interest in undergraduate enrollment in Urbana while its enrollment management plan focuses on graduate and online programs, and how the senates can show support for IPAC.

President Killeen was asked to comment on a task force's Report on State of Illinois Employee Group Health Insurance. He said that the report contains suggested ideas rather than actual recommendations. The University wants to be responsive to employee concerns. He noted that premiums have had stability over time and the University benefits from being in a large pool. USC members expressed concern that hiring for certain groups of faculty will be affected by less attractive health benefits and the instability of the state.

President Killeen said that the search for a Vice President for Executive Development and Innovation is underway. Professor Deberry-Spence, search committee member, added that there has been significant interest in the position with many qualified applicants. Interviews are taking place.

President Killeen provided an update on two reviews of AITS. The external review included a qualified team that held many interviews over two days and has since issued a report, which is being digested. The UA Alignment Implementation Team also reviewed AITS and made recommendations. Vice President Wilson is working on the next steps. There is intent to have similar external reviews for other system functions.

Vice President Seidel joined the meeting to provide an update on the activities of his office. He noted that the position will be reconstituted as the Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation when a permanent person is hired. One of his objectives has been to harness the research enterprise without interfering. He meets regularly with the many key players to discuss how the University system can effectively work and flourish, while keeping in mind the University's land-grant mission. The Vice President noted that federal funds are becoming more limited. Efforts are being made to develop deeper relations with companies; not only for new revenue sources, but to solve some of the state's economic development problems. There are many thematic areas in which the three universities have the expertise to help solve complex problems. The ones that tend to keep surfacing when talking to companies are cybersecurity, data and data analytics, food and agriculture, and health and wellness. He discussed various way that are being considered to connect different technologies throughout the University system. President Killeen noted that these types of initiatives are part of the strategic framework.

Vice President Seidel discussed the early planning stages of the Chicago Innovation District. There are various groups looking at different areas where strengths and experiences can be brought together to do research, solve problems, and incentivize economic development. There are enormous advantages in Chicago with all of the major research universities and big labs. He listed some of the many focus areas of the initiative: cybersecurity, simulation and modeling, telemedicine, and remote education that could help promote social equity. Suggestions were made from USC members, such as addressing crime in Chicago. President Killeen mentioned that Professor Benet DeBerry-Spence was part of the planning team. She commented that social inclusion and equity are important economic issues. Initiatives could influence crime in ways that have not been approached before. USC members commented that they and many of their colleagues have been working with companies for many years and were excited about bringing the full powers of the entire University together to address problems. Vice President Seidel said that he would very much like to get together with people to develop ideas.

President Killeen mentioned that several announcements from him, Vice President Wilson, and the chancellors have been sent out about protecting undocumented students. The University is closely monitoring what is happening in regards to national policy and meetings are taking place to determine how to best proceed. The President said that the University does not inquire about or keep records on whether a student is undocumented and protects all FERPA privacy rights. Using the term “sanctuary city” would not be a benefit. Vice President Wilson said that efforts are being made to find ways to communicate effectively with students who are afraid, have questions, and don’t know where to find support.

President Killeen said that he has been working with Vice President Wilson and Legal Counsel on reviewing the proposed statutory revisions. There are some issues that they want to bring back to the senates and USC for further consideration. One important issue that needs additional work is the definition and use of the word “faculty.” The Conference reminded the President that many of the proposed revisions seem to be acceptable and it would be good to get those through before additional changes are considered.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12pm and resumed at 12:45pm.

## II. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of December 1, 2016

The minutes were approved as amended.

## III. 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.

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

1. University of Illinois at Springfield, December 2, 2016

Res. 46-6 Phase down the Biochemistry Concentration in the B.S. in Chemistry

Res. 46-7 Elimination of English Concentrations

Res. 46-8 Creation of a Graduate Certificate in Applied Finance

Res. 46-9 Creation of a Graduate Certificate in Operations and Supply Chain Management

2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, December 5, 2016

EP.17.22 Proposal to Establish a Combined Bachelor of Science in Engineering and a Master of Engineering in Engineering with a Concentration in Energy Systems Administered by the Department of Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering, College of Engineering

EP.17.32 Proposal to Establish the Cline Center for Advanced Social Research (currently called the Cline Center for Democracy) as a Permanent Center from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

EP.17.35 Proposal to Establish a New Graduate Concentration in Real Estate, College of Business

EP.17.38 Proposal to Revise the Learning Behavior Specialist 1 Undergraduate Special Education Teacher Licensure Program

