

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Tuesday, May 22, 2012

PLACE: Room 206 Student Center West, Chicago

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

ABSENT: Gibori, Mallory, Shanahan, Wheeler

GUESTS: Paula Allen-Meares, Robert Easter, Susan Kies, Christophe Pierre

*Attended by phone

Professor Donald Chambers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

I. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Chambers commented on the NATO Summit that was held in Chicago the previous two days.

II. Meeting with President-designate Easter and Vice President Pierre

President Easter commented on the House Bill introduced by Representative Rose that would prohibit the University from using tuition and state appropriated dollars for search firms. The amended version would permit the University to use state funding for specific searches, such as for president. President Easter said that there are instances when it is important to have assistance, but other times we should be able to do it on our own. He added that each campus should develop expertise in conducting searches.

Conference members pointed out disadvantages of using search firms, such as firms pushing particular candidates and doing all the vetting of candidates. President Easter said that a list of expectations should be made clear to the search firm.

President Easter remarked that pensions and health care are the two most critical issues at this time. The state needs to accept responsibility for the unfunded pension liability. It has been proposed that, going forward, normal pension costs would be transferred to the

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of June 19, 2012

entities. The normal cost is 20% of salary. Currently, employees pay 8% and the state pays 12%. The state portion of the cost would be transferred to entities gradually. The President said that it is the University's goal to preserve the maximum employee benefits. He added that it will be difficult to pass changes in the teacher retirement system outside of Cook County. President Easter cautioned that bond rating agencies are watching closely to see what the state does. There is pressure to get something done. He said that the University is working on changing the Tier II pension plan.

President Easter discussed plans for the Board of Trustees retreat that will be held on July 18. He would like to bring in a panel of people with experience in higher education. The topics proposed by the Conference will be worked into the event. The President would like to have more interaction than there has been in previous retreats.

President Easter consulted with the Conference in regards to faculty attendance at the retreat. He felt that the Conference would be the appropriate group to participate. Professor Chambers commented that he hoped the event would not be a one-time exercise, but rather the beginning of a continuous dialogue. The group discussed additional ways for faculty and the Board members to interact.

Vice President Pierre commented that the responsibilities and portfolio of the Vice President for Academic Affairs have not always been clear. The statutory description is very ambitious and includes strategic planning and management of human resources and financial resources. He stressed that the University Administration offices must define programs and initiatives that add value to the three campuses and therefore to the University.

Vice President Pierre said that enrollment management is about optimizing student resources. Now that the enrollment management guidelines have been approved by the three campuses, he will be ready to meet with the Enrollment Management Policy Council and the three provosts within the next few weeks. He asked that USC designate a liaison.

Vice President Pierre discussed some of his other priorities, such as recruiting and retaining top faculty, which includes special initiatives for underrepresented faculty, and managing the President's Award Program.

The group discussed the possibility of discussing at the retreat opportunities for synergies among the campuses.

III. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of April 27, 2012

The minutes were approved with one typographical correction to page 3, second paragraph, in the guest section.

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 <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 30, 2012

EP.12.24 Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to rename the BALAS in Rhetoric as the BALAS in Creative Writing

EP.12.25 Proposal from the College of Media to revise the B.S. in Advertising in the Charles H. Sandage Department of Advertising

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

2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, April 30, 2012

SC.12.14 Senate Comments on the "Strategic Enrollment Management, The Path Forward" document

3. University of Illinois at Springfield, May 4, 2012

Endorsed USC Resolution on Pension Reform

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:18 p.m. and resumed at 12:55 p.m.

V. Guest

Chancellor Paula Allen-Meares discussed the strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities of UIC. The campus is strong in research and has all major areas of study except for law. UIC is a major anchor in the city and the urban environment brings a distinctive value to the University of Illinois. There are operational issues that need to be fixed. The image needs improvement and alumni/development opportunities have been neglected. The facilities are not of the quality they should be. The healthcare environment is competitive and underfunded. There are opportunities to be more engaged in interdisciplinary research.

