

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

DATE: Tuesday, February 23, 2010

PLACE: Videoconference: 414 AOB, 180G BRK, 364 HAB

PRESENT: Burbules, Campbell, Chambers, Eisenhart (Chair), Fadavi, Finnerty, Francis, Jones, Kaufman, Martin, Massat, O'Brien, Patston, Ramsey, Ting, Tolliver, Weech, Wheeler (Vice Chair)

ABSENT: Barrett, Koronkowski

GUESTS: Stanley Ikenberry, Walter Knorr, Mrinalini Rao

Professor Kathryn Eisenhart, Chair, called the University Senates Conference to order at 9:05 a.m.

I. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of January 22, 2010

Professor O'Brien moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved.

II. 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.

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<sup>1</sup>Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of March 30, 2010

Professor Wheeler moved approval of the Classification of Senate Minutes. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved.

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

1. University of Illinois at Chicago, January 28, 2010\*

- PR-10.19 Revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Theatre (*Directing/Design and Performance Concentrations*) and the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Performance
- PR-10.20 Establishment of a Concentration in Hazardous Substances Management, Master of Science in Public Health
- PR-10.21 Establishment of a Concentration in Occupational Safety, Master of Science in Public Health
- PR-10.22 Revision of the Master of Public Administration (MPA) Program
- PR-10.23 Redesignation of the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Electronic Visualization as the Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in New Media Arts
- PR-10.24 Revision of the Master of Arts in Hispanic Studies and the Doctor of Philosophy in Hispanic Studies
- PR-10.25 Revision of the Master of Science in Medical Biotechnology

\*Confirmation of the pre-classified items at the last USC meeting

2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, February 22, 2010

- EP.10.17 Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Business to Establish a Graduate Minor in Corporate Governance and International Business
- EP.10.20 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Reorganize the Gender and Women's Studies Program as the Department of Gender and Women's Studies
- EP.10.21 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Reorganize the Latina/Latino Studies Program as the Department of Latina/Latino Studies
- EP.10.23 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to Revise the B.S. in Animal Sciences

EP.10.31 Proposal from the Graduate College and ACES to Rename the M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural and Consumer Economics as the M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics

EP.10.35 Proposal from Graduate College and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies

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

3. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, February 22, 2010

SP.10.04 Amend *Statutes*, Article I, Section 2. – The President of the University (approved)

SP.06.05 Revision to the *Statutes*, Article VIII (first reading)

C. The following item was classified N by the University Senates Conference:

4. University of Illinois at Chicago, January 28, 2010

Approved Resolution of the University of Illinois at Chicago Senate in Support of Activities to Defend and Save Public Higher Education in Illinois

### III. Old Business – Action Items

There were no action items.

### IV. New Business

The Conference discussed the polarization among various faculty groups. Professors Burbules, Massat, and Ting talked about the pressure the leaders of the senates are feeling. There have been a lot of distortions of facts and misunderstandings about the role of faculty leadership. Some members commented that the situation may not be widespread. Professor Francis said that one problem that may have exacerbated the situation is that furloughs should have been made more clear in that the affected paychecks are actually a 6% deduction, not 2%. Professor Ting said that this is explained on the furlough website, which also includes a pay calculator. Professor Campbell said that some people thought that furloughs would prevent having to let some employees go. Professor Kaufman reminded the group that the Conference embraced furloughs two years ago as a way for faculty to share the burden since faculty cannot be laid off. Furloughs is one of many things that need to happen to solve the budget problems. Also, the budget situation has gotten much worse since then.

Professor Chambers commented that this is the beginning of major restructuring of the University. Some people do not realize that the crisis has just begun. He also commented that no one is defending us regarding the pension system, which is in trouble because the state has not paid into as it should. Professor Wheeler said that the pension system exists because it saves the state money, since the state does not have to pay the social security employer tax.

Professor Tolliver expressed concern that some faculty are putting too much energy into complaining that the budget problems are a result of bad management in the past by the administration of the University. She said that it is urgent for the senate leadership to come to grips with the need to plan for the future. The Conference was in general agreement that there needs to be more sharing of information and faculty involvement in the decision-making processes because faculty are very concerned about their futures.

