

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

DATE: Tuesday, April 21, 2015

PLACE: Room 206 Student Center West, Chicago

PRESENT: Burbules, Campbell, Chambers (Chair), Deberry-Spence, De Groot, Erricolo, Fadavi, B. Francis, G. Francis, Graber, Jackson, Kalita, LaDu, Li, Maher, Miller, Mohammadian, Tolliver (Vice Chair), Villegas, Vincent (*ex officio*)

ABSENT: McDermott

GUESTS: Michael Amiridis, Robert Easter, Christophe Pierre

(USC Committees met at 9:00 a.m.)

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

I. Meeting with President Easter and Vice President Pierre

President Easter met with the University Senates Conference for the last time in his role as President. He reflected on some of the highlights of his career at the University. The President commented that great universities, great colleges, and great departments are created by the faculty. He worries about the changing nature of the relationship between the faculty and the administration when faculty unions are created. While he is a believer that there is a place for unions, faculty are a unique body and the participation in shared governance creates a unique relationship.

President Easter provided an update on the implementation of the recommendations in the University Administration review. Twenty-two of the recommendations have been implemented and twelve are well underway. The remaining items are either in the early stages or making little progress. One recommendation would move budget decisions back to the VPAA position where the budget could be linked to academic goals and aspirations. The President also discussed the recommendation to make the VPPA an Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for UA.

Vice President Pierre said that the University Administration Budget Review Advisory Committee is working on a report that will include, among other recommendations, a reserve policy on what percentage of its budget a unit can carry forward. President Easter has commissioned an ad hoc team to make recommendations on how budget cuts should be distributed among UA and the campuses. It was mentioned that the University loses double when the state cuts funds that are matched by the federal government.

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<sup>1</sup>Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of May 26, 2015

President Easter said that the University may have been overly aggressive with increasing tuition over a period of time. The Board made the decision that tuition cannot be raised beyond the rate of inflation. He said that Vice President Pierre has met with the campuses to discuss ways to grow enrollment.

President Easter commented that moving the University forward should include team-building, having a clear understanding of the University's priorities, and creating a sense that everyone is part of the plan.

President Easter left the meeting at 11:15 a.m. Conference members thanked him for his dedicated service to the University and proceeded with a round of applause.

Vice President Pierre said that the University receives 33% of its budget from the state, which is more than our peers. This includes payment of employee benefits, which most universities outside of Illinois do not get from their states. A bigger share of the University's budget comes from tuition compared to most of our peers. In addition, our peers bring in more research funding and do better with fundraising. Amongst schools with hospitals, we do not do as well with hospital revenues. Members commented on the difference in the competitive landscape we have with nearby universities and the patient base that we serve. Vice President Pierre commented that comparisons are an important factor in helping us determine ways we could be more productive and competitive. He felt that there should be a review of costs throughout the entire University.

The Conference discussed ways it could be helpful in encouraging implementation of cost-saving recommendations that have been met with resistance.

## II. Meeting with Chancellor Amiridis

Chancellor Amiridis commented that he had been in office a little over a month. A big wow factor for him has been the quality, strength, resilience and tenacity of the students. They have come to UIC to achieve and to be activists. Faculty bring in over \$400M a year in research. Many of the health science colleges are ranked in the top 10. UIC is one of four Carnegie I institutions in the state (also UIUC, Northwestern, and University of Chicago). He is proud that the campus is a Latino-serving institution, with 27% of the student body being Latino. The Chancellor does not think that the City of Chicago realizes the importance of the campus. He met with the Governor to discuss the importance of UIC and the negative impact of severe budget cuts.

Chancellor Amiridis believes that a financial crisis tests the core value of an institution. The core value he wants to protect is the students' experience in and out of the classroom. He needs the administration, with the help of the senate, to move quickly. He would like the administration to be known for good ideas that are put into place quickly.

