

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

DATE: Thursday, August 29, 2019

PLACE: President's House, Urbana

PRESENT: Brennan, Burbules, Campbell, Dallesasse, De Groote, Fisher, Francis, Jenkins, Kar, Razfar\*, Span, Strahle, Stroschio, Tolliver, Vincent\*, Wade

ABSENT: Danziger, Erricolo

GUESTS: Timothy Killeen, Barbara Wilson

\*Participated by phone

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

I. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of June 21, 2019

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

Approval of University Senates Conference Organizational Minutes of June 21, 2019

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

II. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor De Groote welcomed members of USC and said that she was excited to be Chair this year. She commented that there has been a lot to talk about the last two years with the Discovery Partners Institute, which she described as an exciting opportunity for all the universities.

III. USC Committee of the Whole Discussion: Preparation for Afternoon Session

The Conference discussed the salary program and the messaging that has gone out about the program, particularly about CMER (compression, market, equity, and retention). The group felt that it was important to have consistent messaging. There were also concerns about how the salary program is administered throughout each university and how some units were not feeling much relief even with the budget increase.

The Conference also discussed the decision-making process for educational policy items.

---

<sup>1</sup>Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of September 23, 2019

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

IV. Old Business - Action Items

1. OT-358. Five-Year Faculty Hiring Plan. USC Statement distributed 6/26/19.

This item was approved for removal from the agenda.

V. New Business

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

Thursday, September 19, 2019

Urbana

Magic Wade

3. OT-361. System-wide committee to develop a process for identifying terminated employees who are not eligible for rehire.

Professor De Groote said that Jami Painter from System Human Resources asked USC to identify faculty, one from each university, to participate on a system-wide committee. Professor Michael Strosio volunteered to serve. Professor Kar said that he would check with members of another committee whose members might be a good fit for this committee. Professor Tolliver indicated that she would serve if no one else from UIUC was willing. Professor Strahle said that she would try to find someone from UIS.

4. OT-362. University Senates Conference 2019 Retreat.

The Conference discussed plans and specific topics for the USC retreat on September 23 and 24 at the Discovery Partners Institute in Chicago.

VI. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

5. 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 De Groote asked if there were comments on the report from the DPI Academic Governance Advisory Group (AGAG). Professor Tolliver questioned the wording in the report that discusses programs that are housed at DPI. Professor De Groote said that all programs have to be approved at one of the universities, but the course could be taking place at DPI. Professor Tolliver also raised concerns over Principle II (3) which indicates that DPI may independently offer programs and certifications. The group discussed other programs that are offered independently, such as MOOCs and certificates for continuing education, although these are generally originated at one of the universities.

Professor Burbules raised concern with the language that these programs are only subject to occasional review, adding that there should be accountability. The group discussed the future iteration of AGAG. Professor De Groote responded that there needs to be a group to form the governance of DPI and write the bylaws. Some concerns were raised with the procedure for constituting the DPI executive committee. Professor Tolliver asked if the procedures assigning credit and determining how students take classes were different than what had been previously discussed. Professor De Groote said that the home department has to make these determinations. Professor Tolliver also questioned the process for the home university reimbursing the host university. Professor De Groote responded that this has been discussed, but there needs to be more of an official policy. Professor Tolliver felt that the executive committee should also advise the director on budget issues. Professor De Groote said that the comments regarding the AGAG report could be put into USC's formal recommendation.

(The meeting recessed at 12:00 p.m. for lunch, and resumed at 1:20 p.m.)

#### VII. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Barbara Wilson

President Killeen described a strong state of the University System. He viewed the increase in funding from the state as a statement of support for higher education. The President noted several construction projects at each university, adding that there is a lot of deferred maintenance to address. He also discussed academic and staff programs, such as the Initiative to Celebrate the Impact of the Arts and the Humanities, Start My Research, and Know Your U. President Killeen said that the University will be launching a shuttle service between Chicago and Urbana in October. There will be departures from each city three times a day.

