

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Wednesday, May 28, 2008

PLACE: Room 210 (General Lounge), Illini Union, Urbana

PRESENT: Anderson, Burton (Chair), Chambers, Chapman-Novakofski, Fisher, Fossum, Jones, Kaufman (Vice Chair), Massat, O'Brien, Tolliver, Weller, Wood

ABSENT: Burbules, Eisenhart, Grossman, Langley, Schacht, Scheff, Strom

GUESTS: Joseph Finnerty, Michael Koronkowski, Mrinalini Rao, Terry Weech, Matthew Wheeler, Julie Zemaitis

Professor Vernon Burton, Chair, called the University Senates Conference to order at 10:05 a.m.

I. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of April 22, 2008

The minutes were approved as written.

II. 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-

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of June 26, 2008

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 28, 2008

- EP.08.52 Proposal from the Institute of Labor and Industrial Relations to Change the Name and Status of the Institute to the School of Labor and Employment Relations
- EP.08.55 Revision of the Concentrations in the Undergraduate Major in the Science and Letters Curriculum in German, College of LAS
- EP.08.56 Proposal from the Graduate College to Establish a Graduate Minor in Heritage Studies
- EP.08.57 Establishment of an Undergraduate Minor in Scandinavian Studies, College of LAS
- EP.08.58 Proposed Revisions to the BALAS in Spanish, College of LAS
- EP.08.59 Proposed Revisions to the Undergraduate Minor in Spanish, College of LAS
- EP.08.61 Rename the B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. in Nuclear Engineering to the B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Nuclear, Plasma, and Radiological Engineering, College of ENGR

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

2. University of Illinois at Springfield, May 2, 2008

- R38-1 Awarding of Degrees

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

III. Old Business – Action Items

None.

IV. New Business

1. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

University of Illinois at Chicago
Thursday, July 24, 2008

To be determined

2. Budget and Salary Discussion.

The Conference discussed the \$17M budget shortfall that was reported at the last Board of Trustees meeting. Professor Kaufman mentioned that he had spoke to the Board a year ago about the need to preserve excellence and be fiscally responsible. He had suggested raising tuition higher with the promise of reducing tuition if the state does its part and comes through with sufficient funding. Professor Jones said that the University continues to add new programs when there is no new money to fund them. Professor Chambers commented that the University runs the risk of becoming mediocre if the budget concerns are not addressed.

V. Executive Session

(Text suppressed due to confidential nature of material discussed.)

The Conference recessed from the regular meeting at 11:10 a.m. in order to hold the 2008-09 Organizational Meeting. The regular meeting resumed at 11:15 a.m.

VI. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items3. GR-40. Proposed Revisions to *The General Rules*, Article III (Intellectual Property), Sections 1-8, and Article V (University Property), Sections 1-3. Transmitted to Senates 7/10/06. Approved by the Board of Trustees 3/13/07. Supporting Policy Documents to Senates 4/19/07.

This item was discussed with Vice President Rao during the Executive Session.

4. OT-227. The Global Campus.

This item was discussed with Vice President Rao during the Executive Session.

5. ST-47. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Articles IX and X, to provide optional

multi-year contracts, and related dismissal procedures, for certain academic staff. Passed UIC Senate 10/27/99. Rejected UIS Senate 3/3/00. Multi-Year Contracts Task Force Charged 4/11/02. Request to Senates to Consider MYC Issues 2/13/04. Passed UIUC Senate 2/14/05. Passed UIC Senate 4/28/05. Passed UIS Senate 5/6/05. Transmitted to Senates 1/10/06. Passed UIS Senate 4/7/06. Passed UIUC Senate 4/24/06. Passed UIC Senate 4/2/06. Transmitted to the President 5/12/06. Approved by the Board of Trustees 11/9/06. Campus Procedures – Passed UIC Senate 4/26/07. Passed UIS Senate 3/7/08. Passed UIUC Senate 4/28/08.

Professor Burton reported that all three senates have approved campus procedures. Professor Kaufman suggested moving the item to the pending agenda. He said that he would look at the procedures.

6. 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.

Professor Kaufman said that UIS has been working with Bill Maher to work out wording changes.

7. NC-14. Nominating Committee for 2008-09 Officers and Executive Committee.

Professor Burton said that the Nominating Committee had completed its work.

8. OT-185. Senate Resolutions on Benefits for Domestic Partners. Passed UIUC Senate 4/23/01; Passed UIS Senate 9/14/01. Letter of reaffirmation of USC support transmitted to the President 11/14/01. Benefits approved by the Board of Trustees 7/17/03.

No new information.

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

Professor Kaufman suggested writing a letter to the President requesting the goals and accomplishments of the vice presidents.