Chancellor Amiridis said that it will be very important to get the person with the right vision for the position of Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs. Healthcare is not in good shape in terms of federal and state regulations and the shift in societal expectations. Rewards will not be for curing, but rather for keeping people healthy. Healthcare delivery

is moving towards big networks. There is a strong movement for interprofessional education. The job description for the VCHA has been posted and he would like to see the position filled by the end of the summer, realizing that this could be overly optimistic.

Chancellor Amiridis said that UIC could improve its strategic planning, such as in terms of recruiting students. In a budget-cutting environment, he would like to see everyone pulling together in an organized way. He would like for UIC to be known for the success of the students it accepts.

The group discussed the importance of a transparent budget process. Chancellor Amiridis said that he believes that faculty members bring an important view to the table. The group also discussed the need for a cultural shift of working together and quickly.

### III. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Chambers commented on the progress that has been made in building a strong relationship with the Board. He suggested that USC meet with Board members, and particularly the Board Chair, on a regular basis.

### IV. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of April 1, 2015

The minutes were approved as written.

### V. Classification of Senate Minutes

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| 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, April 6, 2015

- EP.15.20 Clarification of Policies on Graduate Minors and Concentrations
- EP.15.26 Proposal from the School of Social Work and the Graduate College to revise and rename the graduate concentration in Advocacy, Leadership, and Social Change
- EP.15.46 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES) to Rename and Revise the Integrated Pest Management Concentration in the BS in Crop Sciences
- EP.15.47 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES) to Revise the Concentrations in Agroecology, Biological Sciences, Crops, Crop Agribusiness, and Plant Biotechnology and Molecular Biology and to Add a New Concentration in Horticultural Food Systems to the Bachelor of Science in Crop Sciences
- EP.15.48 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Psychology by Adding New Concentrations
- EP.15.50 Proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences (AHS) and the Graduate College to Revise the Master of Science Curriculum in the Department of Recreation, Sport, and Tourism (RST)
- EP.15.52 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES) to Revise the Bachelor of Science Major in Human Development and Family Studies in the Department of Human and Community Development
- EP.15.53 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences (ACES) to Revise the Minor in Horticulture in the Department of Crop Sciences
- EP.15.57 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Revise the Undergraduate Minor in Chemistry
- EP.15.58 Proposal to Revise the BSLAS in Molecular and Cellular Biology in the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- EP.15.59 Proposal to Revise the Undergraduate Curriculum in the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism (RST), College of Applied Health Sciences (AHS)

EP.15.67 Proposal to Transfer the PhD in Neuroscience from the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology to the Neuroscience Program

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

2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 6, 2015

SP.15.15 General Revisions to the *Statutes* Motions #6, #7, and #8

3. University of Illinois at Springfield, April 10, 2015

Res. 44-13 Modification of Article X, Section 2 *Statutes of the University of Illinois* (Academic Freedom)

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

4. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 6, 2015

uNc,s RS.15.09 Resolution Supporting Faculty, Staff and Student Participation in Title IX Conduct Hearings

5. University of Illinois at Springfield, April 10, 2015

sNc,u Res. 44-20 Resolution to Endorse the Faculty Advisory Council to Illinois Board of Higher Education Statement on Reaffirming Support of Shared Governance

#### 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

1. ST-77/GR-46. Revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* – Edits and Updates. *Statutes* transmitted to the Senates 10/10/14. *General Rules* transmitted to the President 12/22/14. *General Rules* (Intellectual Property) transmitted to Senates 1/26/15.

Professor Burbules reported that the USC *Statutes* and Governance Committee reviewed the latest round of changes to the *Statutes* proposed by the Urbana Senate and the core concerns have been addressed. The Urbana Senate still needs to consider the proposed revisions to the Intellectual Property language in the *General Rules* and the proposal to move this section from the *General Rules* to the *Statutes*. The final

versions of both documents will be brought to USC at the May 26 meeting and then submitted to the Board. Professor Burbules commented that there are already some additional proposed revisions being considered. Articles 9 and 10 of the *Statutes*, which deal with dismissal of faculty and punishment short of dismissal, are being revamped by University Counsel with advice from each campus. This part will not be ready before fall. ST-72 and ST-79 have already been approved by all three senate and will be reviewed by the Board along with the overall changes to the *Statutes*.

