

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Wednesday, May 26, 2010

PLACE: I Hotel and Conference Center

PRESENT: Barrett, Burbules, Campbell, Chambers, Eisenhart (Chair)*, Fadavi*, Francis, Jones, Kaufman, Martin, Massat, O'Brien, Patston, Ting, Tolliver, Weech, Wheeler (Vice Chair)

ABSENT: Finnerty, Koronkowski, Ramsey

GUESTS: Kenneth Andersen, Avijit Ghosh, Geula Gibori, Mrinalini Rao, Leslie Struble

*Participated by conference phone for a portion of the meeting

Professor Matthew Wheeler, Vice Chair, called the University Senates Conference to order at 10:00 a.m. He welcomed the newly-elected USC members.

I. Executive Session

Vice President Ghosh reported on the activities of the Administrative Review and Restructuring Working Group. The group was assembled and directed by President Ikenberry to suggest ways in which the University can operate more effectively and efficiently. The group is looking at ways to streamline and consolidate areas, share services, improve business processes, and provide some relief from regulatory burdens.

Vice Presidents Ghosh and Rao talked about a University advocacy group that has been working on relations with external stakeholders of the University. Leaders of various organizations within the University have banded together for greater internal coordination of activities. There are representatives from the Alumni Association, the U of I Foundation, Governmental Relations, Illinois Connection, and the Institute of Government and Public Affairs. The three vice presidents are also involved.

The Conference and the vice presidents discussed the recommendation from the ARR group to consolidate the two vice president positions of Academic Affairs and Technology and Economic Development. Vice President Ghosh commented that the TED vice presidency has a very strong academic purpose. Professor Kaufman pointed out that a new vice president position cannot be created without revisions to the *General Rules*. Conference members were concerned with the lack of consultation before this item went to the Board of Trustees for approval. Professor Patston made a motion for the Conference to write a letter to the Board explaining the appropriate process. The group

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of June 22, 2010

discussed the fact that the Board item approves the establishment of the position, but the position will not be put into place until after the new president arrives. Professor Patston withdrew the motion. Professor Andersen felt that there needed to be an entity that oversees the execution of the *Statutes*. Professor Wheeler recommended that a study of the *Statutes* and *General Rules* be a topic at the USC retreat. Professor Chambers suggested that shared governance also be a topic.

Professor Wheeler commented on a bill in the legislature that would complicate certain aspects of procurement at the University. Vice President Ghosh said that the bill would create a very cumbersome process for purchasing specialized equipment where there is a sole source provider. Vice President Rao said that there is an effort to create another bill that would exempt higher education.

Vice President Ghosh provided an update on activities in the research park. The University is trying to attract new tenants by talking with companies that do research with our faculty. The University wants firms that do intellectual research, firms that can promote faculty inventions, and firms that will work with students. 1400 people are working at the research park, with 360 being students. There are two finalists for the ten-year development agreement. Vice President Ghosh said that UIC is deciding what the long-term plan should be for the incubator, which is associated with the Illinois Medical District. There is 50-60% occupancy, but nobody has been responsible for getting the right kind of tenants in the facilities.

Vice President Rao provided enrollment data for the three campuses. There has not been much change since last year. There will be a review to determine whether admissions reforms and the economy have affected numbers. Vice President Rao said that some Board members, President Ikenberry, Chancellor Allen-Meares, and some additional administrators will be calling students from Chicago Public Schools who have accepted admission to UIC to encourage them to enroll. UIC does a good job of recruiting CPS students. She also said that minority enrollment has gone up.

Vice President Rao reported on the accelerated degree initiative. Charlie Evans is working with her to see if it is possible to improve AP credit course offerings to CPS and rural area students and to improve summer course offerings. She said that there will be no activity to move forward centrally until she has heard back from the provosts. Professor Chambers commented that a key issue is the preparation of students. Many GPPA students graduate in three years. Vice President Rao said that about 2.6% of U of I students graduate in three years. Professor Burbules said that improving access to AP courses, making better use of the summer semester, and increasing e-learning would fulfill the intended outcome without having to create an accelerated degree policy.

Vice President Rao said that the revised Conflict of Commitment and Interest Policy is still on target to be transmitted to USC this summer. The policy needs to be in place by the end of June 2011 because of an agreement made with the auditors. She encouraged the Conference to invite Kris Campbell to a USC meeting to discuss the policy.

II. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of April 29, 2010

Professor Tolliver requested a change to Page 8, line 5, so that the sentence reads, "They said that the Urbana Senate Executive Committee could prepare a statement this summer and, if so, would share it with USC." The minutes were approved as amended.

III. 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.

Professor Chambers moved approval of the Classification of Senate Minutes. The motion was seconded, voted on, and approved.

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

1. University of Illinois at Springfield, May 7, 2010

Biology Program Review

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

IV. Old Business – Action Items

There were no action items.

V. New Business

1. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

Thursday, July 22, 2010, Chicago

Carol Massat

VI. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

2. ST-66. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article VIII – Changes in Academic Organization. Passed UIUC Senate 4/24/06. Transmitted to Senates 7/10/06. Passed UIC Senate 3/15/07. Passed UIS Senate 9/26/08. Revised document transmitted to Senates 1/16/09. Passed UIS Senate 2/13/09. Passed UIC Senate 4/23/09. Passed UIUC Senate 4/27/09. Transmitted to President 5/7/09. Passed UIUC Senate with revisions 3/29/10. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 4/9/10. Endorsed UIS Senate 4/23/10.

Professor Patston reported that the UIC Senate would act on this item at its first meeting in the fall.

3. OT-260. University Information Security Policy.

Professor Patston said that the policy was referred to three committees for review. Two have reported and the third has a draft report which should be final soon.

