

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Wednesday, June 22, 2016

PLACE: Room 210 Illini Union, Urbana

PRESENT: Burbules (Chair), DeBerry-Spence*, De Groot, Erricolo*, Francis, Graber, Jackson, Johnson, LaDu, Maher, Miller, Mohammadian*, Novak, Rao, Villegas (Vice Chair), Vincent, Weech, Wheeler

ABSENT: Boltuc, Kalita

GUESTS: Ranjan Karri, Timothy Killeen, Christophe Pierre, Barbara Wilson

* Participated by phone

Professor Burbules, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting began with the 2016-2017 Organizational Meeting. The voting of officers and the counting of ballots took place concurrently with the business meeting.

I. Old Business – Action Items

1. 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.
2. ST-77/GR-46. Revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* – Edits and Updates. Received from the Board of Trustees Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee 10/6/14. *Statutes*: Transmitted to Senates 10/10/14. Passed UIC Senate 12/3/14. Passed UIS Senate 1/23/15. Passed UIUC Senate 5/4/15. *General Rules* transmitted to the President 12/22/14. *General Rules* (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. *Statutes* and *General Rules* (Intellectual Property) transmitted to the President 5/29/15.
3. 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.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of August 31, 2016

(Items 1-3) Professor Burbules reviewed a copy of the proposed revisions to the *Statutes* that highlighted areas where there is concern or disagreement. He said that the statutory revisions process and some of the highlighted areas would be discussed with President Killeen and Vice President Pierre. Professor Burbules commented that he would like to see the revisions where there is no disagreement, which is around 80-90% of the revisions, go to the Board in July.

II. Meeting with President Killeen and Vice President Pierre

Professor Burbules thanked Vice President Pierre for his service to the University and wished him well as he leaves the University the beginning of fall.

Professor Burbules commented that almost all of the proposed revisions to the *Statutes* are ready to be moved forward. Additional consideration is needed in the section on academic freedom and to the language that provides the definition of faculty. He said that he was eager to see the revisions go to the Board. Vice President Pierre responded that he needs to discuss the areas of concern with President Killeen. However, as far as he and Legal Counsel are concerned, all of the revisions are fine with a few minor exceptions.

President Killeen provided an update on the budget. Another stop-gap bill is being considered. The specifics change from day to day, but MAP and hospital funding might be included. The University and its supporters have raised the level of advocacy. However, if there is no action by mid-August, the University will need to deal with the impact of the loss of funding. The President said that he and the chancellors will be meeting over the summer to determine what types of actions the University would need to take. He wants transparency and faculty participation in the decision-making process.

President Killeen said that Vice President Pierre has been focusing on budget issues. He also commented that he was sorry to be losing Dr. Pierre. Vice President Pierre discussed the system-level budget group that he has assembled. The group is getting regular updates on the University's cash position. Vice President Pierre said that the three universities need to have well-established processes for budget review. The provosts have been doing a lot of planning. Although no definite decisions have been made, they are trying to eliminate the impact of budget reductions.

President Killeen discussed plans for the Board of Trustees retreat in July and expressed appreciation for the Conference's input on the Strategic Framework. The retreat will focus on the pillars of the framework. Some possible topics are social equity, innovation and technology, and public and private partnerships.

President Killeen said that the metrics in the U of I 2021 Initiative are current numbers that the University is already delivering on. The five-year plan would provide predictable funding and regulatory relief for the University. Vice President Pierre commented that the initiative might require the University to take on some additional fiscal responsibilities, but it will allow the University to take charge of its destiny.

The group discussed proposed revisions to the position of Vice President for Research, including a name change, qualifications, and whether the position should be a University Officer. The President mentioned other searches currently underway.

President Killeen said that it is important to continuously educate state government leaders about the value of each University within the U of I system. There are many success stories to tell.

