Professor Nicholas Burbules, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. He welcomed newly-elected members Sandra De Groote, Brian Kay, and Gay Miller.

I. Remarks from the USC Chair

President Easter called in for about the first half hour of the meeting. Professor Burbules said that there had been a request to go into Executive Session. He asked the President to first give an update on pensions.

II. Meeting with President Easter, Vice President Pierre and Dr. Kosovski

President Easter said that he had been called to Springfield to talk about pensions and therefore could not be at the Senates Conference meeting in person. The University has been asked to assume the full cost of matching payments into the pension system going forward. The normal cost of pensions would be shifted gradually; .5% a year ($5M-$6M), reaching completion in around ten years. Currently, the state pays 12% of employees’ salaries towards pensions and employees pay 8%. In exchange, the University requests that the state appropriation not be reduced and that the University receive relief from regulatory burdens for procurement for research and health care. In addition, the University wants the opportunity to modify the plan for Tier II participants.

At 10:15 a.m., Professor Burbules move to go into executive session to discuss a personnel issue. The motion was seconded and approved. At 10:30 a.m., Professor Tolliver moved to leave the executive session. The motion was seconded and approved. The Conference left the Executive Session at 10:30 a.m.

1Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of June 18, 2013
Vice President Pierre commented that Chairman Kennedy has asked that there be a Hospital dashboard presentation at each Board meeting. Vice President Garcia plans to give a presentation in May.

Professor Burbules summarized the three reviews currently underway: 1) the University Administration review, which takes a serious look at the size and scope of UA, with seven teams focusing on different areas, 2) the campus strategic planning process, which looks at prioritizing initiatives for the next few years to guide academic investments and resource allocations, and 3) the academic program review, which would identify areas that might need a closer look.

Dr. Jason Kosovski provided an update on the Administrative Review. All seven teams have submitted reports, which were circulated to the units for an opportunity to provide a response. Almost all of the responses have come back, and the rest are expected this week. The teams will decide whether to revise their reports based on the feedback from the units. The reports will then go to the steering team, which will provide concise recommendations to President Easter and Vice President Pierre. These recommendations will be shared with the chancellors and provosts for review. Some recommendations could be implemented this summer. The team reports will be made public at some point.

Professor Burbules noted that there was faculty representation on all seven teams. He commented that one outcome of the review is for UA to have the usual lines of accountability that are applied to other types of units. Some members felt that the Vice President for Health Affairs should have been included in the review.

Vice President Pierre said that UA units need to have yearly budget and allocation reviews. There are some of areas in the budget that have to be held harmless from cuts, such as insurance payments.

Dr. Kosovski commented that many people worked very hard during the review process, spending countless hours on the project which had some 100 meetings.

Professor Burbules said that the campus strategic planning process looks at the next three years to determine the financial management of resources. With tuition maxed out, the campuses need to decide how to maintain and enhance excellence. Vice President Pierre commented that the campuses need to identify priorities and decide where money should be invested. Part of this includes enrollment management. Professor Burbules said that the University should not have to wait on the state to determine its budget allocation before deciding on a salary program. He stressed the need for a multi-year plan. He also commented that, if the University is going to do more with less, the state should ease up on regulations.

Professor Tolliver moved that the USC Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee devise a resolution that encourages the President to adopt a strategy for multi-year salary planning. The motion was seconded and approved.
Professor Chambers reported on a meeting with Senator Biss that he and Professors Burbules, Struble, and Villegas attended in Springfield. The group discussed ways to generate advocacy for the University.

Vice President Pierre reported that Dr. Richard Wheeler is devising templates for each campus to use for the academic program review. Implementation of the review process could begin this fall.

The group discussed a request from some faculty members on the Urbana campus who are part of the UIC College of Medicine who have asked to be transferred to the College of LAS at UIUC. The Conference decided to ask the President for an update at the next USC meeting.

III. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of April 18, 2013

Professor Tolliver proposed two revisions that were approved: strike the second sentence on Page 2, Par. 5, which discusses the IGPA 6-point plan; and correct the name of the Academy on Capitalism and Limited Government Fund on Page 2, Par. 5. The minutes were approved as revised.