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

The Conference decided to ask to receive the ARR report as soon as it becomes available, which should be before the next USC meeting. The group discussed the lack of transparency and faculty involvement in budget planning. Professor Chambers made a motion for USC to create an ad hoc committee to come up with a University-wide budget-generation planning system that includes faculty. The motion was seconded. Professor Chambers said that the committee could review the ARR report and make comments to USC. Professor Andersen thought that the committee might want to make a recommendation to create a permanent committee. The motion was approved. Professors Chambers, Jones, and Martin agreed to serve on the committee, with Professor Chambers serving as chair.

5. OT-262. Accelerated Degree Program.

Professor Wheeler commented that there was a thorough discussion of this issue during the Executive Session and asked if there was further discussion. Professor Massat asked Professor Burbules to reiterate the three points he described earlier. Professor Burbules said that the key points are improving access to AP and dual-credit courses, better use of the summer semester, and improving access to e-learning.

6. 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.

Professor Burbules said that the campuses will be reporting on e-learning, post-Global Campus, to the Board of Trustees on July 22. He thought that the faculty might want to give a faculty view on e-learning and how it affects teaching. Professor Patston suggested that the presentation focus on welcoming the new president and emphasizing shared governance. Another topic he suggested was regulatory burdens from the state. Professor Chambers recommended welcoming the president and presenting a list of topics that are of interest to the Conference. Professor Massat suggested the topic of promoting and sustaining academic excellence. Professor Francis thought there could be a presentation to consider whether the University is an educational service organization or an organization to generate knowledge. Professor Burbules recommended that the presentation demonstrate how faculty can be of assistance to the Board and the president.

The Conference discussed other types of interactions with the Board. Professor Andersen said that USC used to have a day-long retreat with the Board every year. Professor Ting commented that Trustee Hasara is very receptive to faculty participation on the Academic Affairs Committee.

The Conference decided that the presentation should include a welcome to the president and a discussion on topics of importance to USC. Professor Wheeler agreed to give the presentation.

7. NC-16. Nominating Committee for 2010-11 Officers and Executive Committee.

Professor Kaufman said that the committee has determined the slate of nominees. The Organizational Meeting will be held during the June meeting.

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

No new information.

9. OT-258. Presidential Search.

Professors Ting and Wheeler commented on the search process.

The Conference discussed the new position of Executive Vice President. Professor Kaufman said that the *General Rules* need to be revised and suggested that the Conference draft the language.

10. OT-259. Conflict of Commitment and Interest Policy.

Professor Wheeler commented that this item was discussed with Vice President Rao during the Executive Session.

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

No new information.

12. ST-72. Consideration of the language in the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 (Academic Freedom).

Professor Tolliver said that the Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee prepared a proposal that is now in the University Statutes and Senate Procedures Committee.

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

The Conference discussed possible guests to invite to future meetings.

14. Campus Updates.

Professor Ting reported that the UIS Chancellor search advisory committee has been appointed and she is chairing the committee. The campus hopes to have a new chancellor in place shortly after the beginning of the next calendar year. Professor Ting said that UIS does not have a Faculty Advisory Committee, as is required by the *Statutes*. She described the difficulties the campus is having trying to clarify the role of what the FAC should be. Professor Andersen said that the UIUC FAC has an extensive list of protocols of how it functions and suggested that UIS obtain a copy.

Professor Tolliver discussed the Senate Executive Committee's discussions with the administration regarding the use of management consulting groups. She and Professor Burbules provided an update on the Academy of Capitalism.

Professor Patston reported that Professor Gibori had been elected to the UIC Senate Executive Committee. He also commented on the City of Chicago's public support of higher education and UIC. Professor Patston discussed problems that employees are having with CIGNA Health Insurance Company.

15. OT-142. Updates on the Management Teams: Academic Affairs; External Relations; Technology and Economic Development Cabinet; University Technology.

No meetings were held.

16. Review of Pending Items on the Agenda Addendum.

Professor Wheeler said that there was an updated shared governance document by Professor Mike Grossman. The Conference decided to keep OT-231 on the pending agenda. He recommended that the remainder of the pending items be considered at the next USC meeting.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Pending USC Items
May 26, 2010

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.

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

The document was last updated in May 2008. The Conference has discussed the possibility of clarifying such items as terms of retirees, succession planning, and inviting the senate chairs to attend meetings if they are not a member of USC.

OT-219. Future USC Meeting Dates.

Several years ago, the Conference decided to have a three-year meeting schedule. Often, many dates were changed and the Conference decided it was best to determine dates year-to-year.

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. The document was shared with the President with the request that he share the document with the members of the Board of Trustees.

OT-232. Interactions with Legislators.

The Conference was regularly meeting with legislators or other government officials up until a couple of years ago.

OT-239. Senate Joint Resolution – IBHE master plan for Illinois Higher Education.

The Conference received the IBHE document in June 2007.

OT-247. USC Budget.

The Conference reviewed its spending in an attempt to reduce costs. Changes that were made: at least one videoconference is scheduled 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 the cost of the retreat was scaled back in 2009. Also, members were asked to carpool and avoid overnight stays when possible.

OT-248. Intellectual Property Issues.

After the Intellectual Property section of *The General Rules* was revised in September 2009, some Conference members felt that there were additional issues that needed to be addressed, such as what constitutes usual and customary resources that are provided.

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.

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.

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.

OT-256. Positive Time Reporting.

There have been discussions in regards to positive time reporting for faculty and the difficulties/consequences that could occur.

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 Board of Trustees this past fall. The Conference considered asking the Board to hold a shared governance session in conjunction with a Board meeting.