III. Meeting with Interim Chancellor Barbara Wilson

Chancellor Wilson discussed the many exciting things happening in Urbana. There are several dean searches underway. The campus is working on improvements to the admissions and recruitment process. The numbers look good; around 7500 new freshman, which was the goal. A new building, the Design Center, will provide new opportunities for undergraduate students to experience design collaborations. The campus is in the quiet phase of the next development campaign. The campus is working to reduce reliance on state funding. Budget issues are a big challenge, with faculty recruitment being one of the biggest risks. There has been a rigorous study to look at remodeling the budget. Deans and department heads are being looked to for much of the decisions being made.

The new College of Medicine is looking at 2018 for the inaugural class. The partnership with Carle is strong. The dean search should be completed soon. A group is working aggressively on a very innovative curriculum. There are some challenges with winding down the regional campus and starting the new college.

Chancellor Wilson described the many efforts that were made by the Urbana University to have censure lifted by the AAUP. Everything seemed to be going well. However, the local chapter of the AAUP expressed the opinion that proposed statutory language regarding the hiring process that is currently in the senates should run its course before censure is lifted. Even though approval of the language is not required for censure to be lifted, the national AAUP voted to not lift conditional censure. Chancellor Wilson said that there should be a site visit by AAUP this year.

IV. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of May 26, 2016

The minutes were approved as amended.

V. Classification of Senate Minutes

None.

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. New Business

4. Designation of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, September 8, 2016

Urbana

Harley Johnson

VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

5. 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.

Professor Vincent said that second reading for the UIC Senate will be in the fall.

6. 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.

Professor Burbules commented that the proposed statutory revisions have been transmitted to the senates.

7. NC-22. Nominating Committee for 2016-17 Officers, Executive Committee, and USC Committees.

This item was approved for removal from the agenda.

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

Professor Burbules commented that he would present the USC annual report to the Board in July. He welcomed suggestions.

9. OT-327. University Strategic Framework.

Professor Burbules suggested that this item remain on the agenda during the implementation process.

10. OT-331. U of I 2021 Initiative.

Professor Burbules suggested that this item remain on the agenda for monitoring.

11. OT-310. Recommendation for New Policy Language Related to Classified Research at the University of Illinois. Transmitted to Senates 6/25/14. Passed UIS Senate 9/12/14. Withdrawn UIC Senate 1/29/15. Passed UIUC SEC 4/17/15.

No new information.

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

This item has been completed this year and can be removed from the agenda.

Professor Burbules commented that Items 13-18 are carry-over items for next year.

13. OT-320. Salary increments and campus budgeting priorities.

This item was referred to the Finance, Budget, and Benefits Committee.

14. OT-330. Approval and Consultation Processes with the University Senates Conference and the Senates.

This item was referred to the Statutes and Governance Committee.

15. OT-332. Levels of University Review.

This item will be monitored by USC.

16. OT-333. Travel and Expense Management (TEM) System.

This item was referred to the Finance, Budget, and Benefits Committee.

17. OT-334. Shared Governance – Increasing Efficiency.

This item was referred to the Statutes and Governance Committee.

18. OT-335. Differentiating Shared Governance Responsibilities from Union Responsibilities.

This item was referred to the Statutes and Governance Committee.

19. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

The Conference discussed possible future guests.

20. Designation of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, July 21, 2016

Urbana

Bettina Francis

21. Campus Updates.

There were no campus updates.

22. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

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

Gay Miller
Sally Jackson
Jorge Villegas
Matthew Wheeler

The Conference discussed setting aside time for committees to meet other than during lunch on USC meeting days. Professor Burbules commented that someday he would like to see the committee chairs become ex officio members of the corresponding Board committees.

23. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: Enrollment Management Policy Council (Jackson); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (Burbules, DeBerry-Spence, Mohammadian, Villegas); Vice President for Academic Affairs UA Budget Review Advisory Committee (Mohammadian, Villegas, Wheeler); Vice President for Finance Faculty Advisory Committee (DeBerry-Spence, Weech); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Boltuc, Burbules, Miller, Villegas, Wheeler).

There were no reports.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.