IV. 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 University of Illinois Statutes. 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, April 19, 2013**

R42-22 Amendments to the UIS Campus Senate Bylaws Regarding Illinois Open Meetings Act Compliance

2. **University of Illinois at Chicago, April 25, 2013**

PR-13.25 Establish the Minor in Public Policy

PR-13.34 Proposal to Reorganize the Department of Bioengineering as a Department under both the Colleges of Engineering and Medicine

PR-13.35 Revision of the Minor in International Studies

PR-13.36 Revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Political Science; Revision of the Minor in Political Science; Revision of the Major in Political Science, Concentration in Urban Politics; and Establish the Major in Political Science, Concentration in Law and Courts

CI-13.01 Elimination of the Center for Urban Educational Research and Development (CUERD)

3. **University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 25, 2013**

EP.13.20 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to revise the BALAS in History, in the Department of History

EP.13.23 Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a New Graduate Minor in Global Studies

EP.13.26 Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) to Establish a new option in the Master of Science in Agricultural and Applied Economics.

EP.13.30 Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to transfer the Master of Science in Agricultural Education from the Department of Human and Community Development to the Agricultural Education Program.

EP.13.31 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) Department of English to revise the Major in the Science and Letters
Curriculum: BALAS English- English Concentration and English Teaching Concentration

EP.13.32 Proposal from the College of Media Journalism Department to reorganize and revise the News Editorial major and Broadcast Journalism major as a new unitary Journalism major

EP.13.33 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Establish a Graduate Concentration in Second Language Acquisition and Teacher Education (SLATE)

EP.13.34 Proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to Change the Name of the Bachelor of Science Degree in Health to the Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Health

EP.13.38 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Establish a Minor in Slavic Language, Literature, and Culture, in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures

EP.13.39 Proposal from the College of Engineering to establish a Combined Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Master of Computer Science in the Department of Computer Science

EP.13.41 Proposal from the College of College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) to Revise Requirements for Ph.D. in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences

EP.13.35 Proposal to Establish the Institute for Universal Biology (IUB)

SP.13.07 Revisions to the Bylaws, Part D. 5 – Committee on Campus Operations

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

4. University of Illinois at Springfield, April 19, 2013
   R42-24 Modification of Sabbatical Application Review Procedures
   R42-25 Modification of Policy Regarding CSAC Membership

5. University of Illinois at Chicago, April 25, 2013
   First Reading: Proposed revisions to the Statutes, Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the Statutes
6. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 29, 2013

SP.13.06 Revisions to Standing Rule 3 – Proposed Amendments to Documents

EP.13.37 Revisions to 2017-2018 Academic Calendar

CG.13.01 Revisions to the Academic Integrity Portions of the Student Code

NB.13.01 Electronic Communications Policy

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

V. Old Business – Action Items

No items for action.

VI. New Business

1. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

   July 25, 2013 (Thursday)  Chicago  Donald Chambers
   Faculty report:               Nicholas Burbules

2. OT-299. UIUC Senate: Burbules/McCarthy Letter.

   Professor Burbules told the Conference that the letter was presented to the UIUC Senate as the personal views of two senators with the hope that a process might be established to address the ten issues listed in the document. He added that no vote was taken, but the senate had a very interesting discussion.

   Concerns from the Conference were raised about creating an ad hoc committee to address these issues rather going through the standing senate committees, some of which have already been working on some of these particular issues. Professor Burbules reported that, at the UIUC SEC meeting, the decision was made to create a single task force with representation from multiple subcommittees to address each issue. Professor Wheeler, UIUC SEC Chair, will make the appointments. All of the relevant senate committees will be represented. Professor Burbules commented that there seems to be willingness on the
part of administration to work on these issues and make progress over the summer. No decisions will be made. Any recommendations made by the task force will come back to the senate. Professor Mallory asked why the task force appointments were not being made by the Committee on Committees. Professor Wheeler responded that the UIUC SEC voted that he make the appointments, which he voted against. Professor Fisher stressed the importance of realistic planning given the state budget situation.

Professor Chambers moved to transmit the document to the president, the chancellors, and the chairs of the senates, for information. Professor Francis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote, with one opposition.

VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items


Professor Burbules referred to two USC documents: USC Confidentiality Guidelines and USC Guidelines for Conduct of Business. He said that the Conference could discuss them at the next meeting when more new members would likely be in attendance. Professor Tolliver asked that the Statutes and Governance Committee look at the documents with the Open Meetings Act in mind. Professor Burbules commented on the difficulties of respecting the principles of the Open Meetings Act but also retaining the culture and custom of confidentiality when appropriate. Professor Struble said that she would like to see USC explore technologies to improve the ability of members to participate remotely. Professor Chambers commented that documents that are subject to FOIA can be considered confidential by the Conference; the documents do not have to be made public unless a FOIA is received.

The Conference discussed procedure as to whether an item could be brought up for discussion and action at the meeting at which it was introduced. There was general agreement that it would depend on the nature of the proposal for action. Reports from committees could include an action item based on the need to address an issue brought up during the meeting.

