

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Friday, October 24, 2008

PLACE: Room 206 Student Center West, UIC

PRESENT: Burbules, Chambers, Eisenhart (Vice Chair), Finnerty, Jones, Kaufman (Chair),
Massat, O'Brien, Weech, Wood

ABSENT: Chapman-Novakofski, Fisher, Gillet, Koronkowski, Langley, Schacht, Strom,
Tolliver, Wheeler

GUESTS: Walter Knorr, Mrinalini Rao, Joseph White

Professor Elliot Kaufman, Chair, called the University Senates Conference to order at 10:00 a.m.

I. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of September 23, 2008

The minutes were approved as written.

II. 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.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of December 16, 2008

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

1. University of Illinois at Springfield, September 26, 2008

R38-5 Create the UIS Center for Online Learning, Research, and Services (COLRS) as a Temporary Center

2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 6, 2008

EP.09.02 Rename BALAS in Religious Studies to BALAS in Religion

EP.09.03 Establish a BALAS in Gender and Women's Studies

EP.09.04 Revision to the BSLAS: Astronomy

EP.09.05 Revision to Undergraduate Minor in Astronomy

EP.09.06 Minor in Community Based Art Education

EP.09.07 Graduate Minor in College Teaching

EP.09.08 Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.)

EP.09.09 Revision of Stage Management Concentration

EP.09.10 Revision of the B.A.: Teaching of Spanish

EP.09.11 Revision of the Undergraduate Major in the Sciences/Letters Curriculum in Mathematics

EP.09.13 Interdisciplinary Minor in Asian American Studies

EP.09.14 Terminate the Professional Writing Concentration of the Rhetoric Major

EP.09.16 Proposed Undergraduate Minor in Speech and Hearing Science, AHS

EP.09.17 Revision to currently offered Master of Art in Art Education

EP.09.18 Masters of Education in Art Education

EP.09.19 Rename the M.A. in Speech Communication to Communication

3. University of Illinois at Springfield, October 10, 2008

R38-8 MIS Curriculum Changes

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

4. University of Illinois at Springfield, September 26, 2008

R38-7 Proposed Revisions to the Statutes, Article VIII, Changes in Academic Organization (ST-66)

Explanation of File NumbersST - University of Illinois *Statutes*GR - *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*

BG - University Administration Budget and Benefits Study Committee

NC - Nominating Committee

OT - All other items

III. Old Business – Action Items

1. OT-246. Appointment of USC Members to serve on the Management Teams and other committees: Academic Affairs; External Relations; Technology and Economic Development; and University Technology.

	<u>2007-08</u>	<u>2008-09</u>
AAMT*:	Vernon Burton Elliot Kaufman Pat Langley	Nicholas Burbules* Kathryn Eisenhart Elliot Kaufman
ERMT:	Barclay Jones	Barclay Jones
TED Cabinet:	Elliot Kaufman	Donald Chambers Matthew Wheeler
UTMT:	Ann Weller	Gerald Strom

*Customarily, the current chair, vice chair, and past chair serve on AAMT. Vernon Burton, past chair, relinquished his seat on USC and AAMT. The Conference approved the appointment of Nicholas Burbules. Other appointments were made at the August and September Senates Conference meetings.

IV. Executive Session

Vice President Rao said that she appreciated the interest the Conference had in the tuition and fees process. There will continue to be a university-wide Tuition and Fees Executive Committee and campus committees. The university-level committee was established when guaranteed tuition was being considered. This group increases communication between University Administration and the campuses and provides information on the incremental budget system and how allocations are made. The committee may not be able to accept all recommendations made by the faculty and the students, but recommendations and concerns will be addressed. Vice President Rao summarized that the Tuition and Fees Executive Committee provides education, communication, and feedback. She said to let her know if committee members, whether on the university committee or a campus committee, do not feel like they are being heard. The Conference requested that faculty become involved in the process as soon as possible.

Regarding the proposed changes to *The General Rules* that concern intellectual property and courseware ownership (GR-40), Vice President Rao said that both she and President White would like to consult with Legal Counsel before moving the proposal forward. Professor Finnerty, who was involved in drafting the language, said that he consulted with Legal Counsel. Professor Kaufman said that it was important to address faculty concerns in the current language soon. Other considerations related to different groups of employees could be addressed separately.