EP.17.40 Administrative Approvals through November 28, 2016

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

3. University of Illinois at Springfield, December 2, 2016

sNc,U

English Reasonable and Moderate Extension

4. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, December 5, 2016

uNc,s

SC.17.08 Statement of Support for Principles Underlying IPAC proposal

IV. New Business

1. Designation of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Wednesday, March 15, 2017      Urbana-Champaign      Sally Jackson

V. Discussion of the State of Illinois Code of Personal Conduct

Ms. Donna McNeely, Executive Director of Ethics and Compliance, said that she received the State of Illinois Code of Personal Conduct shortly before July 1 with the request that all state agencies communicate the code to all employees. She had received no prior notice regarding the document. She explained that the Inspector General's Office had concluded that some state agencies did not have sufficient policies in place, so the response was to develop a statewide code. Ms. McNeely said that the University already has aspirational and goal-oriented policies in place that address the prescribed mandates of the state's code. While the Inspector General's Office agreed that the University already has good policies in place, the state's code still needed to be distributed. Ms. McNeely said that she made sure that the University has policies in place that cover the items in the state's code. The State of Illinois Code of Personal Conduct is posted on the University's website in the Ethics and HR locations. The code was also communicated via mass email to all employees. She does not expect there to be further communication about the state's code. Ms. McNeely said that the University will continue to work from its own policies. She did not feel that there was any language in the state's code that would change the way the University deals with situations. Professor Wheeler conveyed that his personal experiences with Ms. McNeely's office have always been wonderful and encouraged members to contact her if any assistance is needed.

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

VI. Old Business – Action Items

None.

VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

2. ST-77/GR-46. Revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* – Edits and Updates. Received from the Board of Trustees Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee 10/6/14. *Statutes*: Transmitted to Senates 10/10/14. Passed UIC Senate 12/3/14. Passed UIS Senate 1/23/15. Passed UIUC Senate 5/4/15. *General Rules* transmitted to the President 12/22/14. *General Rules* (Intellectual Property) transmitted to Senates 1/26/15. Passed UIS Senate 3/6/15. Passed UIC Senate 4/23/15. Passed UIUC Senate 5/4/15. *Statutes* and *General Rules* (Intellectual Property) transmitted to the President 5/29/15.

Professor Burbules said that efforts to move the existing proposed statutory revisions through the process are going slowly. He would like to see these revisions cleared prior to taking up new issues, one being the need to resolve the definition of faculty throughout the *Statutes*.

3. ST-72. Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 (Academic Freedom). Passed UIUC Senate 12/6/10. Passed UIC Senate 9/22/11. Passed UIS Senate 12/14/12. Transmitted to the President 1/18/13. Revised language approved by USC 3/18/14. Transmitted to Senates 3/21/14. Passed UIUC Senate 11/17/14. Passed UIC Senate as amended 1/29/15. Passed UIS Senate 4/10/15. Transmitted to President 5/12/15.

Professor Burbules said that he, Professor Maher, Professor Joyce Tolliver, and Vice President Wilson met with University Counsel to discuss the proposed revisions to the section on academic freedom. There are fundamental objections to the current set of changes. He reviewed options for the next step: request that the President transmit the proposed revisions to the Board, however, the changes would most likely be rejected; or take the concerns that University Counsel has raised and rework the language to satisfy these concerns. If the latter, there is the question of how the process will be restarted. Professor Burbules was in favor of asking the Urbana Senate's University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP) Committee, where the original revisions started, to suggest a new set of changes which would be sent to all three senates. Another option would be for USC to task itself with proposing new revisions. Professor Burbules commented that the concerns of University Counsel do not seem to be with the proposed revisions that reflect the original purpose of changing the language in the section on academic freedom. Over time, other issues were added to the language that could possibly be revised or removed.

Professor Maher referred to statutory procedures, which instruct the president to send proposed statutory revisions that have gone through the senate process to the Board. However, to avoid external implications, he agreed that it would be best to have either USC SGC or the Urbana Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure (CAFT) take charge of reconciling the language where there are objections. He recommended CAFT since this is where the language originated and there is expertise on the topic within this group. For that to happen, he suggested that there be a formal direction from USC to do this. Professor Maher explained that the protection for speaking out against one's

employer needs to be within the academic institution since the ruling on the Garcetti case indicated that First Amendment protection is not guaranteed for government entities. Legal Counsel believes freedom of speech is adequate.

