

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Friday, April 27, 2012

PLACE: Room C, Public Affairs Center, Springfield

PRESENT: Andersen, Boltuc, Burbules (Vice Chair), Campbell, Chambers (Chair), Erricolo, Fisher, Francis, Graber, Leff*, Mallory, Mohammadian*, O'Brien*, Patston*, Shanahan, Struble, Villegas, Wheeler

ABSENT: Fadavi, Gibori

GUESTS: Robert Easter, Avijit Ghosh, Susan Koch, Christophe Pierre

*Attended by phone

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

I. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Chambers welcomed President-designate Easter to the University Senates Conference meeting. Introductions were made.

II. Meeting with President-designate Easter, Vice President Pierre, and Special Assistant Ghosh

President Easter said that it was a privilege to be in the role of president. He looks forward to working together to move the University forward. The President said that he comes from a department with a long history of faculty governance. While leadership ultimately has to make decisions, he recognizes the need for dialogue and the valuable insight from the faculty.

President Easter worries about the erosion of the opportunity for every young person to get an affordable education. The state needs to understand that higher education is not only a personal good for students; it is also a public good for the state. Many years ago, public land-grant universities focused on issues relevant to society at the moment – producing more food, building railroads as examples. One of the great challenges is how to grapple with the issues that are incredibly important today – such as energy, the economy, health care and social well-being.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of May 22, 2012

President Easter briefly discussed ideas for the Board of Trustees retreat in July.

President Easter commented that the University has a single charter from the State of Illinois with one Board of Trustees, one President, and three very distinct campuses. He expects the campus chancellors to be responsible for the campuses' unique visions and work with the faculty to move forward. The campuses need to take advantage of opportunities to develop ways to work together.

There was a lengthy discussion on pensions for state employees and how to address problems in a productive way. Professor Chambers talked about meeting with his local representative the day before. Professor Chambers said that it might be helpful for legislators to be aware of the IGPA (Institute of Government and Public Affairs) report on pensions, which seems to be a reasonable plan that deals with the situation in a realistic and sensitive way. He suggested that the Conference endorse the IGPA document.

Dr. Ghosh said that the University has been working with state leaders on pension issues. He commented on how the IGPA report came to be. Previous bills attempted to solve pension problems in draconian ways. The IGPA document talks about principles that should underline pension reform. Many people were consulted in order to put all the facts together and come up with a reasonable plan. The legislature is looking at solving a financial problem. However, pensions are part of a whole compensation package. The University needs to be able to attract and keep people. Also, there is the constitutional position that benefits cannot be impaired or taken away. In addition, the state cannot transfer the unfunded liability to other people. The IGPA document suggests a restructuring of how pension payments are calculated and made. Employees would pay more over time and the University would contribute as well. The state would pay the social security rate, which is less than what it is supposed to pay now. This would free up money for the state to pay on the liability. Dr. Ghosh added that both Tier I and Tier II options need to be addressed.

The Conference discussed what action, if any, it should take. Professor Chambers commented that the more voices that are heard, the better. Some recognized that there are groups that believe there should be no changes at all. Dr. Ghosh commented that he had not seen a similar pension system to what the Governor had recently recommended. He stressed the importance of the state guaranteeing payments to the pension system if employees are going to have to give more.

The Conference decided to develop a resolution on pensions for consideration during the afternoon. Professors Burbules, Campbell, and Villegas volunteered to work on a draft. The idea would be to approve principles that USC believes should be used in addressing pension issues. Anything approved by the Conference would be sent to the senates for information and action if deemed necessary by each senate.

Vice President Pierre commented that one of the main challenges for the University is to remain competitive in challenging times. He added that the University is confronted by additional problems due to difficulties that the State of Illinois is facing. The main

objective is to attract and retain the best students and faculty because the human infrastructure makes or breaks the University. Tuition, financial aid, access and diversity are all important issues.

There has been a decrease in the number of faculty by at least a couple hundred faculty members at both UIC and UIUC. Faculty investment and renewal is necessary. A challenge of his office is the strategic management of resources.

Vice President Pierre said that he envisions a Faculty Advisory Committee for his office made up of around twelve faculty members, but is not sure what the campus distribution will be. He is in the process of contacting the provosts for recommendations.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:30 p.m. and resumed at 1:30 p.m.

III. Guest

Chancellor Susan Koch observed that chancellors do not have much interaction with the Senates Conference. She said that she was glad to meet with the group and to have the opportunity to meet with Professors Chambers and Burbules last month. She commented that a lot of UIS faculty members have UIUC credentials.

