

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Wednesday, September 20, 2017

PLACE: Student Center West, Chicago

PRESENT: Brennan, Burbules, DeBerry-Spence, De Groote, Erricolo, Francis, Johnson*, Kalita, Karri, LaDu, Li, Maher, Novak (Vice Chair), Rao (Chair), Razfar, Tolliver, Vincent, Weech

ABSENT: Miller, Wheeler

GUESTS: Laura Clower, Avijit Ghosh, Timothy Killeen, Barbara Wilson*

* Participated by phone.

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

I. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson

President Killeen said that state funding is coming in, although slowly for general revenue funds. FY19 budget planning is taking place, and the Board will have a report in November. The budget request maintains funding at the FY17 level, which is the same as the FY15 budget. He and Vice President Wilson attended a meeting of presidents and chancellors recently. One topic was how to approach a request for funds to fill the gap created in 2016, which created a big hole in the budgets of state higher education institutions. Beth Purvis, the Illinois Education Secretary, has resigned. The President will be meeting the person who will fill that role later in the day.

President Killeen commented on building projects at each campus. Construction of a combination dorm and classroom building at UIC is scheduled to begin in December. The project is a public/private partnership. Responding to a question, Dr. Ghosh said that the University is still working hard to get approval for long-term leases for buildings with private partnerships. However, this was not needed for this particular project. President Killeen said that the ribbon cutting for the UIS student union is planned for mid-January. Students are excited about the building. At UIUC, in addition to the new Design Center building, there have been several successful refurbishing projects, such as Lincoln Hall and the Natural History Building. The President noted that these projects have not been funded by the state. The University prepares a capital budget request each year. The current request is for \$893M. However, the state has not provided capital funds for over ten years.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of October 24, 2017

IPAC 2.0 will be a business-friendly bill. Hearings for the next state budget will be in March. The University will need to continue its advocacy push.

President Killeen reported on the fundraising campaign. Each University will have a kick-off event between mid and late October. The campaign has raised 40% of the goal in the quiet phase. There will now be three alumni associations, one at each university, and an Alumni Alliance, which will provide support and coordination where appropriate. Vice President Wilson said that 98% of advancement gifts are restricted, targeted mostly for research, scholarships, faculty named positions, and building and infrastructure support. This can be confusing to legislators who think that endowment money can be used to fill in budget gaps. Advancement money is not used for regular salaries. Vice President Wilson commented that the U of I's endowments are low compared to its peers. Contact with alums needs to be ramped up. Many have not been in touch with the University for many years. Faculty can be key in connecting with them. Marketing also needs to be ramped up. She and Jim Moore, President and CEO of the Foundation, are working to bring in the U of I legislative caucus to meet with members of the Foundation to discuss how donor funds are used.

President Killeen commented that a small external group will be coming to look at the treasury operations, specifically the way funds are managed internally. This includes the operation pool of around \$2.3B and the endowment component.

President Killen said that enrollment numbers are mostly in line with the strategic enrollment plan. The number of applications has gone up, and student excellence has not declined. Dr. Ghosh reminded the group that most public universities in Illinois are losing enrollment. Vice President Wilson reported that freshman enrollment numbers are down at UIS by 7% and at UIUC by 1%. Freshman enrollment at UIC is up 23%. UIS graduate enrollment has declined. The President and Chancellor Koch will be going to India to try to regain the number of students that come to UIS as graduate students.

Vice President Wilson discussed a first-ever recruiting event that the University held in southern Illinois in conjunction with SIU and EIU. Well over 100 students attended along with family and friends totaling 400. There was a college fair, luncheon, and student panel discussion. All students who attended are college ready and will receive a waiver of the application fee. The students will be tracked to see what effect the recruiting effort might have had. President Killeen commented that there have been meetings with Chicago Public Schools and Chicago City Colleges to discuss ways to keep students in Illinois.

There was a concern that increases in class size might have caused UIUC's ratings to drop in *U.S. News and World Report*. The concern was not so much about the rating, but rather that increased enrollments might be increasing class sizes and stretching the faculty thinner. Vice President Wilson responded that increases in class size would not be due to undergraduate enrollment since the freshman numbers are down, but rather to the declining number of faculty. President Killeen said that the University cannot be driven by ratings. Dr. Ghosh said that U.S. News has a peculiar way of measuring class size, so the results might be misleading. It was mentioned that students do care about rankings, even if we do not like the methodology used. Vice President Wilson said that yield is going down

nationally because students tend to apply to more places. The most common reason for students not coming to the University is high tuition and low financial aid. There was a suggestion that the University take advantage of its extension services to connect with students throughout the state. It was mentioned that perhaps online enrollment should be counted differently in terms of student/teacher ratio since one of the purposes is to education a larger number of students in a way that does not require hiring more faculty.