President Killeen said that enrollment is at an all-time high. Philanthropy has doubled under the Altogether Extraordinary philanthropic campaign, with each university having its own campaign. The hospital at UIC is in the black and patient visits are up. The distinguished faculty recruitment program has led to 14 hires. Executive Vice President Wilson commented that these initiatives underscore the planning function that the University has undertaken from encouragement from the Board. The universities have five-year strategic plans for enrollment and faculty hiring and ten-year plans for capital. President Killeen stressed the importance of shared governance in these plans. He said that USC would be asked to provide advice on the new guiding principles draft documents that came out of the Board retreat as well as a draft document on external speakers. The group briefly discussed how to be forward leaning on the instructional front and how to engage students in continuous education.

President Killeen remarked that the Board of Trustees approved a resolution in support of the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) and, subsequently, the Illinois Board of Higher Education approved DPI as a temporary institute of the University of Illinois System. He commented that this is a huge and unique milestone for the University. Executive Vice President Wilson thanked USC members for their hard work in getting this done.

President Killeen discussed the Board of Trustees retreat that was held in July. The outcome will be guiding principle documents on the topics discussed at the retreat. He indicated that

USC will be asked to vet the draft documents soon. Executive Vice President Wilson commented that there were excellent speakers, a broad base of participants, and great conversations.

President Killeen said that the President's Executive Leadership Program (PELP) is starting its fifth round. He thanked USC for making a nomination. The initiative began as a way to think about succession planning and leadership training. It has evolved into a great opportunity for faculty and administrative leaders to have concentrated time to think about big picture issues that affect the University. There are four sessions that rotate among the three universities and D.C. The deans, directors, and department heads are asked for nominations for PELP. 12-15 people are picked each year. USC is the only group that is given a slot in PELP. Executive Vice President Wilson commented that the UIC Provost has a leadership program and UIUC has the Big Ten Academic Alliance.

There was a discussion of the roles and authority over educational policy issues. President Killeen said that there had been no fundamental change in the direction or an aberration of faculty responsibility. Executive Vice President Wilson explained that the Board's Academic and Student Affairs Committee had a question about a particular educational policy item. Since the question could not be answered at their meeting the item was removed but, now that the question has been answered, it is back on the agenda.

(The Business Meeting continued from the morning session.)

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

Professor De Groote said that meetings would be scheduled with the alumni leaders of each university. There was a discussion of current ways various units incentivize alums to make connections and what could be done to improve alumni relations.

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

Professor De Groote asked for suggestions to be included in her report to the Board in September.

8. 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.

9. 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.

10. 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.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. 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.
14. ST-83. Revisions to the *Statutes* – new proposed revisions and proposed revisions from ST-77 that need further discussion (B File).
15. 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.

[Items 8-15] Professor Burbules commented that there has been a long, multi-year process of revising the *Statutes* and *General Rules*. The two big packets, ST-77 and GR-46 are still being considered by the UIUC Senate. The suggestions from the three senates will be brought to USC, and then go back to the senates. The second set of statutory changes, ST-83, will be held back until ST-77 goes through.

## 16. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

The Conference discussed guests to invite.

## 17. USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting report:

Thursday, July 25, 2019

Chicago

Sandy De Groote

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

No new information.

## 19. University Updates.

UIUC update – Professor Kar is the new Chair of the UIUC SEC. The senate is working on revising its bylaws.

UIS update – The campus has been notified that there will be academic reorganization, specifically merging units.

UIC update – The new Law School is operational.

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

There were no updates.

## 21. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee

Aria Razfar, Chair

Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee

Roy Campbell, Chair

Statutes and Governance Committee

Nick Burbules, Chair

Professor De Groote asked the committees to be sure to send a representative to each Board committee meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

Professor Burbules moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Professor Brennan and approved by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.