Chancellor Koch said that one of the things that attracted her to UIS was the ambitious vision to be one of the premier public universities in the nation. The campus is not big scale and prides itself on an intimate experience. There are now 5,200 students, with the goal being to reach 6,000 students.

There are three aspects of the UIS identity: 1) being committed to a liberal arts education no matter what major, 2) being a state capital university with many extensions into state government, and 3) delivering professional programs that are designed to serve this region of Illinois. Chancellor Koch commented that UIS has a great deal of expertise in online education. UIS is now a Division II school in athletics.

Chancellor Koch said that one of the biggest challenges for UIS is enrollment numbers. The campus has capacity for more students and tuition drives the economic engine of the budget. UIS faculty are below the median of peers with salaries so it is challenging to recruit and retain faculty.

Chancellor Koch commented that her primary job is to enable the faculty. Students often say that they appreciate the attention they get from the faculty. She would like to see more synergies built among the faculty both within UIS and across the campuses. The campus is also developing programs with the local community college.

IV. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of March 27, 2012

Professor Wheeler moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded. 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 Chicago, April 19, 2012

- PR-12.53 Establish a Joint Master of Social Work (MSW)/Master of Public Health (MPH)
- PR-12.54 Revision of the Common Requirements for All College of Business Administration Undergraduate Degrees
- PR-12.55 Revision of the Bachelor of Science in the Teaching of Physics
- EP-12.01 Revision to the Policy for Dropping Courses and the Repeat Policy with Grade Point Average Recalculation
- CP-12.05 Establish a Campus Certificate in Public Health Emergency Preparedness

CI-12.01 Rename the Center for Pharmacoeconomic Research as the Center for Pharmacoepidemiology and Pharmacoeconomic Research

CI-12.02 Establish the Nathalie P. Voorhees Center for Neighborhood and Community Improvement

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

2. University of Illinois at Chicago, April 19, 2012

Approved "Strategic Enrollment Management: The Path Forward"
(USC OT-275)

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

3. University of Illinois at Chicago, April 19, 2012

Approved Resolution of the UIC Senate in Recognition of the Services of Professor Donald Chambers

Approved Resolution of the UIC Senate in Recognition of the Services of Professor Ann Weller

4. University of Illinois at Springfield, April 20, 2012

R41-18 Clarification of Personnel Committee Election Procedures

R41-32 Clarification of Personnel Committee Operating Procedures

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. New Business

1. NC-18. Nominating Committee for 2012-13 Officers and Executive Committee.

Professor Chambers announced one change to the membership of the Nominating Committee. Representing UIS will be Lynn Fisher. Geula Gibori and Matthew Wheeler are the other members.

VII. Old Business – Action Items

2. OT-282. USC ad hoc Committee to develop more specific standards for implementing the existing USC Confidentiality Guidelines.

Professor Andersen said that the document, *USC Guidelines for Conduct of Business*, had been revised to reflect suggestions that had been made. He moved adoption of the document. The document was approved.

Professor Andersen recommended removal of the agenda item. There were no objections.

VIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

3. OT-275. Enrollment Management. USC report approved 12/21/11. Transmitted to President 12/23/11. Endorsed by UIC Senate 1/26/12. Revised document transmitted to Senates 3/20/12. Accepted UIS Senate 4/6/12. Approved UIC Senate 4/19/12.

Professor Chambers said that the enrollment management document is on the UIUC Senate's agenda for Monday.

4. OT-281. Conflicts of Commitment and Interest - revisions mandated by changes in federal-level policy by the Dept. of Health and Human Services. Transmitted to the Senates 1/26/12.

Professor Chambers said that the changes are federally mandated. Professor Wheeler said that the UIUC Senate transmitted the document to its committees. The senate will not meet the deadline because the last meeting is Monday. He suggested that, if USC approves the document to go forward, the senates go back and take a look at the document in the fall.

5. OT-269. Cross-Campus Dialogue (formerly Call for a University-wide Summit on Organization and Governance).

Professor Chambers said that he has been corresponding with Trustee Strobel, who has been designated by the Board to work on the retreat agenda. He commented that the dialogue will be a continuous activity.

6. OT-271. University Senates Conference presentations to the Board of Trustees.

No new information.

7. OT-276. Performance Based Funding.

No new information.

8. OT-277. Search Committee for Executive Director of University Relations.

Professor Andersen reported that the search had been terminated. The item was removed from the agenda. Professor Andersen suggested that a future topic for USC might be to discuss how search procedures are changing and the need for more faculty input.