The group briefly discussed the recruitment of international students. There was a comment that the University does not provide scholarships for international graduate students, which sometimes results in the recruitment of wealthy students rather than the best minds.

Vice President Wilson discussed the Distinguished Faculty Recruitment Program. Criteria is posted on the Vice President's website. The program is small but important in attracting 10-15 highly distinguished star and rising star faculty each year over the next three years. There will not be any deadlines or cycles, but rather a rolling process for submitting proposals. Each proposal is required to have support from the dean and provost. Matching funds will be provided to the units whose proposals are approved. The proposals will be evaluated by the President, the Executive Vice President, and the Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation. President Killeen suggested that the Senates Conference serve as the evaluation group at the end of three years.

President Killeen reported that there are 26 co-sponsors of the IPAC bill, which will be re-introduced during the November veto session. There will be new elements in the bill, including pension reform and a workforce development component. The President commented that the two newest pension tiers are not competitive.

President Killeen said that the IBHE has some useful data and tools for topics such as student loss in the state and tracking graduates in their careers. The group discussed suggestions that have been circling around that public universities in the state should be more coordinated and boards should consolidated. Also discussed was IBHE's different approaches to supporting public vs. private institutions.

President Killeen discussed support of DACA students. Each university has plans to provide support. Students are well networked even though there is not a database and there are no official groups.

Vice President Wilson commented on changes being made to her faculty advisory group. She would like to have more frequent meetings that are shorter in length of time and meet mostly by videoconference. There will be ten faculty members; three from USC. Vice President Wilson does not anticipate there to be items discussed that could not be brought back to USC.

President Killeen said that there was a mini-retreat of the President's Faculty Fellows. The gathering was useful for sharing information and finding opportunities for collaboration.

President Killeen said that the first gathering of the President's Executive Leadership Program will be in D.C. Subsequent events will be at each university. Vice President Wilson reported that there were 60 nominations for the group of 15.

Professor Burbules led a discussion on the process for revising the *Statutes* and the *General Rules*. He thanked President Killeen and Vice President Wilson for all of their work on the documents. Professor Burbules described a process for a path forward that the Conference would be considering during the afternoon business meeting. "File A" would include language that is ready to go to the Board. This language includes revisions that have been accepted and revisions that have not been accepted and therefore have reverted back to the original language. "File B" would include language that needs further consideration and new language, both of which would have to go back to the senates. President Killeen mentioned that there will be a new set of changes to reflect the system language. Professor Burbules added that the Conference will consider bringing the set of changes to the next meeting.

The group discussed concerns that have been heard from UIC faculty. The west side is not unionized and the merit based increases are not keeping up with inflation. The east side pays union dues and yet is not receiving salary increases. The President commented that the budget impasse has caused the University to lose traction. The system sets the overall guidelines, then each university determines how to move forward.

President Killeen concluded the session in saying that good news is starting to flow. He hopes that the faculty will engage and voice optimism.

II. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Rao clarified that calling into the meeting is provided for USC members and its invited guests. Since there is a physical meeting location, the public and the press can attend in person. Professor Rao said that internal regulatory burdens might be brought up in the future as a topic for discussion. She then thanked the Executive Committee members for their contributions on planning the retreat.

III. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of August 25, 2017

Professor Maher moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded by Professor Novak. Several amendments were proposed: Professor Novak – Page 2, par. 2, change "FY16" to "FY15" to read "The President noted that the FY16 budget was never fully funded"; Professor Miller - Page 5, par. 2, add the clause "namely the president" to read "Professor Miller noted that the proposed change represents the only instance where one person, namely the president, is able to initiate revisions rather than a body that has collectively been convinced that a revision should be proposed"; Professor Rao – Page 5, last sentence, correct the spelling of "Rao"; Professor Rao – Page 6, OT-339, par. 1, change "where" to "whereas" to read "The latter is only sent to USC, whereas the report is sent to". Professor Brennan pointed out a typographical error in the section of the minutes on the executive session. The minutes as amended were voted on and approved by voice vote.

IV. 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.

Professor Karri moved to approve the classification of senate minutes. Professor LaDu seconded the motion. By voice vote, the proposed classifications were approved.