Vice President Rao reported that the Multi-Institutional Degrees Committee has created a concept document that outlines University-wide guidelines to be used if the University enters into such an agreement with another institution. The document will be presented to the Board of Trustees for consideration. The other document is a specific request for approval of a joint-degree program that the UIUC Chemical Engineering department wishes to offer in collaboration with the National University of Singapore. The latter document is going through the normal UIUC Senate review process for academic programs. She said that she would send the concept document to the Conference.

Vice President Rao clarified that the department head first responds in the exit interview process, and then the person leaving receives a questionnaire. She did not know if those who retire but still have an appointment receive the questionnaire.

Vice President Rao said that the Board has asked how the University handles conflict management. Several issues are being explored, such as improving training and educating unit leaders, faculty education and orientation, looking into electronic reporting, and clarifying conflicts associated with teaching.

Professor Kaufman told President White, who joined the meeting, that the Conference views the proposed language to *The General Rules* as clarification. The faculty have been told that faculty own their courseware. However, some changes made to *The General Rules* a year or so ago indicate that special projects might default to the University. He requested that the clarification not be delayed.

President White confirmed that Vice President Rao is getting faculty involved in the process to modify the state ethics training for university employees. The University Ethics Office has been given the task of rewriting the training.

President White distributed a draft Board item on the Global Campus. He said that the document stresses how important it is for the U of I to offer a high-quality education that is accessible and affordable. While there are some concerns, the University always makes efforts to achieve high quality. The President does not believe that this can be said for accessibility and affordability. For a long time, the University has educated around 70,000 students a year. That number has not been increasing, but the price keeps going up.

President White said that the main purpose of the Global Campus is to increase access to an affordable, quality education. This has not been working. Global Campus is not getting the programs that are needed. The portfolio is not being filled. He added that he has a no-fault attitude, in that it is not a reasonable expectation for people who are already busy to take on the extra work. He reminded the Conference of the four options for moving the Global Campus ahead that he presented at the September USC meeting. The last option was to seek accreditation for the Global Campus.

President White responded to the Conference's recent letter concerning the Global Campus. Regarding process, the original proposal for the Global Campus describes partnerships for offering programs, but the proposal is silent on accreditation. The March 13, 2007 Board item indicates that Global Campus will be a unit organized at the University level. Global Campus will partner with departments and faculty except when not feasible, in which case Global Campus may work with other institutions. The President said that, since Global Campus has not been able to offer students what they want and since he does not favor working with other institutions, he prefers that Global Campus obtain its own accreditation. This would not mean creating a new campus. He believes it is best to keep things simple by having a streamlined organization. The President said that the Global Campus focuses on a different group of students than that of the physical campuses. He does not believe there will be cannibalizing.

Regarding the President's no-fault stance, Professor Burbules said that he sees multiple factors. Unless there are frank discussions on why the Global Campus has not worked – hard feelings, lack of trust, broken relationships – structural changes will not be adequate enough to fix the problems. Professor Eisenhart commented that UIS does a good job of offering quality education that is accessible and affordable.

President White said that there would be an educational policy committee or council that would include members from partnering units or colleges. The UIC Senate Bylaws would be used as a template. Professor Kaufman recommended that there be unbiased members; people who are not in charge of any Global Campus programs.

Regarding degrees, the President said that Global Campus degrees will be handled the same as campus degrees. The diploma would say University of Illinois, but would not distinguish a campus or Global Campus, although the transcripts would.

President White said that the Global Campus will have a portfolio of programs. There will be high-demand programs as well as some high price programs that make money for departments.

President White said that credentials for Global Campus faculty will be established by faculty. High teaching practices must be maintained. There may be teaching specialists and subject experts, with the emphasis on intellectually active faculty. The President commented that the University has a shrinking tenure, tenure-track faculty. Global Campus may be one way to resume growth of tenure system faculty.

The President was asked how accreditation costs would be funded. President White responded that the University is making an investment. Global Campus is being funded on a line of credit. The intention is for the money to be recouped and paid back. Right now, we are on a path that will take longer to break even. If Global Campus gets the programs that are needed up and running, the line of credit will be paid back sooner. As far as costs for the actual accreditation process, he replied that there are people in place who can accomplish this.