Professor Vincent commented that the UIC Senate approved moving the IP section of the *General Rules* to the *Statutes*. The Senate's Faculty Affairs Committee has suggested an overhaul of the IP language. However, the Senate will consider the current changes as an up or down vote and then make recommendations at a later time.

2. OT-319. University Senates Conference Bylaws (Formerly - Proposed revisions to *University Senates Conference Organization and Functions*).

Professor Burbules reported that the USC Statutes and Governance Committee approved two proposed revisions to the current draft of the Bylaws. He said that Professor Maher suggested that the section concerning what constitutes a quorum, 5.2, be changed to, "A quorum for Conference meetings shall consist of a physically present simple majority of the total membership of the Conference." Professor Burbules commented that additional members could call in but not be counted towards quorum, which is in accordance with the Open Meetings Act. Professor Burbules said that Professor Chambers pointed out potential unintended consequences of giving senate chairs *ex officio* status on USC when they are not elected members of USC. SGC suggested that 3.6 be changed to, "Each senate is encouraged to elect the chair of its senate executive committee or other primary senate leaders among its representatives to the USC. If not elected, they may attend USC as non-voting *ex officio* members at their senate's expense. Professor Burbules explained that this potentially enlarges the Conference by three additional members and could change the ratio of membership among the senates. Also, the UIS Senate requires that its chair be a member of USC, therefore not allowing the senate to include another person at the table.

Professor Burbules said that the two proposed revisions to the Bylaws are a formal motion from the committee. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved. Professor Burbules then moved to approve the entire Bylaws including the proposed revisions tracked in the document that was included in the USC packet. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved. Professor Maher pointed out that section 8.4 requires USC to report any changes to the Bylaws to the senates.

VII. New Business

3. NC-21. Nominating Committee for 2015-16 Officers, Executive Committee, and USC Committees.

Professor Chambers announced that he had appointed the committee in accordance with the University Senates Conference Bylaws. The committee members are: Roy Campbell,

Benet Deberry-Spence, and Jorge Villegas (Chair). The committee will nominate members for Chair, Vice Chair, the remaining Executive Committee Members, and USC Committee positions. He noted that members whose terms are expiring will not be able to vote during the organizational meeting.

VIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

4. 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.

Professor Burbules said that this item is ready to be transmitted to the President. He commented that the USC Statutes and Governance Committee recommends that any additional changes, such as the one proposed by the UIC Senate, be revisited at a later time. He noted that the UIC Senate originally approved the language being moved forward. He moved to suspend any additional recommendations to a later time and transmit the document to the President with the request that the proposed revisions be sent to the Board. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved.

5. 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.

Professor Burbules commented that this item will be folded into the overall approval process of the *Statutes* by the Board.

6. ST-80/GR-48. Review of *Statutes* and *General Rules* in regards to policies on academic freedom and extramural speech (UIUC RS.15.06). Letter to Senates 4/6/15.

Professor Chambers reported that this item has been completed.

7. OT-316. University Senates Conference White Paper.

Professor Chambers commented that the most recent version of the White Paper has been distributed. Professor LaDu said that the Academic Affairs and Research Committee proposed some revisions during its meeting. The committee made a recommendation to revise the first sentence of the third paragraph and believes that the wording in this paragraph gives the faculty too passive of a role. Professor Tolliver felt that the new first sentence highlights the active words in the rest of the paragraph.

Professor Chambers explained the purpose of the White Paper, which started out during a conversation at the retreat concerning what administrators and trustees should know about the University Senates Conference.

