

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Wednesday, March 27, 2013

PLACE: Room 314A Illini Union, Urbana

PRESENT: Andersen, Boltuc (Vice Chair), Burbules (Chair), Deberry-Spence, Fadavi*, Fisher, Francis, Gibori, Graber, Leff, Mallory, Mohammadian, Shanahan, Struble, Tolliver, Villegas, Wheeler

ABSENT: Campbell, Chambers, Erricolo

GUESTS: Bill Adams, Robert Easter, Jason Kosovski, Kappy Laing, Christophe Pierre, Julie Wurth

* Attended by phone in the morning

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

I. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Burbules reported on the meeting of the Vice President for Academic Affairs FAC meeting the day before. He also commented on budget matters. The University is looking at a 5% budget cut from the state next year. Most other states are not making budget cuts to higher education. There have to be limits on tuition increases. Hospital issues will affect the entire University. The administration and faculty have a lot of difficult decisions to make. There needs to be a discussion of what the role of faculty will be in the decision-making process. People who are in denial that there is a budget crisis need to be educated about the realities of the impending consequences.

Professor Burbules said that the regulatory environment, both external and internal, puts constraints on productivity and efficiency and can be costly.

Professor Burbules expressed his concerns over consequences of unionization. There can be a blurring of boundaries between the senate and the union when academic policy matters are written into collective bargaining. He also felt that unionization could undermine the ability of faculty to speak with a single voice.

Professor Burbules turned the meeting over to Professor Boltuc while he and Professor Wheeler were out for another meeting.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of April 18, 2013

II. Meeting with President Easter and Vice President Pierre

President Easter commented that he grew up in a department with a strong faculty voice. The department has done well over the years financially and in its successes. His view is that decision-making is shared. If the funding trend from the state continues, everything is in question. Students are looking for ways to cut costs.

President Easter said that the hospital is one of the biggest challenges to deal with. With reimbursement changes, there will be a risk as to whether costs can be covered since there will no longer be a fee for service basis. The hospital provides \$50M in charity care. Another 40% of patients are served by Medicare. The sequestration will cut an allocation of funding for providing residency education. UIC is the largest medical center in the country. Several of its colleges are doing very well. The University needs to find a model that will work.

President Easter provided an update on the proposed statutory revisions concerning academic freedom (USC ST-72). Legal Counsel suggested proposed amendments and he plans to consult with others, including USC, to have a better understanding of the issues that are trying to be addressed.

Regarding the RIMS Communication – 001 document, President Easter commented that there have been no changes in rules. Conference members expressed concerns with the RIMS document and language in the *General Rules* concerning University Archives. Specific concerns included language in the *General Rules* that requires prior approval of the archivist before records can be discarded or destroyed and conflicts with intellectual property rules. It was pointed out that not all documents are records. Also, there are some agreed-upon rules that specify how long certain records have to be kept. The President asked that a group from the Conference sit down with him for further discussion of these concerns.

President Easter responded to concerns that legislators are becoming more intrusive in academic issues that should be under the purview of faculty. He said that the University is a public body created by the State of Illinois and therefore subject to the state's oversight responsibility. The University needs to be transparent and anticipate the concerns of its constituents so the legislature does not feel the need to address these issues. The University needs to provide education, research, and service and decide which things can no longer be considered justifiable. He added that the University needs to engage with citizenry to hear the concerns of the community. The group discussed the specific issue of controlling the costs of textbooks. Professor Tolliver commented that many faculty are already making efforts to keep textbook costs down for their students. She said that the larger issue is the conflict with academic freedom; faculty know their subjects and should be able to make decisions without interference from legislators.

Vice President Pierre reported that his Faculty Advisory Committee had a productive meeting the day before. The topic of the meeting related to strategic planning; how the University should address the serious challenges it faces in the next few years. The

campus strategic planning exercise deadline is the end of June, which he acknowledged may be too soon. There is a companion exercise of looking at next year's budget to decide how the University should determine priorities. Once state appropriations and tuition are known, the campuses can position themselves to implement budget decisions. In addition, the academic program review and administrative review are moving forward.

Conference members suggested that the administration provide clarity to the University community in regards to funds that are often referred to as reserves. There are misconceptions that there is no budget problem because of these reserve funds. President Easter said that the reserve is somewhat mythical, in part because the state is continuously behind on money it owes the University. There must be caution, given the instability of funding, in making obligations that go beyond a level of comfort. Reserve money is actually an aggregation of many accounts, many of which are dedicated for specific uses, and money often flows in and out. Also, this money is not recurring. The group discussed ways to communicate a message that could clarify reserve funds. Conference members discussed the need for the budget planning process to be transparent and for faculty to be more involved in. President Easter commented that the University needs to reevaluate the formula used for distributing funds among the campuses.