Professor Chambers moved to make a resolution thanking Professor Andersen for his continued service and dedication to the University Senates Conference over a long period of time. The motions was seconded and approved by voice vote.


Professor Burbules explained the process of revising the Statutes for the benefit of the new members. Professor Mohammadian said that concerns had been voiced in the UIC Senate about the Conference having the ability to bypass the senates when changing the Statutes. Professor Burbules responded that there would have to be a full review of any language by each senate. Professor Mallory said that there were some concerns about the language in
the UIUC Senate as well. Professor Burbules said that he would write a clarification letter to the senate chairs.


Professor Tolliver commented that the *ad hoc* committee appointed to address this issue ended up being the Statutes and Governance Committee. Conversations are taking place. She said that she would give a full report during the USC Committee reports part of the meeting.

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

Professor Burbules said that the review process is on hold at the moment. The target completion date is January 1, 2014.


Professor Villegas reported that the committee is talking to USC members. The committee had a discussion about who is eligible to vote. It was clarified that only the 2013-14 members would be able to vote. Professor Tolliver suggested that bios for the nominees be provided.

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

Professor Burbules reported that he is working with President Easter. There will be reviews this year.

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

Professor Tolliver reported that the sense of the Statues and Governance Committee is to focus on USC written documents. She added that she has consulted with Legal Counsel.

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

Professor Burbules commented that USC suggested that each vice president create a faculty advisory committee. The two established faculty advisory committees, VPAA and VPR, are working well.

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

The Conference discussed possible guests for future meetings.
12. Campus Updates.

Professor Fisher reported that she was re-elected as UIS Senate Chair. The senate completed revisions to its Bylaws. The UIS strategic planning process has included some good meetings, but there are no committees that include faculty, which is a concern.

Professor Wheeler provided an update on the efforts of the State University Civil Service System’s merit board to remove exemption authority from the University. This would affect the University’s ability to determine which positions should be classified as academic professional. While the decision was made to leave the exemption authority with the University, the audit process of SUCSS has been called into question.

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

   Scheduled Observer: Lynn Fisher
   Faculty Report: Donald Chambers

14. 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 Miller read a motion from the FBBC: We urge that the Vice President for Academic Affairs, the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, and the Provosts develop and maintain multi-year plans for progressive salary programs at all levels for each campus. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved.

Professor Chambers (HHAC) said that the faculty report he would be giving to the Board on May 29 would take a look at academic medical centers and the challenges UIC has faced. He commented that the HHAC members have been invited to the Board retreat, which will focus on academic medical centers, on July 24.

Professor Struble read motion from the HHAC: Given the dynamics of the current health enterprise, we urge that the Vice President for Health Affairs Office be reviewed in depth, including its vision, structure, function, outcomes, and relationship to medical education. The motion was seconded. It was clarified that the motion should be transmitted to the President. The motion was approved.

Professor Tolliver (SGC) reported that the committee is working with Katherine Galvin and Peg O’Donoghue to address concerns with ST-72, proposed statutory revisions to academic freedom. The committee plans to draft an additional background statement to address some of the concerns that have been raised. SGC met with Trustee Strobel on April 22 for a wide-ranging discussion. It was a successful first visit.
Professor Tolliver said that the *Statutes* contain separate language for changes in departmental organization and procedures for changes in existing units. The two passages could be interpreted to cover the same situations, but each describes a different procedural path. She believes that one should be changed to match the other. Professor Burbules commented that the proposed revision could be folded into the large review or addressed separately.

Professor Tolliver said that the committee recommends that the Huron report on the medical enterprise be shared. While the Conference agreed that a commissioned report should be shared, it was not clear whether the report was written to address matters that should not be shared. The Conference decided to ask the President whether the report could be shared; either the written report or a verbal summary.

Professor Fisher reported that she attended the Board’s Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee meeting. The January Board retreat will be a follow-up to the July retreat and will be more inclusive. The Board committee reported on its self-evaluation. The next full Board meeting will include a proposed policy on the hiring of search firms.

15. Report from *ad hoc* Committee on SB1900.

Professor Burbules reported on the meeting with Senator Biss that he attended with Professors Chambers, Struble, and Villegas. The discussion was broad-ranging, but the main topic was University funding. Pensions and SB1900 were discussed briefly.

Professor Struble said that the revised SB1900 requires that each institution establish a task force to study the issue of open publications. She encouraged the Conference to ask the president to ensure that there are faculty on the task force.

16. 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 (Burbules, Chambers, Mohammadian, Villegas); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Boltuc, Chambers, Wheeler).

There were no reports.

17. Review of Pending Items.

No new information.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.


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).