Chancellor Allen-Meares said that GRF reductions year after year threaten the progress of UIC. The campus is losing faculty and spends a lot of money on financial aid. It is important for UIC to maintain diversity. The campus needs relief from the increasing regulatory burdens.

Chancellor Allen-Meares outlined the six overarching goals of the UIC campus: 1) Focus on academic excellence, student access and student success; 2) Emphasize transformative impact and the social good; 3) Grow the translational, entrepreneurial and engaged research and discovery enterprise to include many approaches to knowing; 4) Foster diversity and a global perspective; 5) Honor and partner with Chicago and the State to enhance the human condition of its citizens; and 6) Innovate within to build greater efficiencies and future strengths.

Chancellor Allen-Meares commented that UIC would be celebrating its 30 year anniversary. Events are planned during the fall.

The Chancellor presented a video on the 12th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates that was held at UIC.

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. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

July 19, 2012
(Wednesday and Thursday)

Chicago

Donald Chambers

Already assigned:

May 31, 2012 (Thursday)

Chicago

Kouros Mohammadian

2. OT-289. Graduated Income Tax.

The Conference discussed the issue in the context of finding an additional revenue source to the state rather than cutting pension benefits. Professor Andersen reported that SURSMAC (SURS Member Advisory Committee) considered supporting the graduated income tax but the issue was not approved. There was concern with opening the possibility of other changes to the state's constitution. Professor Burbules commented that he felt it was not appropriate for USC to take a stand on this issue since it could appear that USC was lobbying for a specific bill. The Conference did not discuss the issue further.

VII. Old Business – Action Items

3. 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. Revised document transmitted to the Senates 4/17/12.

Professor Chambers commented that the changes are federally mandated. He said that various activities had been taken in the senates. The UIS SEC approved the document the day before. Professor Burbules reported that the UIUC SEC approved a version with some minor editorial corrections. Professor Patston reported that the UIC SEC had no problems with the content of the document, but decided to send the document to all senators for comment. Professor Burbules read the changes approved by the UIUC SEC. Professor Fisher moved approval of the changes. By voice vote, the changes were approved. Professor Chambers said that he would report back to Vice President Schook. The Conference removed the item from the agenda.

VIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

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

Professor Chambers said that the committee, Lynn Fisher, Geula Gibori, and Matthew Wheeler would report before the June 19 Organizational Meeting.

5. 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. Approved UIUC Senate 4/30/12.

Professor Leff was appointed to serve as the USC liaison to the Enrollment Management Policy Council. The Conference decided to remove this item from the agenda and add Enrollment Management Policy Council to the list of external committees under OT-142.

6. OT-288. Resolution on Pensions. Approved UIUC Senate 4/30/12. Approved UIC SEC 5/2/12. Approved UIS Senate 5/4/12.

Professor Chambers said that all three senates had approved the resolution. The Conference decided to keep the item on the agenda while monitoring the legislature's activity.

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

Professor Chambers commented that the Board retreat had been discussed with President Easter during the morning. He said that the dialogue needs to be a continuous activity.

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

Professor Chambers said that he would give the presentation at the May 31 meeting.

9. OT-276. Performance Based Funding.

No new information.

10. 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.

Professor Fisher reported that the UIS Senate referred this item to its Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. Professor Burbules reported that the UIUC Senate General University Policy Committee looked at the language in the fall. Subsequently, campus legal counsel reviewed the document and found that there could be unintended consequences from the new language. GUP will take another look at the proposed statutory revisions in the fall.

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

The Conference discussed possible guests for future meetings.

12. Campus Updates.

The Conference discussed a possible computer system that would track grant business, challenges with new travel rules, the new UIUC Provost, and the idea of participating in MOOC (Massive Open Online Course).

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

VPR FAC

May 3, 2012

Chambers

The Conference discussed the University's relationship with industry. The group also discussed membership to the VPAA FAC.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Pending USC Items
May 22, 2012

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-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

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-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.