President White said that, despite a lot of uncertainties and anxieties, he hopes there is a shared commitment in improving access to an affordable education and that there is the intention of continuing the Global Campus.

Professor Chambers commented that there needs to be a clarification: the University should provide access and affordability to “qualified” students. While there is the responsibility for the University to provide the education, those who accept also have a responsibility. President White agreed.

Professor Burbules mentioned that young people are learning and communicating in new ways. The University needs to recognize the different styles of learning and be open to a blended, hybrid model.

V. Guest

Vice President Knorr provided an update on the University’s budget situation and discussed the financial climate at the national and state levels. He said that the University divested from common funds held by Wachovia this spring when liquidity became a concern the previous fall. Those common funds were shut down the beginning of the month. Overall, there has been a \$1M true loss in short-term bonds. All pension funds are in long-term security lendings.

Vice President Knorr reported that there has been a 20% increase in the endowment and investments. However, the University is down \$35M in the market. On the debt side, variable interest rates went from 2.5% to 8%, but have come back down to 3%.

Vice President Knorr said that the 2009 state appropriation for the University was \$747M, but as of today, the University has received only \$54M. This has put a hardship on our

cash flow. The state is \$2.4B behind on paying its bills. The University falls behind payroll, debt service, and health care benefits in the state's priority in paying its bills. There is a high probability that there will be a rescission. If so, the academic mission – faculty and research – will be protected from rescission efforts. The University's budget is 80% personnel. He also mentioned that the state appropriated \$802M to the University six years ago.

When asked about reserve funds, Vice President Knorr responded that UA reserve funds have been used for debt service, hospital liability, health care payments, and deferred maintenance. The campuses' reserves are separate.

Vice President Knorr commented that there has been no capital money from the state for seven years. Commitments from the state have not come through, so the University has had to borrow money.

Vice President Knorr said that SURS payouts are guaranteed constitutionally by the state. The funded ratio will drop further, though.

Vice President Knorr said that the state has purchased natural gas at locked in rates for the 2010 budget.

Vice President Knorr told the Conference that the University is making payroll and needs to stay steady on non-personnel costs. By December, if the state has not given us any more money, the University would have to dip into investments.

Professor Kaufman thanked Vice President Knorr for meeting with the Conference.

VI. New Business

2. OT-247. USC Budget.

Professor Kaufman recommended that the Conference consider ways to conduct business more responsibly in view of the budget situation. Suggestions included reducing overnight trips, videoconferencing for some meetings, carpooling, ordering cheaper lunches, and eliminating some or all of the dinners.

VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

3. ST-66. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article VIII – Changes in Academic Organization. Passed UIUC Senate 4/24/06. Transmitted to Senates 7/10/06. Passed UIC Senate 3/15/07. Passed UIS Senate 9/26/08.

The Conference decided to transmit the UIS Senate document to the senates after the USC Statutes Committee identifies and reviews the changes.

4. OT-227. The Global Campus.

Professor Kaufman asked Conference members to send comments in response to the discussion with President White during the Executive Session. He will then send a letter to the President with questions, concerns, and advice. Professor Kaufman said that he agreed with Professor Burbules' comment to the President that more is required than accreditation to fix the Global Campus; structural changes need to be made. Professor Kaufman said that the UIC Senate will consider a draft resolution on October 30. Professor Eisenhart said that the UIS Senate is meeting today to consider a report from a Global Campus task force. Professor Burbules said that the UIUC Senate would consider a report from SEC on November 3.

5. GR-40. Proposed Revisions to *The General Rules*, Article III (Intellectual Property), Sections 1-8, and Article V (University Property), Sections 1-3. Transmitted to Senates 7/10/06. Approved by the Board of Trustees 3/13/07. Supporting Policy Documents to Senates 4/19/07.

The Conference decided to send a letter to the President requesting that the proposed revisions be moved forward quickly. Any additional proposed changes to be considered should be done independently.

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

Professor Chambers said that the VPTED committee sent Vice President Ghosh a list of questions and has received a response. The committee will decide how to proceed.

7. OT-243. Resource Summit.

No new information.

