

MINUTES<sup>1</sup>  
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Wednesday, June 29, 2022

PLACE: Videoconference

PRESENT: Burbules, Campbell, Dallesasse, Danziger, De Groote (Vice Chair), Erricolo, Jenkins, Kar (Chair), Maher, Razfar, Stroschio, Tolliver, Weuve, Wink

ABSENT: Benson, Fisher, Kalita, Peiravian, Strahle, Varden

GUESTS: Avijit Ghosh, Janet Gooch, Timothy Killeen, Carol Leff, Karen Whitney

I. President and Guest Session Call to Order

Professor Kar, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. He welcomed the guests and reviewed the order of the morning schedule.

II. Meeting with President Killeen and Interim Executive Vice President Ghosh

President Killeen discussed the activities of the 2020-21 and 2021-22 cohorts of the President's Executive Leadership Program (PELP). Because the 2020-21 activities were hindered by Covid-19, that group joined in on this past year's in-person activities. Some of the highlights were meeting with state leadership in Springfield and going to D.C. where the group met with people in Congress, science and technology leaders from the White House, and agency leaders from NSF and NIH.

President Killeen said that the second annual road tour of the state will take place the latter part of August and cover around 2,000 miles. Last year, much was learned about disparities in the state.

President Killeen commented that the University of Illinois System is becoming more recognized and celebrated. Senior administrators are being recruited elsewhere. The recent economic impact report is being distributed. The report analyzes the system as a whole and each university. The entire U of I System has a \$19B per year return on investment in Illinois. 160,000 jobs in the state are directly derived from the system's work. 2.1% of the state's domestic product comes from the U of I. 75% of graduates stay in Illinois. He commented on activities at the three universities. UIS is purchasing a facility in downtown Springfield that will enhance town/gown relations. Funds of \$15M will be used from the \$500M of capital funds from IIN and DPI. The UIC hospital expansion is mostly finished, the Atrium is being built, and another clinic is up and running, which makes the total number of clinics 15. Both UIC and UIUC have cancer centers. The UIC Computer Science building is underway. UIUC will be completely rebuilding Illini Hall.

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<sup>1</sup>Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of August 30, 2022

EVP Ghosh discussed academic initiatives. The research portfolio continues to grow and be strong. UIC's research portfolio is currently at \$450M but might reach \$500M this year, surpassing the University of Chicago. UIUC's research portfolio is in the \$700M range. There are major projects in the billion-dollar range funded from federal legislation. The U of I System is positioning itself to be a part of the programs, which will include a consortium of universities. On the curriculum side, there have been discussions about the potential of elaborating on the experiences we have gained with remote and hybrid learning. He commented that we will always remain a residential university with face-to-face instruction at the core. We need to think about how we can leverage technology to embellish our programs, reach different groups, and think beyond traditional degrees. We have not attracted the adult education audience. There are 1.3M people in Illinois who left their undergraduate program with less than a semester to go. Some people are looking for educational opportunities and additional training, but not necessarily a degree. There are also people in the state who have not typically had access to certain types of education. DPI is working on creating opportunities. The three provosts are putting together groups within their universities to determine how each university is going to address some of these issues as we move forward. Initiatives have to be driven by the faculty and each university. Representatives of groups will be brought together to exchange ideas in July. Faculty governance needs to be part of the decision-making process when moving forward.

President Killeen reported that the design of the DPI building is almost complete. IIN is up and running. There are twenty-two science teams with faculty from our universities. He discussed opportunities for the Arts and Humanities in The 78, where DPI will reside.

President Killeen discussed the search for Dr. Ghosh's successor in the position of Executive Vice President. Professor Kar is chairing the search committee. Nominations are coming in. The President commented that the Vice President for Academic Affairs position was expanded when Dr. Barb Wilson came into that office, making the position Executive Vice President and VPAA. Professor Kar provided a brief update on the search.

President Killeen said that individuals and their visions come and go. A new vision can slow down progress. He stressed that the most important thing is that there be a shared vision. He commented that he does have ideas, but there is a huge need for discussions and shared governance. After he arrived, it took eighteen months to create a strategic framework. The President believes that this framework has stood the test of time. The next step is to take on big societal problems. He listed some priorities, such as keeping core liberal arts essential, giving young people the chance to grow, providing more access to AP courses, and encouraging civic engagement. President Killeen commented that the U of I System is well positioned to address many of the societal problems. One way is to take advantage of our networks, such as Extension, IIN, DPI, and UIC's fifteen clinics. He said that the system also needs to revisit the strategic plan for faculty recruitment and retention. Responding to concerns with the meaning of "scale," EVP Ghosh commented that he views scale as the drive to have more impact.