Professor Burbules made a motion to refer ST-72 back to the Urbana Senate's USSP to provide a revised set of changes in consultation with CAFT. The motion was seconded. Professor Rao asked what procedure would allow USC to send the item back to the senate since ST-72 is now in the hands of the President. She felt that there should be a response as to why the item has not moved forward. Professor Karri suggested that the language be compared to that of other institutions. Professor Miller commented that the proposed language lacks an outreach component. She also agreed that the document should be sent back to CAFT through USSP. Professor Rao suggested that the President be asked to recommend that this item be reconsidered in light of concerns that have been raised. Professor Novak said that she would make the request to the President. The motion was approved with Professor Maher abstaining.

4. ST-79. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2.b, and Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*. Approved by USC 1/17/13. Transmitted to Senates 4/5/13. Revised language approved by USC 6/18/13. Transmitted to Senates 6/21/13. Passed UIC senate 9/26/13. Alternate language passed UIUC Senate 11/18/13. Transmitted to Senates 11/26/13. Passed UIS Senate 2/21/14. Passed UIC Senate 4/24/14. Transmitted to the President 6/11/14.

No new information.

5. ST-81. Revisions to University of Illinois Nondiscrimination Statement. Received from Vice President Pierre 10/9/15. Transmitted to Senates 10/12/15. Passed UIC Senate 10/28/15. Passed UIS Senate 12/11/15. Passed UIUC Senate 3/7/16. UIUC Senate version transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 3/31/16. Passed UIS Senate 4/22/16. Passed UIC Senate 9/29/16. Transmitted to Vice President Wilson 11/22/16.

No new information.

6. ST-82. Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Sections 3. (Appointments, Ranks, and Promotions of the Academic and Administrative Staff) a., and 4 (Principles Governing Employment of Academic and Administrative Staffs) b. Passed UIUC Senate 5/2/16. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 6/6/16. Passed UIS Senate 9/23/16. Passed UIC Senate 10/26/16. Transmitted to President 12/5/16.

This item was transmitted to the President on December 5.

7. GR-49. Proposed Revisions to the *General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure* – Updates to Bereavement and Sick Leave Reporting Policies. Transmitted to Vice President for Academic Affairs 12/5/16.

This item was transmitted to the Vice President for Academic Affairs on December 5.

8. OT-337. Proposed Revisions to the Policy on Acceptance of Transfer Credit for Undergraduate Admission Purposes. Transmitted to Senates 10/4/16. Passed UIS Senates 11/4/16. Passed UIUC Senate 11/14/16. Passed UIC Senate 11/30/16. Transmitted to Vice President for Academic Affairs 12/5/16.

This item was transmitted to the Vice President for Academic Affairs on December 5.

9. OT-338. USC Statement on Faculty/Staff Salary and Benefits. Transmitted to President and Vice President for Academic Affairs 12/7/16.

This item was transmitted to President Killeen and Vice President Wilson on December 7.

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

The group discussed possible topics for future presentations to the Board.

11. OT-327. University Strategic Framework.

No new information.

12. OT-331. U of I 2021 Initiative.

No new information.

13. OT-310. Recommendation for New Policy Language Related to Classified Research at the University of Illinois. Transmitted to Senates 6/25/14. Passed UIS Senate 9/12/14. Withdrawn UIC Senate 1/29/15. Passed UIUC SEC 4/17/15.

No new information.

14. OT-332. Levels of University Review.

No new information.

15. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

The Conference discussed possible future guests.

16. Report of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, January 19, 2017

Chicago

Gay Miller

17. Campus Updates.

No new information.



## 18. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

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

Meena Rao  
Harley Johnson  
Mary Jo LaDu  
Nicholas Burbules

19. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: Enrollment Management Policy Council (Jackson); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (Burbules, DeBerry-Spence, LaDu, Mohammadian, Villegas); Vice President for Academic Affairs UA Budget Review Advisory Committee (Mohammadian, Villegas, Wheeler); Vice President for Finance Faculty Advisory Committee (DeBerry-Spence, Weech); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Burbules, Miller, Villegas, Wheeler).

There were no updates.

VIII. Follow-up Items from Morning Session

Professor DeBerry-Spence reported that she attended one of the meetings associated with the Chicago Innovation District, which is being driven out of Vice President Seidel's Office. The three campuses are being brought together to conceptualize areas of interest under the main premises of health and wellness, food and agriculture, and computing and data. Two topics identified were urban planning and community engagement. Professor DeBerry-Spence also discussed her role as a presidential faculty fellow.

The Conference decided to ask the President more about the restructuring of the Alumni Association and its relation with the University Foundation.

Professor Wheeler reported that the sesquicentennial celebration will be launched on February 28. The sesquicentennial committee, which he is a member of, has been meeting since 2014. He wanted to make sure that each campus has been receiving information.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:35 p.m.