

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Thursday, February 27, 2014

PLACE: Room 206 Student Center West, Chicago

PRESENT: Boltuc, Campbell, Chambers (Vice Chair), De Groot, Erricolo, Fadavi, Fisher, Francis, Graber, Leff, Maher, Mallory, Mohammadian, Tolliver,* Villegas (Chair)

ABSENT: Deberry-Spence, Kalita, Kay, Miller, Wheeler

GUESTS: Avijit Ghosh, Kappy Laing, Christophe Pierre

*Participated by phone.

Professor Jorge Villegas, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

I. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Villegas reviewed the day's schedule. He commented that pensions and the UIC strike are significant topics of concern at this time. He also mentioned that, two years ago at UIC, he and Professors Boltuc and Fisher began their terms on USC. Although he had heard stories of USC being a hostile group, he has been pleased to find the group very collegial.

II. Meeting with Vice President Pierre and Dr. Ghosh

Vice President Pierre provided an update on the University Administration (UA) review. The President, the Chancellors, and the Chairman of the Board were involved in the final steps of the decision-making process. University Administration officers will soon receive notification of the recommendations that should be implemented in their units. In addition, there will be an annual review of all UA units that will be used in making budget allocation decisions and determining whether the units are meeting the needs of the campuses. An evaluation committee will be formed to conduct the annual review. Vice President Pierre asked the Conference to submit names of faculty, at least two from each campus, so that he can select one from each campus to serve on the evaluation committee.

The group discussed the roles of UA in terms of leadership and service and the importance of determining what those roles should be. With a search for a new president beginning, there needs to be an answer as to whether we are one university, three campuses with significant autonomy, or somewhere in between.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of March 18, 2014

Dr. Ghosh continued the discussion from the last meeting of a supplemental pension program that would be administered by the University. The campuses have been consulted as to what might be affordable and there seems to be buy-in on the importance of having such a program. There is a question as to whether the University has the authority to create such a program or whether it must seek legislative approval. There are many other issues to address as well, such as determining vendors and making Banner changes. Dr. Ghosh clarified that the program would be available to everyone – all employees in Tier I, Tier II, and Self-Managed.

Dr. Ghosh reported that the Board's University Health Systems Committee recently met and approved a resolution on the reorganization of the health center that will be forwarded to the Board for its March 6 meeting. The plan brings the colleges and hospital under a Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs who would report to the Chancellor. The VCR would maintain direct oversight of the clinical aspects as well. Various groups are looking at different aspects such as budget and promotion and tenure issues. The principles of the implementation have been agreed on. The transition will take place when the VCR is in place.

Vice President Pierre said that the subcommittees of the Open Access Task Force have been working to address the charges contained in the legislative act. The entire task force will meet together for the first time mid-March, and plans to have its final meeting in September with a final report going to the Board in November. He commented that he is not looking for the USC committee that is working on a draft policy to consider the document to be set in stone. His aim is to have a solid plan and roadmap that can be incorporated into the Task Force's report in November. The group discussed how to set academic policies at the University level, since academic policies are usually set at the campus level. Vice President Pierre said that the policy could reside on the VPAA website. Some members thought that there could be enough variations from campus to campus that the University policy should set minimum standards and then allow the campuses to work within those guidelines.

The group discussed the July Board of Trustees retreat. Conference members expressed the need to have the discussion of campus autonomy as part of the retreat.

III. Meeting with Kappy Laing

Ms. Laing reported that the most significant federal issue is the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act. The University has been proactive by getting the VPAA and Provosts involved.

At the state level, the Governor will not give his budget address until March 26, which is after the primaries. The University is scheduled to present testimony before that date. Some believe that the budget will be determined in two steps: before and after November elections. There has not been a capital projects bill in six years. The University has had to pay out-of-pocket and is falling behind. There is hope that there will be meaningful procurement relief this year.

The pension bill, SB1, has been challenged by a variety of participants. There is speculation that the courts will want to hear them all together. There may be some kind of stay. The court could strike down the entire bill or only parts of it. Ms. Laing commented that the University is working hard to put together a supplemental retirement plan.

Ms. Laing said that the University is very active in working on legislative strategies. Three lobby days are planned. The President will give an appropriation presentation in March. A key issue to the University's budget depends on how the state deals with its revenue stream. Ms. Laing said that she would update the Conference with any new information that becomes available.

IV. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of January 28, 2014

The minutes were approved with an editorial correction in the ST-72 section.

V. 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, January 24, 2014

R43-16 Changing the name of the English Department to the Department of English and Modern Languages

R43-17 Reasonable and Moderate Extension of the M.A. English with two concentrations: Digital Publishing and Digital Pedagogies

2. University of Illinois at Chicago, January 30, 2014

- PR-14.16 Revision of the Master of Science in Biomedical Visualization
- PR-14.17 Transfer the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD) from the Graduate College to the College of Applied Health Sciences and Revision of the Doctor of Occupational Therapy (OTD)
- PR-14.18 Revision of the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Oral Sciences
- PR-14.19 Revision of the Doctor of Medicine (MD) – Chicago
- PR-14.20 Revision of the Doctor of Medicine (MD) – Peoria
- PR-14.22 Revision of the Maternal and Child Health Concentration, Master of Public Health (MPH) and Revision of the Maternal and Child Health Epidemiology Concentration, Master of Public Health (MPH) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Public Health
- PR-14.23 Revision of the Master of Science in Nursing; Elimination of the Specialty Concentrations within the Master of Science in Nursing; Revision of the Master of Science Graduate Entry Program; and Suspension of Admissions to the Three Joint Degrees Affiliated with the Master of Science in Nursing
- PR-14.24 Transfer the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) from the Graduate College to the College of Nursing; Revision of the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP); and Revision of the Concentrations within the Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)
- PR-14.25 Revision of the Minor in Finance
- PR-14.26 Revision of the Advanced Quantitative Skills Requirement of the Business Core of Undergraduate Programs within the College of Business Administration
- PR-14.27 Establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Human Development and Learning
- PR-14.28 Establishment of the Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy

3. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, February 10, 2014

- EP.14.18 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Establish a Non-Thesis Option in the Master of Science in Chemical

Engineering in the Department of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering, School of Chemical Sciences

- EP.14.22 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences in the Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science
- EP.14.23 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Revise the Undergraduate Minor in the Department of Geography and Geographic Information Science
- EP.14.24 Proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences (AHS) to Revise the Undergraduate Concentrations in the BS in Speech and Hearing Science
- HD.14.03 Nomination of Phillip A. Sharp for an Honorary Degree

4. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, February 10, 2014

- uNc,s SC.14.05 Endorsement of the Chancellor's statement on the Israeli Universities Boycott
- SC.14.07 Draft of Provost's Communication for Specialized Faculty

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. New Business

1. OT-307. University of Illinois Succession Planning.

Professor Villegas said that he would find out more about the leadership program from President Easter.

2. OT-308. UA Annual Review Process.

USC nominated the following members to serve on the evaluation committee: Danilo Erricolo, Lynn Fisher, George Francis, Kouros Mohammadian, Jorge Villegas, and Matthew Wheeler.

As a possible new business item, Professor Chambers suggested that the Conference think about the USC elections voting process, specifically, who is eligible to vote. It was noted that the *USC Organization and Functions* would need to be revised if such a change were made.

VIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

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. Letter to President 9/25/13.

Professor Tolliver reported that the President's Office proposed revisions to the new draft that the Conference approved for the President's consideration. There are some editorial revisions to the clause that refers to faculty and academic staff. The most significant problem is that the language does not afford the faculty any real protection other than any person has under First Amendment rights.

Professor Tolliver presented a new draft for consideration. Professor Chambers moved to approve the document and then send it to the President for consideration. The motion was seconded. Professor Leff noted that commas should be inserted around the clause "academic staff members who are directly engaged in teaching and research", as suggested by Professor Maher when editing the minutes from the last meeting. Professor Tolliver said that the language deletes the wording in section "c" regarding the rights of citizens. Professor Leff suggested that the language in section "a" include a statement as to who as these academic freedoms. The proposed revisions were approved.

4. ST-79/OT-296. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, 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.

Professor Fisher reported that the UIS Senate approved the language proposed by the UIUC Senate.

5. ST-77/GR-46. Revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* – Edits and Updates.

Professor Tolliver commented that a lot of revisions were suggested last year. The group looking at the documents as been reformed and includes Professors Deberry-Spence, Fisher, Kalita, and Tolliver. There is a wide variety of proposed changes. The Trustees would like the documents to be revised by November, but realize the senates will need time to go through all of the changes. Professor Villegas said that he would contact Dr. Kies to get an idea of what can be shared and what is the proposed timeline. Professor Tolliver said that she assumes the process will still include the USC Statutes and Governance Committee prioritizing the recommendations.

6. OT-304. Open Access to Research Articles.

Professor Villegas reported that the USC committee is working on a draft policy that will provide concepts and guidelines.

7. OT-305. Report from the UIUC Senate Executive Committee Task Force on Faculty Issues and Concerns.

Professor Chambers moved to remove this item from the agenda. The motion was seconded, voted on and approved.

8. OT-288. Faculty/Staff Pension and Benefit Issues (formerly Resolution on Pensions/Pension Reform).

No new information.

9. OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

Professor Villegas invited the Conference to present questions and topics for the review of Vice President Knorr. He noted that Professor Campbell is leading the review.

10. OT-297. Implications of the Open Meetings Act to the operations of the University Senates Conference.

No new information.

11. OT-298. Shared Governance in a Changing Environment.

Professor Chambers commented that there should be a discussion of the long-term responsibilities of department heads and how things could be done better. Professor Tolliver commented on a survey that was done at UIUC. Things are happening in some departments that should not be happening. It would be helpful to departments to have a list of best practices. Professor Chambers added that issues and problems should be addressed as part of the normal unit process.

12. OT-301. Records and Information Management Services (RIMS).

Professor Campbell reported that there is a RIMS policy, but the focus now is on creating a policy regarding the retention of emails.

13. OT-265. Academy on Capitalism and Limited Government.

No new information.

14. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

Guests to invite were discussed.

15. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting and USC Report Presenter:

Thursday, March 6, 2014, Urbana:
USC Report:

Donald Chambers
Matthew Wheeler

16. Campus Updates.

Professor Campbell discussed the problems associated with the auditing of academic professional positions by the Merit Board.

17. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

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

Matthew Wheeler
Peter Boltuc
Donald Chambers
Joyce Tolliver

HHAC: Professor Chambers said that there has been agreement on the restructuring of the health enterprise, but achieving excellence has not been addressed.

FBBC: Professor Boltuc reported that the committee had a productive meeting with Janet Parker from UIC.

18. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: Common Application Consortium (Graber); Enrollment Management Policy Council (Leff); Pre- and Post-Award Research Money Policy group (Wheeler); Strategic Communications and Marketing Council (Villegas); UI Labs Task Force (Chambers); University Technology Management Team (Campbell); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (Chambers, Mohammadian, Villegas); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Boltuc, Chambers, Villegas, Wheeler).

Professor Chambers commented that UI Labs has been funded.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.