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

1. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, September 18, 2017

- EP.17.74 Proposed Revisions to the Guidelines for General Education Courses (GB.91.02)
- EP.18.02 Proposal to Revise the Curriculum of the Master of Music, Instrumental Conducting – Wind Band Concentration from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- EP.18.03 Proposal to Revise the Curriculum of the Doctor of Musical Arts, Instrumental Conducting – Wind Band Concentration, in the School of Music from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- EP.18.04 Proposal to Revise the Undergraduate Minor in History from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- EP.18.06 Report of Administrative Approvals through August 24, 2017
- EP.18.07 Report of Administrative Approvals through September 11, 2017

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

2. University of Illinois at Springfield, September 15, 2017

Res. 47-1 Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article XIII, Section 8, to Authorize the President to Propose Amendments to the *Statutes*

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

3. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, September 17, 2017

uNc,s EQ.18.01 Resolution on Planned Termination of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals Policy

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

Professor Rao asked if anyone had comments regarding the morning discussion. Professor Karri felt that there needed to be an analysis as to whether the increase in UIC enrollment might be related to the decrease in UIS enrollment. Professor LaDu responded that a substantial portion of the increase in undergrads at UIC is due to an alliance with junior colleges in the area. Professor Vincent added that UIC has bumped up marketing and recruitment efforts. Professor Tolliver noted that Professor Novak, USC representative to the Enrollment Management Policy Counsel, provided a report on enrollment numbers. Professor Karri said that he still felt that there should be an analytical study of the enrollment numbers. Professor Kalita commented that the enrollment management offices at each university share information and best practices. Professor Novak said that EMPC is interested to find out why freshman numbers dropped at UIS and UIUC, but it is difficult to determine causes. Professor Rao said that she could see where sharing information could be helpful, but a lot of judgement cannot be made from one year. Professor Karri also commented on the admissions governance structure differences at each university.

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

1. 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.

Professor Rao commented that USC has received feedback from President Killeen and Vice President Wilson on the revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* documents. She expressed appreciation to them and to Legal Counsel and Professor Burbules for all of their hard work. She referred to the document sent by the Statutes and Governance Committee on a proposal for moving forward. There are some proposed changes to the *Statutes* that have been approved by the senate, USC, and the President. These revisions are defined in the document as part of File A, which could be sent to the President and moved forward rather than waiting on unresolved issues and new items. The unresolved issues and new items would be part of File B. Professor Rao hoped that everyone could feel comfortable with the set of changes that are approved to go forward and the set of changes that will go back to the senates. She noted that the *General Rules* do not have to go back to the senates but could be sent on to the President after USC reviews the revisions.

Professor Burbules discussed the proposed path forward. He commented that the people who started the review process on the documents are no longer with the University. He and Professor Tolliver are the only ones who have had a continuous role in the revisions process. Professor Burbules said that President Killeen and Vice President Wilson went through the documents line by line and agreed to some of the revisions, disagreed with some of the revisions, reverted back to the original language on some, and added new language.

Professor Burbules said that the first proposal in the path forward document is to divide the revisions into two categories. The first category, the A file, is everything that has already been approved by the senates. This category is ready to be sent to the President for transmission to the Board. The new proposed revisions, which are in the B file, will have to go through the approval process. However, there is no need to hold up the items where there is no disagreement. Professor Burbules said that the approved revisions would still fall under ST-77, and the rest could be put into a new ST item. He made a motion to divide the revisions into an A file and a B file. Professor Maher seconded the motion.

Professor Maher agreed with the concept, but wanted to know which items would move forward and which items would be reconsidered. Professor Burbules responded that any proposed revisions that anyone wants to keep open for discussion could be put into the B file. He asked USC members to let him know which items should not move forward at this time, including proposed revisions that have reverted back to the current language in the President's document. Professor Maher said that he felt the revisions to the Nondiscrimination Statement needed further consideration. Professor Burbules agreed and commented that the statement is actually part of ST-81. Professor Tolliver suggested that USC members do a close reading of the track changes to be clear on what is being proposed to move forward and what is not. There were concerns about revisions that were rejected by the President.

