

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Wednesday, May 29, 2019

PLACE: Room 206 Student Center West, Chicago

PRESENT: Brennan, Dallesasse, Danziger, De Groote, Erricolo*, Johnson, Kalita*, Karri, Maher, Razfar, Span, Stroschio, Tolliver, Vincent, Wade

ABSENT: Burbules, Francis, Kling, Li, Miller

GUESTS: Michael Amiridis, Timothy Killeen, Barbara Wilson, Julie Wurth

*Participated by phone

Professor Tolliver, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

I. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Barbara Wilson

President Killeen discussed the legislative session, which has four more days to go. He anticipates positive funding support, although not at the FY15 funding levels which were requested, a capital bill, and funding for DPI. All public universities have expressed unified support, and the Illinois Connection call-to-action helped to generate 3,000 supportive emails in just the past week.

President Killeen said that the University System's rating from Moody's is now stable, A1. 85,900 students have enrolled for the fall semester, which is on track with the enrollment growth plan. Specific areas are being targeted for growth. The University of Illinois System enrolls 52% of students in Illinois public higher education. Tuition has been frozen for another year. Efforts are being made to curb the out-migration of Illinois students. There has been 2% growth in the number of faculty. An assessment is being done of faculty hiring needs over the next five years. The initiative has not yet been funded, but there could be 900 new faculty hires with half of those being replacement faculty. The system budget includes \$975M in research funding. The Hospital system is in the black and had 700,000 patient visits last year. There are 450,000 alums in Illinois. \$495M has been raised in the current fundraising campaign. Providing student scholarships is the highest priority in the campaign. The system has increased its institutional financial aid to \$231M.

President Killeen commented that the economic impact study, which was conducted by an external group, determined that the University of Illinois System has a \$17.5B impact on Illinois. This includes 171,342 jobs, which is 1 out of every 46 jobs in Illinois.

Discussing other accomplishments throughout the system, President Killeen said that all of the public universities in Illinois are now partners in the Illinois Innovation Network. A new grant assistance and information program, START myResearch, has been implemented. The \$2M Humanities and Arts initiative is funding 14 of the 53 proposals that were submitted.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of June 21, 2019

There have been 14 hires under the Distinguished Faculty Hiring Program. Banner 9 is now live. The legislative caucus for the University of Illinois includes 65 legislators.

President Killeen said that the new budget review process for the System Offices is in its second year. The System has held statewide student recruitment events, some in partner with other public universities.

President Killeen expressed his thanks to USC and the senates for their roles in the DPI review process, noting that the input has been appreciated. There has been strong faculty involvement in the planning of DPI. There are several working groups of faculty. He anticipates that there will be some type of Board action in July.

Vice President Wilson discussed the Know Your U program which encourages staff to participate in structured activities to learn more about their universities. The program is for Academic Professionals and Civil Service employees and allows up to eight hours of participation per year. Team-building exercises are encouraged. She also mentioned that there will be a new applicant tracking system that will replace Hire Touch.

President Killeen said that this is the second year of the multi-media marketing campaign. There are new branding standards and each university has leveled up its messaging.

President Killeen and Vice President Wilson discussed plans for the upcoming Board of Trustees retreat in July. Speakers have been confirmed for the topics of Integrity and Excellence, and Fostering Healthy Relationships. Fiscal and Environmental Sustainability is the third topic.

Vice President Wilson indicated that the Deans of Education and other appropriate persons are aware of the ISBE proposed rule changes for teacher preparation and training. While there has been no legislation proposed yet, Government Relations is monitoring the proposal.

The group discussed ways to engage with alumni and concerns with providing email for life. There are cost and security issues with alumni keeping their U of I email accounts. In addition, studies have shown that this is not the best way to keep in touch with alumni. Currently, UIS and UIUS graduates can have their email forwarded to another account. Vice President Wilson said that the University is looking at working with LinkedIn to build networking and a suite of services for alumni. The group also discussed the purposes for connecting with alumni, such as for philanthropic reasons, providing services, seeking ambassadors, and public engagement.

President Killeen commented that there were over 22,000 graduating students throughout the system this year. Vice President Wilson added that the UI System is responsible for 47% of the state's undergraduate students and 69% of the state's graduate students.

II. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of April 30, 2019

Professor Danziger moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Professor Brennan and approved by voice vote.

III. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Tolliver thanked USC members for their time and efforts in attending USC meetings and representing their colleagues in the senates.

IV. USC Committee of the Whole Discussion: Follow-up items from morning session

There was a discussion regarding the five-year faculty hiring plan. There was interest in knowing more about where the discussions have taken place in determining the areas in which there should be growth and how positions will be funded. USC members provided comments and concerns about faculty lines not being filled or being moved, where the money will come from, the perspectives of faculty on the ground versus units' long-term plans, and how retention of current faculty will be addressed.

USC members discussed connecting with alumni for purposes other than directly asking for donations, developing a sense of engagement, and expanding on existing connections.