### III. Meeting with UIS Chancellor Karen Whitney and incoming UIS Chancellor Janet Gooch

Chancellor Whitney provided an update on some of the items in the ten-point plan that she created when she became chancellor. She discussed the success of UIS in navigating

COVID-19. The campus was highly vaccinated, used SHIELD testing, and had no deaths. There were well-attended weekly COVID briefings on Zoom. Another part of the ten-point plan was to address systemic racism on campus. She created a task force that advised her cabinet. Enrollment was another important part of the plan. There have been changes in leadership and increased staffing in the enrollment and admissions offices. Summer enrollment increased this year, and it looks like enrollment will increase this fall.

Chancellor Whitney discussed how critical the reorganization process was for UIS. There were some very small departments with not enough staff to support the faculty. She viewed the reorganization not as budget planning and resource allocation, but rather realizing the vision of UIS in its mission and purpose. There are now four colleges, which will have better support. The Chancellor said that UIS plans to expand its legacy of distance learning. One-third of programs are distributed by distance. Chancellor Whitney expressed deep concern over professional behavior and bullying that has been going on at UIS. She thanked Professor Weuve for all that she did and all that she went through during the reorganization process.

Chancellor Whitney commented that she is a strong supporter of systems. She defined “systemness” as leveraging the strengths of the universities to achieve the greater good and finding logical ways to work together. She said that some of UIS’s strengths are distance learning, its location in the capital city, being teaching intensive, and having an emphasis on applied research. She thought that USC was a good example of system shared governance. She also praised President Killeen for his vision and his approach and commitment to the system and each institution.

Incoming Chancellor Gooch said that this is her first week at UIS. She came from Truman State University in Missouri, where she recently served as provost. The institution is similar to UIS. She thanked Chancellor Whitney for the excellent ten-point plan. She commented that it will be important in her role to reinforce and enhance the shared vision at UIS, to work collaboratively in the system, and to make the state understand that UIS is an important part of the U of I System. She is a firm believer in the power of education and understands the responsibility of the campus to educate the students of Illinois and across the nation so that they go forward to make an impact on the world. Chancellor Gooch believes that challenges are opportunities and is a firm believer in shared governance. In her role, she can help identify problems and come up with solutions.

Professor Weuve commented that there has been much upheaval at UIS over the past two years. She said that having Dr. Whitney as chancellor has been an advantage throughout the reorganization process, given her steady and consistent manner and not being upset about making tough decisions. Professor Weuve said that she was on the search committee for the new chancellor and stated that Dr. Gooch is the leader UIS needs.

President Killeen discussed the interim process that led to Chancellor Whitney staying on an extra year and the hiring of Chancellor Gooch. He thanked both of them and commented on UIS’s transformation over the years and the campus’s future prospects.

(The meeting recessed at 12:05 p.m. for lunch and the Organizational Meeting and resumed at 1:50 p.m.)

IV. Business Session Call to OrderV. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Kar said that it has been an honor to work with everyone this past year. He felt that USC has left a mark and the system leadership has been listening. He commented that everyone should feel proud of the work USC has done. Professor Burbules thanked Professor Kar for his contributions in making USC great.

VI. Approval of Minutes – March 30, 2022, April 26, 2022, and May 23, 2022

Professor Maher said that he would send some small technical corrections for both the March 30 and April 26 minutes. The minutes of both meetings were approved by roll call vote. Professor Maher moved to postpone approval of the May 23 minutes to the next meeting so that members had more time to review them. Professor Tolliver seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote.

VII. 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.

The classifications were approved by roll call vote.

## A. The following items were classified I by the University Senates Conference:

1. University of Illinois Springfield, May 25, 2022

Res. 51-40 Creation of Healthcare Analytics Graduate Certificate

Res. 52-03 Renaming the College of Public Affairs and Administration

Res. 52-04 Renaming the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

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

2. University of Illinois Springfield, May 25, 2022

sNc,uc Res. 52-01 Revisions to Article 9 Professional Responsibilities Section 6

Res. 52-02 Revisions to FPP Article 4 APR Appeals

#### VIII. Public Comment

There were no public comments.

#### IX. Old Business - Action Items

There was no old business for action.

#### X. Today's Business

1. Final Board presentation – *ad hoc* committee reports back to the USC with July's presentation

Professor Kar said that the report is framed around USC's ten goals for this past year. The goals fall into three groups: items that required a lot of USC guidance and action; items where decisions and activities were not under USC's jurisdiction; and items that are long-term goals to monitor. Professor Kar reviewed the draft presentation slide-by-slide and welcomed suggestions from USC members.

2. Assign an observer for the next Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, July 21, 2022

Urbana

Donald Wink

3. Identify USC representative for the President's Executive Leadership Program (PELP)

Professor Kar asked for nominations. Former PELP members stressed that the person selected must commit to attending all of the PELP sessions. USC voted to recommend Professor Weuve as USC's representative to PELP. She accepted the nomination.