Mr. Bill Adams, Special Assistant to the President and former chief financial officer for the Urbana campus, provided an update on the administrative review process. He introduced Mr. Jason Kosovski, who has been working closely with the review teams. Mr. Adams said that the teams have worked very hard and have interviewed many people. Meetings will be ending in early April, and draft reports should come in around the middle of April. Each review team leader plans to sit down with the leader of the unit being reviewed to discuss the team's findings and where the team is leaning in terms of recommendations before submitting a draft report to the steering committee. This report will then be sent to the unit, and the unit will have the opportunity to provide a response. The team may decide to revise the report. Final reports from each team will come back to the steering committee for final recommendations by the steering team. Mr. Adams said that some changes could be done quickly. He also noted that UA units should be subject to an annual budget review process. Vice President Pierre commented that budgetary implications, which will hopefully be significant, will be a result of outcomes; not the other way around. Professor Burbules added that the review seems to be more of a reconceptualization of UA in relation to the campuses rather than solely a budget issue. He recommended that faculty be brought into the process since faculty support of the agenda could provide leverage with implementation.

III. Meeting with Kappy Laing, Executive Director of Governmental Relations

Ms. Laing said that there is not much to report on the federal level. A government shut-down was avoided by passage of a resolution. Spending is going forward at the same level with the exception of changes due to the sequestration. She has been working with the vice chancellors of research and the provosts to communicate to the government the needs of the campuses in an effort to alleviate some of the cuts.

At the state level, the Governor's budget recommends a 4.9% budget reduction, which would be a \$32M overall funding cut. The appropriation process has started and President Easter has provided testimony to the Senate. The House appropriation hearing will be in mid-April.

Both the House and the Senate have passed bills concerning pensions, but what each has approved is vastly different from the other. Once there is more clarity about what is on the table, there will be meetings on the campuses.

Ms. Laing commented that she is encouraged that there will be more procurement relief. Small changes were made a couple of years ago, but it is important to get procurement relief for research and medical equipment.

A new statute will become effective August 1st that restricts the income of people who return to University employment after retirement. There is no system in place to implement this change. The University is working on a one-year delay.

The group discussed legislative efforts that infringe on decisions that should be made by faculty and the institution. Some examples noted were costs of textbooks, the economics of MOOCs and who owns the intellectual property, and a requirement that all research funded with public money be publicly available when it is published. Conference members expressed particular concerns with the latter proposal. Ms. Laing said that the bill, sponsored by Senator Bill, is on hold. He is a good friend of the University and is gathering more information on the issue. The Conference decided to put together an ad hoc committee which included Professors Boltuc, Mohammadian, Struble, and Wheeler, to put together some discussion points to present to the entire Conference.

There was a discussion of the increased number mandates from the state while the state continues to cut funds. These mandates can be costly and restricts the flexibility needed to do our jobs. Ms. Laing said that her office makes the case against these mandates whenever it can. The University had done remarkably well with less, but at some point there needs to be relief.

The group briefly discussed bills that amend how the Board of Trustees is appointed, restrict smoking on campuses, and address concealed carry on campuses.

Ms. Laing said that it is important to build connections with our alumni and legislators. Professor Burbules thanked her for meeting with the Conference.

IV. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of February 19, 2013

The minutes were approved as written.

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 Urbana-Champaign, March 4, 2013

- EP.13.13 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the requirements for the M.A. and PhD in Linguistics
- EP.13.17 Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Fine and Applied Arts to terminate the Ed.D. degree in Music Education
- EP.13.18 Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Engineering to revise the Master of Computer Science (M.C.S.) in Computer Science
- EP.13.22 Proposal from the College of Business to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Accountancy
- EP.13.24 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a Concentration in Spanish Literatures and Cultures within the MA in Spanish in the Department of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese
- EP.13.25 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Terminate the Illinois PSM concentration in the MS in Plant Biology

2. University of Illinois at Chicago, March 14, 2013

- PR-13.22. Revision of the Spatial Planning and Design Concentration, Master of Urban Planning and Policy (MUPP)
- PR-13.23 Revision of the Master of Science in Architecture Program
- PR-13.24 Revision of the Master of Arts in Linguistics
- PR-13.26 Establish a Minor in Urban Planning and Policy
- PR-13.27 Revision of the Undergraduate Programs in the College of Architecture, Design and the Arts to include the UIC First-Year Dialogue Seminar
- PR-13.28 Establish the Minor in Disability and Human Development
- PR-13.29 Establish the Minor in Instructional Design and Training
- PR-13.30 Revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Urban Education; and Elimination of the Education and Democratic Society Concentration
- PR-13.31 Revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Economics; Revision of the Minor in Human Capital and Labor Markets; and Revision of the Minor in Economics
- PR-13.32 Revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Classical Studies; and Revision of the Minor in Classical Studies
- PR-13.33 Revision of the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)
- CP-13.03 Establish a Post-Baccalaureate Campus Certificate in Public Transit Planning and Management

3. University of Illinois at Springfield, March 22, 2013

- R42-18 Creation and Approval of a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems Security in the Computer Science Department

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

4. University of Illinois at Springfield, March 1, 2013

- R42-14 Clarification of Personnel Committee Operating Procedures – Recusal and Abstention

R42-15 Clarification of Sabbatical Leave Report Requirements

5. University of Illinois at Chicago, March 14, 2013

cNs,u Approved proposed revisions to the UIC Senate Bylaws, Article I, Section 2 (c) to include an open nominating period before the election of Senators

6. University of Illinois at Springfield, March 22, 2013

R42-17 Modification of Tenure and Promotion Application Rebuttal Procedures

R42-19 Promotion for Clinical Research Professors

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

No items for action.