V. Meeting with Chancellor Michael Amiridis

Chancellor Amiridis commented that efforts are being made to make sure funds are being secured to match the state's \$500M funding for DPI. In addition to roads and bridges, the state's capital bill includes discussions of "vertical" funding for higher education buildings.

The acquisition of the John Marshall Law School is almost done. The transfer agreement should be completed in August.

Chancellor Amiridis discussed the difficulties of recent labor negotiations and the outcomes. He commented on the USC document that makes clear which responsibilities belong in labor contracts and which belong in the senates.

UIC had 31,700 students this past year and is looking forward to 33,000-34,000 students in the fall. The increase is primarily in undergraduate students.

Chancellor Amiridis said that there have been two recent ribbon-cutting ceremonies; a combined residence hall and classroom building, and an Engineering building. With a capital bill in place and UIC's own means, he expects another three to four buildings to start going up over the next couple of years.

Chancellor Amiridis discussed the impact of the tuition freeze on UIC given that there are more students to teach and provide services for. He commented that the faculty hiring initiative has a good needs-assessment but requires funding in order to be a plan.

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

VI. Old Business - Action Items

None.

VII. New Business

1. USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Chicago

Sandy De Groote

2. OT-359. Periodic Assessment of the *University of Illinois Policy on Background Checks*.

Professor Tolliver said that when the background check policy was being considered there were some concerns, such as the possibility of underrepresented groups being disproportionately affected. The result of those concerns was to build in a periodic assessment. Jami Painter offered different ways USC could be involved and it was decided that USC would have a representative on the review committee. Professor Maher volunteered to be the representative.

VIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

3. OT-356. Discovery Partners Institute. Transmitted to Senates 2/28/19. Endorsed UIS Senate 3/22/19. UIC Senate did not pass; sent list of concerns 3/27/19. Endorsed UIUC Senate 4/22/19. Transmitted to President 5/7/19.

Professor Tolliver said that she was pleased to hear that DPI would be going to the Board soon. She added that the securing of matching funds is going well. Professor Johnson commented that there needs to be some sensitivity to donors when publicly discussing matching funds.

Professor Johnson said that AGAG (Academic Governance Advisory Group) is to be officially finished soon. The group filed a report with Bill Sanders that provides its advice to DPI. He commented that there needs to be continued representation from shared governance, and DPI bylaws need to be drafted. He and Professor De Groote suggested that USC make this recommendation to DPI. Professor Tolliver said that it would be helpful to see a draft proposal from AGAG, so that USC could append its comments and transmit them to the President and DPI. Professor Johnson clarified that there are two documents: the AGAG report and a one-page draft document from him and Professor De Groote that could be used as USC's statement for a path forward. Professor Karri thought that the AGAG report should be released to USC. The group decided to ask for the AGAG report and then consider the one-page document from Professors De Groote and Johnson.

4. OT-357. Lifelong Alumni Connections. USC Resolution approved 4/2/19. Transmitted to President 4/18/19.

Professor Tolliver said that the President suggested that USC meet with the leaders of AITS to discuss the technical aspects of engagement with alumni.

5. OT-358. Five-Year Faculty Hiring Plan.

Professor Tolliver referred to a draft document from the Academic Affairs and Research Committee. Professor Span said that the committee suggested guiding principles. Professor Tolliver commented that some issues will be specific to a particular university. She asked if the committee could identify principles that would be systemwide. Professor Span recommended that the hiring plan be endorsed and that there be a variety of metrics included. Professor Maher suggested there be principles and objectives since target areas to be filled cannot be readily translated to something that is measurable. Professor Span said that he would work with Professor Miller on reframing the document.

6. NC-25. Nominating Committee for 2019-20 Officers, Executive Committee, and USC Committees.

Professor Wade said that the committee is accepting nominations.

7. ST-77. Revisions to the *Statutes* – Edits and Updates (A File). Received from the Board of Trustees Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee 10/6/14. Transmitted to Senates 10/10/14. Passed UIC Senate 12/3/14. Passed UIS Senate 1/23/15. Passed UIUC Senate 5/4/15. Transmitted to the President 5/29/15. Transmitted to Senates 9/4/18. Amendments passed by UIC Senate 10/24/18. Passed UIS Senate with amendment 11/9/18.

Professor Tolliver said that there was no new information.

8. GR-46. Revisions to the *General Rules* – Edits and Updates. Received from the Board of Trustees Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee 10/6/14. Transmitted to the President 12/22/14. Intellectual Property transmitted to Senates 1/26/15. Passed UIS Senate 3/6/15. Passed UIC Senate 4/23/15. Passed UIUC Senate 5/4/15. Intellectual Property transmitted to the President 5/29/15. Revised IP to Senates 4/4/18. UIC Senate response 4/26/18 (not approved, provided recommendations) UIUC Senate response 4/30/18 (not approved, provided recommendations). Transmitted to Senates (Article III, Intellectual Property) 9/4/18. Passed UIC Senate 9/20/18. Passed UIUC Senate 10/15/18. Passed UIS Senate 11/9/18. New proposed revisions (Article III, Intellectual Property) transmitted to Senates 3/6/19. Advice from UIC Senate 4/24/19.