9. ST-72. Consideration of the language in the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 (Academic Freedom). Passed UIUC Senate 12/6/10. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 2/7/11. Passed UIC Senate 9/22/11.

No new information.

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

The Conference discussed possible guests for future meetings. Professor Chambers thought that it was important to invite Chancellor Allen-Meares and Chancellor Wise to meet with USC. He mentioned that Chancellor Allen-Meares' mother recently passed away. The Conference resolved to send condolences.

11. Campus Updates.

There were no campus reports.

12. OT-142. Updates on the Management Teams: Academic Affairs; External Relations; Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee; University Technology.

No meetings were held.

13. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

Thursday, May 31, 2012

Chicago

Kouros Mohammadian

IX. New Business (2)

14. OT-288. Resolution on Pensions

Professors Burbules, Campbell, and Villegas presented a draft resolution to the Conference. After much debate and several revisions, Professor Andersen moved to approve the document as amended as a resolution of the University Senates Conference. The motion was seconded, voted on, and passed unanimously.

The Conference decided to send the resolution to the senates, President-designate Easter, Chairman Kennedy, and other University and campus administrators.

(VIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items – continued)

15. Review of Pending Items.

The following pending items were approved for removal from the agenda.

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

The Conference has considered whether *The General Rules* should be revised to allow for guidelines to be established that reflect common practices of using University property, such as telephones and computers, for reasonable personal use.

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

The Conference has discussed the possibility of clarifying such items as terms of retirees and succession planning. These issues could be considered under OT-266.

C. OT-211. Process for Selecting Board of Trustees Members.

In March 2005, the Conference reviewed various documents from the Association of Governing Boards concerning this topic. In September 2009, the Conference met with Mr. Ted Chung, General Counsel, and Ms. Julie Smith, Deputy Chief of Staff for Education, from the Governor's office to discuss the selection process that was being used for new Board members. The Conference was told that there would be an ongoing discussion of the selection process. In fall 2010, Julie Smith said that no new processes have been put into place for board member appointments and no legislation is being considered to change the process. She added that the governor plans to seek recommendations from different groups. She suggested that the best way to provide advice would be to send a letter to the governor with an electronic copy to her office.

D. OT-231. Shared Governance Issues.

The Conference created a document titled USC Faculty Perspective on Shared Governance at the University of Illinois, which is dated September 26, 2006 and posted on the USC website. The document was shared with the President with the request that he share the document with the members of the Board of Trustees.

E. OT-232. Interactions with Legislators.

The Conference used to meet with legislators and other government officials.

F. OT-247. USC Budget.

The Conference reviewed its spending in an attempt to reduce costs. Changes that were made: scheduling at least one videoconference each year; having a dinner the night before a USC meeting at each campus once a year has been eliminated, although special dinners are occasionally held; and reducing retreat costs. Also, members were asked to carpool and avoid overnight stays when possible.

G. OT-249. Exit Interviews.

The Conference obtained information from each campus in regards to its exit interview process. The Conference believed that a comprehensive exit interview and/or exit survey process could be beneficial to better understand why faculty are successfully being recruited by other institutions.

H. OT-252. Vendor Code of Conduct.

The Conference intended to discuss this item with Vice President Knorr. The code has been viewed as being unenforceable.

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

The Conference questioned whether the classification of senate minutes practice was viewing educational policy items late in the process. Members wondered if there should be more collaboration among the campuses as programs are being developed.

J. OT-256. Positive Time Reporting.

State ethics laws require all state employees to report the number of hours worked. This issue has been a topic of discussion in regards to how time reporting relates to the faculty and the difficulties and consequences that could occur from applying such a requirement to the faculty.

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

This item was created when major changes were made to the membership of the Board of Trustees in Fall 2009. The Conference considered asking the Board to hold a shared governance session in conjunction with a Board meeting.

L. OT-261. Short-Term and Long-Term Budget Planning.

This item was created to discuss short-term budget planning issues, such as furlough days, and long-term planning that the University will need to address given the dire budget situation.

X. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Pending USC Items
April 27, 2012

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

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

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

OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

OT-232. Interactions with Legislators.

OT-247. USC Budget.

OT-248. Intellectual Property Issues.

OT-249. Exit Interviews.

OT-252. Vendor Code of Conduct.

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

OT-256. Positive Time Reporting.

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

OT-260. University Information Security Policy.

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

OT-262. Accelerated Degree Program.

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

OT-266. Proposed revisions to the *University Senates Conference Organization and Functions* – (including proposed revisions to the subcommittee structure).

OT-268. Administrative Reorganization.

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