Professor Jones commented that there needs to be more discussion of balancing the budget. There are too many perceived needs and not enough resources to support them. Professor Wheeler said that the problem now is not exceeding our budget, but rather not getting the money that the University has been promised.

Professor Burbules said that the Urbana campus is already in the process of reviewing programs. The Senate Executive Committee has tried hard to assure that there is faculty representation at all levels of the review processes and to be seen as advocates for the faculty.

#### V. Executive Session

Vice President Knorr said that the University has been told by the state that there will not be a rescission this year. However, the University has been given no indication of when the state money that is owed will be received. The state has \$4.2B in bills to pay, and that number will probably reach \$6B by the end of the fiscal year. The University has been told to plan for cuts in FY11. The University may have to consider short-term borrowing. Vice President Knorr explained that the \$800M in General Funds are mostly restricted. When asked why Foundation money could not be used or borrowed from, he responded that these funds are dedicated to a specific purpose. Donors must be able to trust the University to use their donations according to their intended purpose. There is no certainty when the University would be able to pay back the Foundation. A suggestion was made to communicate to the public that the \$800M is restricted funds.

Vice President Knorr commented that furlough savings of \$17M does not seem like much against the \$478M budget problem. The University chose to do something to help the cash flow situation rather than do nothing at all. Furloughs are only one part of the package. Vice President Rao said that furloughs allowed units to give back 6% of their budgets rather than 8.5%. Some Conference members stressed that units need to know the reality of the situation in order to plan for the near future.

President Ikenberry said that there are university-level and campus preparations for a 15% reduction in GRF next year, which is \$111M. College and departmental units will probably see a 7-8% reduction in their budgets. However, with the cash flow problems, the University will continue to deal with uncertainties. When asked why some searches are continuing, the President responded that some exceptions have to be made to the hiring freeze. Concerning tuition, there are many things to consider when determining how aggressive the University can be. The University does not want to price itself out of the market.

President Ikenberry commented that he has stated that pension reform needs to be a part of the budget solution for the State of Illinois. When asked how the University's pension system compares to those of peer institutions, the President said that one difference is our system is defined benefit rather than defined contribution. The problem is not that the benefits are overly generous, but that the state has not paid into the system as it should. In response to a question, Vice President Rao reported that Human Resources, Legal Counsel, and SURS are looking into whether employees can buy back their furlough days in the pension system.

President Ikenberry suggested that faculty get involved in decision-making processes at the campus level. He added that the senates seem to be in the strongest positions to take on leadership roles. While some members of the campus communities do not understand and criticize shared governance, most colleagues have respect for the work of senate leadership.

Vice President Knorr said that tuition collection is good. However, MAP funding has not been received. Vice President Rao said that the three campuses put a combined \$35M into financial aid.

President Ikenberry discussed activities and recommendations of the Administrative Review and Restructuring groups. The review should initiate cost-savings and improved performance of the University.

President Ikenberry reported that the presidential search is moving along well. There is a good pool of candidates.

#### Explanation of File Numbers

ST - University of Illinois *Statutes*

GR - *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*

BG - University Administration Budget and Benefits Study Committee

NC - Nominating Committee

OT - All other items

## VI. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

### 1. OT-261. Short-Term and Long-Term Budget Planning.

The Conference discussed this item with President Ikenberry and Vice Presidents Knorr and Rao during the Executive Session.

### 2. ST-74. Proposed Revision to the *Statutes*, Article I, Sections 2 – Term used to clarify the role of the President. Transmitted to Senates 10/26/09. Retransmitted with revisions 11/25/09. Endorsed UIS Senate 12/7/09. Accepted by UIC Senate 12/15/09. Approved UIUC Senate 2/22/10.

The Conference decided to transmit the statutory change to the President now that all three senates have responded.