Professor Vincent said that she transmitted the UIC Senate's official response, which includes a concern with the language that indicates the system will control money. Professor De Groote recommended that this concern go to the other senates before they act. Professor Maher suggested that the Statutes and Governance Committee look at the advice from the UIC Senate and bring it to USC to decide whether it should go to the other two senates.

9. ST-72. Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 (Academic Freedom). Passed UIUC Senate 12/6/10. Passed UIC Senate 9/22/11. Passed UIS Senate 12/14/12. Transmitted to the President 1/18/13. Revised language approved by USC 3/18/14. Transmitted to Senates 3/21/14. Passed UIUC Senate 11/17/14. Passed UIC Senate as amended 1/29/15. Passed UIS Senate 4/10/15. Transmitted to President 5/12/15. Referred back to UIUC Senate USSP Committee in consultation with CAFT 2/23/17.

10. ST-79. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2.b, and Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*. Approved by USC 1/17/13. Transmitted to Senates 4/5/13. Revised language approved by USC 6/18/13. Transmitted to Senates 6/21/13. Passed UIC senate 9/26/13. Alternate language passed UIUC Senate 11/18/13. Transmitted to Senates 11/26/13. Passed UIS Senate 2/21/14. Passed UIC Senate 4/24/14. Transmitted to the President 6/11/14. USC new proposed revisions 4/27/17. Transmitted to Senates 5/11/17. Background statement to senates 9/6/17. Passed UIS Senate 9/15/17. Passed UIUC Senate with revisions 12/11/17. USC reconciled language to Senates 1/29/18. Passed UIUC Senate 4/2/18. Passed UIS Senate 4/6/18. Failed UIC Senate 4/26/18. Approved USC 5/3/18. Transmitted to President 6/1/18 with UIC response.
11. ST-81. Revisions to University of Illinois Nondiscrimination Statement. Received from Vice President Pierre 10/9/15. Transmitted to Senates 10/12/15. Passed UIC Senate 10/28/15. Passed UIS Senate 12/11/15. Passed UIUC Senate 3/7/16. UIUC Senate version transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 3/31/16. Passed UIS Senate 4/22/16. Passed UIC Senate 9/29/16. Transmitted to Vice President Wilson 11/22/16.
12. ST-82. Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Sections 3. (Appointments, Ranks, and Promotions of the Academic and Administrative Staff) a., and 4 (Principles Governing Employment of Academic and Administrative Staffs) b. Passed UIUC Senate 5/2/16. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 6/6/16. Passed UIS Senate 9/23/16. Passed UIC Senate 10/26/16. Transmitted to President 12/5/16.
13. ST-83. Revisions to the *Statutes* – new proposed revisions and proposed revisions from ST-77 that need further discussion (B File).

[Items 9-13] Professor Tolliver said that there was no new information for these items.

14. ST-84. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article VIII, Section 4 – Changes in Existing Units. Passed UIUC Senate 11/12/18. Transmitted to Senates 12/18/18. Revised UIUC Senate document transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 5/7/19.

Professor Tolliver said that the revised language has gone to the UIC and UIS Senates.

15. OT-326. USC Presentations to the Board of Trustees.

Professor Tolliver asked for suggestions for the annual report she will give to the Board in July. She thanked Professor Wade for the engaging report she presented to the Board on behalf of the Finance, Budget, and Benefits Committee.

16. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

The Conference discussed guests to invite.

17. Report of USC Chair on the Board of Trustees meeting:

18. OT-339. Audit of the University Senates Conference.

No new information.

19. University Updates.

Professor Vincent requested that USC have a discussion on how to keep honorary degree discussions confidential. Professor Karri commented on the audit of the UIS Senate.

20. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: DPI Academic Governance Advisory Group (De Groote, Johnson); DPI Academic Executive Committee (Karri); Enrollment Management Policy Council (Wade); President's Executive Leadership Program (Erricolo); Establish UI System Guidelines for Invited Speakers Task Force (Span); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee for System Academic Affairs (Tolliver).

VPAA FAC: Professor Tolliver said that the committee was given a budget presentation.

EMPC: Professor Wade said that the group discussed enrollment numbers, which are up. However, some transfer acceptances are down.

PELP: Professor Erricolo said that the last workshop was held at UIC last week. He commented that that he appreciated the opportunity to participate and highly recommends the program.

Speakers TF: Professor Span said that the group has developed language that will be reviewed by Legal Counsel and then go to the President for review.

DPI AEC: Professor Karri said that the working groups would be reporting soon.

21. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee
Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee
Statutes and Governance Committee

Gay Miller, Chair
Danilo Erricolo, Chair
Nick Burbules, Chair

There were no reports.

IX. Adjournment

Professor Karri moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Professor Razfar and approved by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:05 p.m.