4. Discussion of university matters for information

Professor Kar said that UIUC Provost Cangelaris is leaving to lead a new university in Saudi Arabia.

Professor Weuve said that the new UIS Chancellor has started. The UIS reorganization process has been completed. The audit of the senate is almost finished. UIS has \$1.6M of Covid relief funds that will be used for classroom improvements.

Professor Wink said that UIC has an interim chancellor and interim provost, as the provost is serving as the interim chancellor. A new Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs will be looking at issues that are of concern to the senate.

Professor Kar changed the order of the agenda by moving to the Information and Discussion Items and then coming back to finish Today's Business.

#### 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

#### XI. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

1. ST-83. Revisions to the *Statutes* – new proposed revisions and proposed revisions from ST-77 that need further discussion (B File). Sent to the Executive Vice President 5/1/20. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes* (USC ST-83 following ST-77) transmitted to UIS, UIC, and UIUC Senates 9/2/21. UIC Senate responded with Collated Comments 1/12/22.

2. 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 4/22/19. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 5/7/19. Passed UIS Senate 8/30/19. Passed with amendments UIC Senate 1/30/20. UIC Senate amendments transmitted to UIS and UIUC Senates 3/2/20. Passed UIS Senate 4/3/20. Passed with amendments UIUC Senate 4/27/20. Reconciled language approved by USC 5/29/20. Reconciled language to Senates 6/2/20. UIUC Senate USSP response 6/5/20. UIC SEC response 6/10/20. UIS Senate response 4/30/21. Transmitted to President 6/3/21.

3. ST-85. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 1 (Tenure of Academic Staff) (a) 6 and 7 – to permit the use of five-year appointments for non-tenure track faculty. Passed UIC Senate 4/22/20. Transmitted to UIS and UIUC Senates 5/1/20. Passed UIUC Senates 3/8/21. Passed UIS Senate 3/26/21. Transmitted to the President 4/5/21.

4. ST-86. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article III, Sections 3 and 5, and Article VI – Dean, Director, or Campus Librarian. Passed UIUC Senate 4/27/20. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 5/1/20. Passed UIC Senates 10/21/20. Passed UIS Senate 4/9/21. Transmitted to President 5/5/21.

5. ST-87. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article I, Sections 5 – Chancellors and Vice Presidents, Article II, Section 3a (1) – Faculty Role in Governance, and Article III, Section 1g – The University. Passed UIUC Senate 11/15/21. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 3/2/22.

6. ST-88. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IV, Section 1 – The Department, Section 2 – Department Organized with a Chair, Section 3 – Department Organized with a

Head, and Section 4 – Change of Departmental Administrative Organization. Passed UIUC Senate 3/7/22. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 4/6/22.

[1-6] Professor Burbules said that there would be no new information on any of the statutory items until fall.

7. OT-372. Proposal to establish a consultation process for system policies. Sent to Executive Vice President Wilson 2/3/21. Response from Executive Vice President 5/6/21. USC discussed moving forward on 6/24/21.

Professor Kar said that there is no new information on this item.

8. OT-142. Updates from External Groups with USC Representatives: Discovery Partners Institute Executive Committee (Jeffrey Eric Jenkins, Aria Razfar); Enrollment Management Policy Council (Donald Wink); President’s Executive Leadership Program (Aria Razfar); U of I System Going Forward: Excellence Amid COVID-19 Steering Committee (John Dallesasse); University of Illinois System President’s Advisory Council (Michael Stroschio).

DPI EC: Professor Jenkins said that the last scheduled meeting, which was to be in Chicago, was cancelled. Professor Razfar provided an update on the search for a new academic director. There was misunderstanding of the USC representatives’ terms on the DPI Executive Committee. Professor Kar moved to extend Professor Jenkins’ appointment for another year and extend Professor Razfar’s appointment until another USC member is appointed. Professor Danziger seconded the motion, which was approved by roll call vote.

EMPC: Professor Wink said that the committee plans to meet in July.

PELP: Professor Razfar said that the group recently met in D.C.

UI-PAC: Professor Stroschio reported on the committee’s June meeting.

#### Today’s Business – continued

5. Further discussion of EO Accountability

Postponed to a future meeting.

6. Discussion of experiences with senate auditors

Postponed to a future meeting.

7. Discussion of experiences with the Office of Legal Counsel

Postponed to a future meeting.

8. Discussion of FOIA concerns and future guests to invite

Postponed to a future meeting.

9. FBBC reports back to USC re: tuition/cost of attendance

Postponed to a future meeting.

10. Discussion of the letter of encouragement to DPI

Professor Kar asked for comments regarding his draft letter to Bill Jackson, Executive Director of DPI. USC members provided suggestions and discussed other aspects of DPI's leadership and outreach.

11. Discussion of USC retreat meeting forum

USC discussed possible locations and topics for its retreat in the fall.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 p.m.