Professor LaDu discussed the proposed revisions to the fifth paragraph, which were intended to broaden areas of interaction and anticipate areas of concern. Professor De Groote commented that the group did not understand why the USC Chair would be meeting directly with the president. Professor Chambers explained that the chair routinely meets with the president to facilitate USC discussions. Professor Tolliver referred to language in a previous draft which read, "To facilitate these interactions, the Conference Chair and the President schedule frequent meetings to maintain open lines of communication." Professor LaDu suggested that the language of "anticipating concerns" could be moved to the section explaining USC's conversations with the President. Professor Graber suggested adding "anticipating concerns and interests."

Professor Chambers discussed the paragraph on institutional questions, which were carried over during discussions of cross-campus dialogues. Professor Graber commented that "land grant" is listed as one word but should be two words. Professor Burbules commented that the last paragraph was somewhat repetitive.

Professor Chambers asked that any additional comments be sent by May 7.

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

Professor Chambers reminded the Conference that Vice President Pierre will be reviewed. Professor Chambers asked Dr. Pierre to share his goals and achievements, as well as a current job description. The USC members of the VPAA FAC will review the materials and then meet with Vice President Pierre before June 25.

9. OT-304. Open Access to Research Articles. Transmitted to Senates 10/21/14.

Professor Chambers noted that the senate leaders have been asked to report back to USC with advice by October 1.

10. OT-307. President's Executive Leadership Program.

Professor Chambers reported that Professors Gay Miller and Kouros Mohammadian have been selected to participate in this year's program.

11. 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.

Professor Chambers reported that he has asked Vice President Schook to contact the UIC Senate since more information has been requested.

12. OT-313. Search for Executive Director of Governmental Relations.



Professors Tolliver and Villegas reported that finalists were interviewed and a report was sent to the President.

13. OT-320. Salary increments and campus budgeting priorities.

Professor Burbules reminded the Conference that this item has to do with setting base-level salaries but allowing the campuses the latitude to provide larger increases. Based on the morning discussion with the President and Vice President, he recommended that the Conference make a statement on budget priorities and principles. He referred to a document that he drafted and asked members to respond to him with suggestions.

14. Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

Thursday, May 7, 2015

Springfield

Jorge Villegas

USC Report:

Jorge Villegas

15. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

Guests to invite were discussed.

16. Campus Updates.

Professor Campbell reported concern from the UIUC Senate in regards to plans to implement a more aggressive background check policy. There has been little faculty involvement in the planning process. The Conference decided to provide its advice on the issue.

Professor Li reported that the UIS Senate approved the statutory changes regarding academic freedom and a new program degree, and had first reading of a resolution concerning half-price tuition for children of employees.

Professor Vincent said that Chancellor Amiridis is engaging with the campus community. Other important issues are the budget, the proposal for the Obama Presidential Library, the search for a Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and the search for a provost.

17. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee

Gay Miller

Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee

Roy Campbell

Hospital and Health Affairs Committee

Jorge Villegas

Statutes and Governance Committee

Nicholas Burbules

HHAC: Professor Chambers reported that former president Joe White is chairing a committee that will issue advice on transitions related to the UIC and UIUC medical colleges.

18. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: 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, Tolliver, Villegas); Vice President for Academic Affairs UA Budget Review Advisory Committee (Mohammadian, Villegas, Wheeler); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Boltuc, Chambers, Villegas, Wheeler).

There were no updates.

#### IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

#### Pending Items

OT-265. Academy on Capitalism and Limited Government.

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

OT-298. Shared Governance in a Changing Environment.

OT-317. Actions of the State Universities Civil Service System (SUCCS) and preserving public universities' exemption authority. USC support of CIUS "Statement of Concern" 10/8/14. Letter to Chairman Kennedy and President Easter 10/13/14. All three senates have supported the CIUS statement. Letter to Chairman Kennedy and President Easter 10/13/14. All three senates have supported the CIUS statement.