Professor Tolliver reminded the Conference that the *Statutes* indicate that the president will transmit the proposed revisions from the senates and USC to the Board. Professor Burbules added that the Board would see all of the proposed changes that the senates approved. Professor De Groote said that USC should decide how to deal with items where there is disagreement with the President. Professor Rao suggested that the members of the USC Statutes and Governance Committee look at the A file and bring them back to USC. In the meantime, USC members can send recommendations to the committee. Professor Burbules encouraged all USC members to review the document and send comments to the SGC. He asked if USC agreed to the concept of an A file and a B file. After some members expressed concern over proposed revisions that the President did not agree with, Professor Burbules clarified that the document that is moved forward, the A file, would include all proposed senate revisions but would be annotated as not being accepted by the President. He again stressed that any items where there are significant concerns can be moved to the B file for further consideration. Professor Maher felt that there might need to be more steps in the classification process since rejected items can have different paths. Professor Brennan felt that there needed to be another mechanism for extracting the items that were refused by the President so that they do not disappear.

Professor Rao asked if USC was ready to vote on the motion. Professor Karri asked about the process for going through the revisions. Professor Rao said that the SGC would work on these. Professor LaDu called for a vote and Professor Tolliver seconded the motion. The motion was approved with two opposing votes. Having no further discussion, Professor Burbules restated the motion. The A file is the document that will go forward to the President and the Board and the B file needs further work. Professor Maher clarified that USC would have the opportunity to see the final files. The motion was approved with one opposing vote.

Professor Burbules said that the B file would include the definition of the faculty. Once the definition is decided on, every instance of “faculty” in the *Statutes* will need to be reviewed.

Professor Karri was concerned with the limited amount of time that the SGC had to review the documents. Professor Rao understood and commented that what USC is doing today is only deciding on the process to move forward, specifically the A file and B file. Professor Maher said that he felt it was USC’s job to facilitate the work of the senates. The senates should be aware of what has been proposed, what was modified by the president, and what needs further review. Professor Brennan felt that the senates should be notified as to what was not accepted. Professor Tolliver clarified that a process as such is not defined in the *Statutes*, but USC could do this as an ethical reason. Professor Burbules said that the senates can reintroduce language that is not approved if the language is felt to be significant. He said that Vice President Wilson’s letter should be sent to the senates as it provides details as to why certain decisions were made.

Professor Burbules proposed that USC set aside an hour at the next meeting to discuss *General Rules* revisions with the President. It was clarified that *General Rules* changes do not go to the senates unless they are part of the section on intellectual property.

Professor Rao asked if this would be enough time for members to review the document since USC will also be making comments on the *Statutes A* and *B* files. Professor Burbules commented that the *General Rules* changes are not as significant as the *Statutes* changes. Professor Tolliver clarified that it was not being suggested that the *B* file of statutory changes would be ready by the next meeting. Professor Karri moved to proceed with discussing the *General Rules* with the President at the October meeting. Professor Brennan seconded the motion. The motion was approved by voice vote with one opposing vote.

Professor Burbules said that he would write a summary of what was decided on during the meeting.

VII. New Business

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

Thursday, November 16, 2017

Chicago

Aria Razfar

VIII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

3. 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.

This item was not discussed.

4. 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.

This item was not discussed.

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. Passed UIC Senate 9/29/16. Transmitted to Vice President Wilson 11/22/16.

This item was not discussed.

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. Passed UIS Senate 9/23/16. Passed UIC Senate 10/26/16. Transmitted to President 12/5/16.

This item was not discussed.

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

This item was not discussed.

8. OT-340. Search for a Vice President/Chief Financial Officer.

Professor Rao said that Professor Villegas has agreed to come and report to USC at a future meeting.

9. OT-341. USC 2017 Retreat.

Professor Rao commented that the retreat would begin in the evening and continue tomorrow.

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

Professor Rao asked for ideas for the next report, which will be November 16.

11. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

The Conference discussed guests to invite.

12. Report of USC Observer to Board of Trustees meeting:

Thursday, September 7, 2017 Urbana Bettina Francis

Professor Francis said that she would send a written report.

13. Campus Updates.

Professor Karri said that the UIS Senate passed the new language to ST-79.

Professor Francis said that Urbana is searching for a provost and candidates were coming to the campus this week.

14. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee
Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee

Kathy Novak, Chair
Harley Johnson, Chair

Hospital and Health Affairs Committee
Statutes and Governance Committee

Nick Burbules, Chair

There were no reports.

15. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: Enrollment Management Policy Council (Novak); President's Executive Leadership Program (Johnson); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (DeBerry-Spence, Novak, Tolliver); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (TBD).

Professor Novak provided a report on the Enrollment Management Policy Council meeting.

IX. Adjournment

Professor Karri moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Professor Razfar and approved by voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 3:55 p.m.