10. OT-218. Proposed Guidelines for Multi-Institutional Degrees. Transmitted to Senates 11/10/05. Approved UIUC Senate 11/5/07.

The Conference discussed the general policy of the University putting money into new initiatives when existing units are not being funded adequately.

Professor Chapman-Novakofski asked if the University conducts exit interviews to find out why faculty are leaving. The Conference decided to write President White a letter with this question and copy the chancellors on the letter. Conference members suggested also asking: 1) Where are faculty going to from here?; 2) At what level are exit interviews

conducted?; and, 3) Are exit interviews written or oral?

11. OT-219. Future USC Meeting Dates.

No new information.

12. OT-232. Interactions with Legislators.

No new information.

13. OT-243. Resource Summit.

No new information.

14. OT-244. Pro-Quest Dissertation Publishing.

Professor O'Brien said that the subcommittee is looking at a draft document.

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

The Conference discussed possible guests to invite to future meetings.

16. Campus Updates.

Professor Kaufman provided an update on the UIC chancellor search. Professor Tolliver mentioned that there have been a lot of changes in deanships at UIUC. The LAS Dean is leaving, and searches are being conducted for the deans of the Law School, Graduate School, and College of Business. Professor Fisher reported that the UIS Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs is leaving. She also said that the UIS Senate Executive Committee would be meeting with President White to conduct an evaluation of the Chancellor.

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

ERMT

April 24, 2008

Jones

18. Review of Pending Items on the Agenda Addendum.

No new information.

VII. Guest

The Conference met with Julie Zemaitis, Executive Director of University Audits. She said that she is a 1985 U of I graduate and was a CPA in the same firm for twenty years. She specialized in government entities and non-for-profit groups. Her sub-specialty is in higher education. She was appointed to her current position when Mr. Richard Traver

retired in 2005.

Ms. Zemaitis told the Conference that her philosophy for the office is to not give people the run-around, but to provide a “How can we help you?” atmosphere. The intent of policies and procedures in the Office of University Audits office is to protect the members of the University, not because there is mistrust. Employees have a lot of responsibility and are held accountable for their actions. The office lets people know what is being done wrong in order to help them and protect future funding sources.

Conference members told of incidents where rules tend to hinder faculty productivity and create an adversarial atmosphere. Also, it is difficult for faculty to keep up with all of the rules. The business people in their offices end up being decision-making people. Ms. Zemaitis acknowledged that there must be some opportunities to streamline provisions and controls. Conference members said that faculty bring in outside resources that have the same checks and balances as state money. They felt that there should be more of a level of trust, which would improve faculty morale. Ms. Zemaitis responded that grants have to meet restrictions from the source. This results in another layer of procedures. She asked the Conference to keep in mind that these controls are in place to protect the faculty.

Ms. Zemaitis was asked if she thinks that, during these difficult fiscal times, control issues will become worse. She replied that there must be checks and balances, but in some cases there may be the opportunity to streamline procedures. Some problems may simply be a matter of different interpretations. Departmental staff members should be trained to be facilitators for the faculty. She mentioned two hot button issues: independent reviewing of transactions and conflict of commitment and interest.

Ms. Zemaitis remarked that the state’s ethics training program is mandated by State Statute and the training program was created by the Inspector General. She said that Ms. Donna McNeely, University Ethics Officer, has been given the opportunity to rewrite the training for University employees. Conference members commented that the time reporting requirement was very impractical for faculty. Ms. Zemaitis responded that it was only a matter of recording how much time had been worked during the day to the nearest quarter hour.

Ms. Zemaitis said that the global business environment changed after the Enron problems. The tone in culture became one where controls are much more important. While controls will always be important, the environment is starting to change back some.

Professor Burton thanked Ms. Zemaitis for meeting with the Conference. He commented that the University is very lucky to have her in the position watching out for us.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Pending USC Items
May 28, 2008

ST-54. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Section 10 – Nonreappointment of Academic Professional Staff. Passed UIUC Senate 3/19/01. Transmitted to Senates 5/18/01. Passed UIC Senate 9/28/01. Passed UIS Senate 11/30/01. Transmitted to President 2/14/02.

GR-39. Proposed Revisions to *The General Rules*, Article V, Section 4 – Naming of University Facilities and Programs. Transmitted to Senates 1/9/06. Recommendations to the President 2/27/06. Approved by the Board of Trustees 4/11/06. UIC Facility Naming Policy 2/21/07.

OT-161. Non-Tenure-Track Academic Staff Appointments.

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.

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

OT-210. Tuition and Fees Executive Committee.

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

OT-229. University Administration Reorganization.

OT-231. Shared Governance Issues.

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