VII. New Business

1. NC-19. Nominating Committee for 2013-14 Officers, Executive Committee, and USC Committees.

Professor Shanahan reported on behalf of the committee, which also includes Professors Graber (Chair) and Villegas. The committee thinks that the principle moving forward should be to have multiple nominations, at least for the top positions to start with. If done too quickly, there might be a need for multiple elections. Professor Mallory asked if the committee intended to follow the tradition of rotating the chair position. Professor Shanahan responded in the affirmative.

2. Board of Trustees Meeting: Wednesday, May 29, 2013, Chicago

Designation of Observer:

Lynn Fisher

The Conference decided that the faculty report would be on the role of the senates. Professors Andersen, Fisher, Patston, Tolliver and Wheeler agreed to write a report for Professor Fisher to present. [This was later changed to Professor Chambers giving a report on the hospital and health science system due to the timeliness of the subject.]

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.

This issue was discussed with President Easter during the morning session.

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

Professor Burbules said that the process is slowing down and no action is expected during this academic year.

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

Professor Burbules suggested this as a topic for the President at the next meeting.

6. OT-295. Resolution on campus jurisdiction over the *Statutes* and the *General Rules*.

Professor Burbules said that the resolution had been sent to the Board, the President, and the senates. Professor Andersen moved to remove this item from the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved. The Conference decided to create a new item to have a positive discussion of shared governance in a changing environment. Members discussed various encounters with union organizers and strategies that have been used by the union. Professor Burbules commented that USC should discuss the various issues that could affect the procedures and dynamics of this group and shared governance. He mentioned collective bargaining and the Open Meetings Act as examples.

7. OT-296. Proposal that USC should be able to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*.

Professor Burbules said that he would carry the proposal forward into the current *Statutes* and *General Rules* revision process, although the group is not currently meeting. Professor Tolliver made a motion to make this a formal proposal to be forwarded to the senates for action. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved.

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

Professor Tolliver reported on behalf of the Statutes and Governance Committee. There are some part of USC's procedures that could be modified to be more closely in

compliance. Other requirements could restrict the Conference's ability to function. Some issues to work out are calling into meetings and meeting by videoconference. The committee will continue to work on the various issues.

9. OT-291. Recommendation to establish Faculty Advisory Committees for all four Vice Presidents.

The Conference discussed the status of the FACs. Professor Burbules suggested that this be discussed in the context of the vice president reviews.

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

The Conference discussed possible guests for future meetings.

11. Campus Updates.

Professor Fisher reported that the UIS Senate has a full agenda, part of which is amending its bylaws. Professor Wheeler reported that the UIUC Senate is trying to figure out how to deal with honorary degrees in the context of the Open Meetings Act.

12. Board of Trustees Reports: Thursday, January 24, 2013, Chicago

Observer:	George Francis
Faculty Report:	Peter Boltuc

13. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee	Matthew Wheeler
Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee	Peter Boltuc
Hospital and Health Affairs Committee	Donald Chambers
Statutes and Governance Committee	Joyce Tolliver

Professor Boltuc reported that FBBC is working on crafting its mission. He welcomed suggestions from the Conference.

Professor Tolliver reported that SGC is discussing the RIMS policy and the *General Rules* as they pertain to archives. Each campus is supposed to have a written policy on the destruction of documents. It seems to be clear that the archivist's definition of "record" does not reflect the definition of "record" that is in the *General Rules*.

Professor Wheeler reported that he and Professor Leff met with Vice President Pierre during lunch and discussed some of the difficulties of moving the campus strategic planning process forward.

Professor Gibori reported that HHAC has met with various administrators and has been discussing the challenges facing the Hospital and the College of Medicine.

14. 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; UI Labs Task Force (Chambers); University Technology Management Team (Campbell); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (Burbules, Chambers, Mohammadian, Villegas); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Boltuc, Chambers, Wheeler).

Professor Leff provided an update on the “dashboard” that Dr. Richard Wheeler presented to the Conference. Professor Graber added that a group will be meeting with him in May. Professor Burbules reported on the VPAA FAC meeting, which included MOOCs and online education in addition to the topics he had mentioned earlier in this meeting. Professor Wheeler reported on the Pre- and Post-Award policy group. After efforts to purchase software, it has been determined that the University will develop its own software.

15. Review of Pending Items.

The Conference decided to ask the President for an update on the Academy on Capitalism and Limited Government at its next meeting

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Pending USC Items
March 27, 2013

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.

OT-248. Intellectual Property Issues.

OT-260. University Information Security Policy.

OT-262. Accelerated Degree Program.

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

OT-268. Administrative Reorganization.

OT-276. Performance Based Funding.

OT-280. Faculty Participation in Shared Governance at University of Illinois.

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