8. OT-244. Pro-Quest Dissertation Publishing.

Professor Kaufman said that he received a response from the Dean of the UIC Graduate College.

9. ST-47. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Articles IX and X, to provide optional multi-year contracts, and related dismissal procedures, for certain academic staff. Passed UIC Senate 10/27/99. Rejected UIS Senate 3/3/00. Multi-Year Contracts Task Force Charged 4/11/02. Request to Senates to Consider MYC Issues 2/13/04. Passed UIUC Senate 2/14/05. Passed UIC Senate 4/28/05. Passed UIS Senate 5/6/05. Transmitted to Senates 1/10/06. Passed UIS Senate 4/7/06. Passed UIUC Senate 4/24/06. Passed UIC Senate 4/2/06. Transmitted to the President 5/12/06. Approved by the Board of Trustees 11/9/06. Campus Procedures – Passed UIC Senate 4/26/07. Passed UIS Senate 3/7/08. Passed UIUC Senate 4/28/08.

Professor Kaufman said that he would compare the procedures of the three campuses.

10. GR-39. Proposed Revisions to *The General Rules*, Article V, Section 4 – Naming of University Facilities and Programs. Transmitted to Senates 1/9/06. Recommendations to the President 2/27/06. Approved by the Board of Trustees 4/11/06. UIC Facility Naming Policy 2/21/07.

No new information.

11. OT-245. 2008 USC Annual Retreat.

Professor Kaufman said that the Conference might want to consider options that would be more fiscally responsible.

12. OT-185. Senate Resolutions on Benefits for Domestic Partners. Passed UIUC Senate 4/23/01. Passed UIS Senate 9/14/01. Letter of reaffirmation of USC support transmitted to the President 11/14/01. Benefits approved by the Board of Trustees 7/17/03.

No new information.

13. OT-218. Proposed Guidelines for Multi-Institutional Degrees. Transmitted to Senates 11/10/05. Approved UIUC Senate 11/5/07.

This item was discussed with Vice President Rao during the Executive Session.

14. OT-219. Future USC Meeting Dates.

No new information.

15. OT-232. Interactions with Legislators.

Professor Kaufman said that plans are still being considered for January.

16. OT-123. Discussion of University Senates Conference guests.

The Conference discussed possible guests to invite to future meetings.

17. Campus Updates.

No updates were reported.

18. OT-142. Update on the Management Teams: Academic Affairs; External Relations; Technology and Economic Development Cabinet; University Technology.

19. Review of Pending Items on the Agenda Addendum.

No new information.

Professor Burbules commented that, once the current intellectual property issues are worked through, he hopes that other related issues can be revisited, such as work for hire, which varies from unit to unit. Some faculty in units own all of their intellectual property, while others are all work for hire, and some units are in between. He believes faculty rights are being eroded. The new commercialized domain of online education has policies that bleed over into other areas. Online courses developed by a faculty member can be revised by the unit and the faculty has no rights to its use. The Conference decided to appoint a committee at the next meeting to look at these issues.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Pending USC Items
October 24, 2008

ST-54. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Section 10 – Nonreappointment of Academic Professional Staff. Passed UIUC Senate 3/19/01. Transmitted to Senates 5/18/01. Passed UIC Senate 9/28/01. Passed UIS Senate 11/30/01. Transmitted to President 2/14/02.

OT-161. Non-Tenure-Track Academic Staff Appointments.

OT-167. Faculty Representation to the Board of Trustees. UIUC Resolution 9/27/99. UIS Resolution 11/5/99. UIC resolution 12/2/99. USC Resolution to Senates 2/3/00. Endorsed by UIS 2/18/00. Endorsed by UIC 3/9/00. Endorsed by UIUC 4/24/00. Transmitted to the President 6/30/00. Transmitted to the Board 7/6/00. Letter from Trustee Eppley institutionalizing process for meetings with Chair of BoT Academic Affairs Committee and senate observers 12/1/04.

OT-202. Review of the *University Senates Conference Organization and Functions*.

OT-210. Tuition and Fees Executive Committee.

OT-211. Process for Selecting Board of Trustees Members.

OT-229. University Administration Reorganization.

OT-231. Shared Governance Issues.

OT-239. Senate Joint Resolution – IBHE master plan for Illinois Higher Education.