### 3. ST-66. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article VIII – Changes in Academic Organization. Passed UIUC Senate 4/24/06. Transmitted to Senates 7/10/06. Passed UIC Senate 3/15/07. Passed UIS Senate 9/26/08. Revised document transmitted to Senates 1/16/09. Passed UIS Senate 2/13/09. Passed UIC Senate 4/23/09. Passed UIUC Senate 4/27/09. Passed UIUC Senate 4/27/09. Transmitted to President 5/7/09.

The UIUC Senate had first reading at its meeting the day before.

### 4. OT-211. Process for Selecting Board of Trustees Members.

The Conference decided to invite Ted Chung and Julie Smith to the March USC meeting to discuss the selection process.

### 5. OT-167. Faculty Representation to the Board of Trustees. UIUC Resolution 9/27/99. UIS Resolution 11/5/99. UIC resolution 12/2/99. USC Resolution to Senates 2/3/00. Endorsed by UIS 2/18/00. Endorsed by UIC 3/9/00. Endorsed by UIUC 4/24/00. Transmitted to the President 6/30/00. Transmitted to the Board 7/6/00. Letter from Trustee Eppley institutionalizing process for meetings with Chair of BoT Academic Affairs Committee and senate observers 12/1/04. Letter to Ikenberry 12/10/09.

Professor Chambers suggested asking Chair Kennedy how he would like to receive advice from the faculty. Professor Eisenhart reminded the group that the Conference had been invited to give a short presentation at the March Board meeting. The Conference discussed topics for the presentation. The Conference decided to clarify at which part of the meeting the presentation would take place and discuss topics further by email. Professor Burbules offered to draft a document to circulate among the Conference members.

### 6. OT-256. Positive Time Reporting.

No new information.

7. OT-257. Role of the Board of Trustees and the Faculty in University Governance.

No new information.

8. OT-258. Presidential Search.

President Ikenberry provided an update during the Executive Session.

9. OT-259. Conflict of Commitment and Interest Policy.

No new information.

10. OT-253. Program Review Process Collaboration among the Campuses.

No new information.

11. GR-41. Review of language in The General Rules, Article V, Section 3 – Private Use of University Property Forbidden.

No new information.

12. OT-252. Vendor Code of Conduct.

No new information.

13. ST-72. Consideration of the language in the Statutes, Article X, Section 2 (Academic Freedom).

Professor Tolliver reported that the item has moved out of the UIUC Senate's Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee and is now in University Statutes and Senate Procedures. She hoped that the senate would consider this at its next meeting.

14. OT-123. Discussion of University Senates Conference guests.

The Conference discussed possible guests to invite to future meetings.

15. Campus Updates.

There were no updates.

16. OT-142. Updates on the Management Teams: Academic Affairs; External Relations; Technology and Economic Development Cabinet; University Technology.

No reports.

17. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

Wednesday March 10, 2010, Chicago

Joseph Finnerty

Professor Finnerty mentioned that he attended the Audit, Finance, and Facilities Committee meeting of the Board the day before. He said that he would write a report for the Conference. He also commented that it would be a good idea to ask for a regular invitation to the meeting and meeting materials before the meeting. The Conference discussed asking for an ex officio member on this committee and the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board.

18. Review of Pending Items on the Agenda Addendum.

No new information.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.



Pending USC Items  
February 23, 2010

OT-185. Senate Resolutions on Benefits for Domestic Partners. Passed UIUC Senate 4/23/01. Passed UIS Senate 9/14/01. Letter of reaffirmation of USC support transmitted to the President 11/14/01. Benefits approved by the Board of Trustees 7/17/03.

OT-202. Review of the *University Senates Conference Organization and Functions*.

OT-210. Tuition and Fees Executive Committee.

OT-219. Future USC Meeting Dates.

OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

OT-231. Shared Governance Issues.

OT-232. Interactions with Legislators.

OT-239. Senate Joint Resolution – IBHE master plan for Illinois Higher Education.

OT-243. Resource Summit.

OT-247. USC Budget.

OT-248. Intellectual Property Issues.

OT-249. Exit Interviews.