

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Wednesday, November 28, 2012

PLACE: Room C, Public Affairs Center, UIS

PRESENT: Andersen, Boltuc (Vice Chair), Burbules (Chair), Campbell, Chambers, Erricolo*, Fadavi*, Fisher, Francis, Gibori, Graber, Leff, Mallory, Mohammadian, Shanahan*, Struble, Tolliver, Villegas

ABSENT: Deberry-Spence, Wheeler

GUESTS: Robert Easter, Susan Koch, Katherine Laing, Christophe Pierre

* Attended by phone

Professor Nicholas Burbules, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

I. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of October 16, 2012

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 January 17, 2013

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

1. University of Illinois at Chicago, October 25, 2012

PR-13.06 Revision of the Concentration in Water Quality and Health, Master of Public Health

CP-13.01 Establishment of a Campus Certificate in Health Disparities Research

B. The following item was classified N by the University Senates Conference:

2. University of Illinois at Springfield, October 26, 2012

sNc,u R42-6 Clarification of Personnel Operating Procedures

R42-7 Doctoral Closure Guidelines

3. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, November 5, 2012

uNc,s SC.13.08 SEC Statement on the Potential Loss of Exemption Authority

EQ.13.01 Resolution on Diversity Values Statement

III. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Burbules asked the Conference members to consider whether time should be made for USC committees to meet on regular USC meeting days. He suggested that each committee invite the chair of the corresponding Board committee to meet with their group.

Professor Burbules provided an update on the editorial process of the *Statutes* and *General Rules*. Three faculty have been added to the committee to determine whether additional changes should be proposed. Professor Lynn Fisher is one of the new committee members. After the proposed revisions go to the Board, Professor Burbules would like for the Conference to transmit the documents to the senates as quickly as possible.

IV. Remarks from the President

President Easter reported that the Board thinks the USC committee structure will provide a good opportunity for interaction between the Board and Senates Conference members.

President Easter discussed the Board of Trustees retreat that will be held on January 23. The focus of the retreat will be online education and its impact on higher education. The retreat in July will focus on the medical enterprise.

President Easter commented that he would like to take the proposed changes to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* concerning the chancellor title to the Board in January.

President Easter said that the state owes the University \$500M in appropriations. He commented on various pension reform proposals. The President said that the University's pension payment obligation should be no more than what it would be putting into social security. The University would like to have the flexibility to go beyond what the state pension system provides. The President said that the University continues to struggle with procurement issues.

President Easter commented that there is a sense that the University is practically and morally at the limit of what can be done with tuition. He believes that the University has the responsibility to provide an affordable education.

V. Meeting with President Easter and Vice President Pierre

President Easter discussed the reorganization of IT at the University level. There are areas where policies throughout the University should be uniform, such as information protection. He commented that it might make sense to have one email system. The President believes there should be a push to find opportunities that increase efficiencies while still having local autonomy. There may be some unnecessary tasks being performed at the University level.

President Easter said that an annual budget review process is being put into place for University Administration. The seven committees that are reviewing the various areas of UA are scheduled to report back in March. Each committee is chaired by a dean and includes faculty and campus administrative officers. Professor Burbules said that the Conference was supportive of the effort. He offered assistance wherever needed. The group discussed the vast number of reports that the University generates, some that are required by government and some that are done at the University's discretion, and thought that many might not be useful or necessary. The President said that Vice President Pierre is working with the IBHE to improve the working relationship. Professor Burbules commented that the campuses will most likely be asked to make difficult decisions in the near future. He felt that it was important for the campuses to know that UA is being reviewed as well. He also felt that it was important to cut administration before cutting the academic core.

Vice President Pierre reported on the activities of the Enrollment Management Policy Council. He plans for the group to meet about once a month and in conjunction with Board meetings when possible. While there have been no tangible actions, there is general agreement of what the challenges are and where the University needs to go. One thing that has emerged from discussions is that enrollment management is really about a system of crafting a student body that will allow the University to achieve its mission. The parameters to adjust include tuition, financial aid, and the number of in-state and out-of-state students. There are competing forces when trying to serve in-state students and

underrepresented students while at the same time trying to increase student quality. The main goal is to give a quality education to the students.

Vice President Pierre said that the yield – the number of students who accept admission offers – has declined. The top reason students decline to come here is financial. Students can often get cheaper tuition or a better financial aid package elsewhere. He added that the University is dealing with access by increasing financial aid. Another pressing issue for the University is to improve the student record system, which does not track student progress.

There was a brief discussion of the academic program review. Vice President Pierre agreed to invite Dr. Richard Wheeler to meet with the Conference to discuss the initiative.

The group discussed ways to encourage cross-campus collaborations and remove some of the disincentives and institutional barriers that inadvertently interfere with them. The President thought there would be increasing opportunities. One problem mentioned was figuring out ways to share rewards. The group encouraged the President to look into seed money and other ways to facilitate collaborations.

President Easter commented that he is concerned with the possibility of the University losing control of the ability to authorize civil service exemptions. He added that it is critical for the University to be able to hire academic professionals in a timely manner.

The meeting recessed for lunch with Chancellor Koch at 12:00 p.m.

VI. Meeting with UIS Chancellor Susan Koch

Chancellor Koch said that UIS is working to grow to 7,000 students. There are currently 5,000 students, with around 1,000 of them living on campus. The growth strategy includes increasing visibility, improving affordability, having competitive faculty salaries, and building a student union. The campus has reorganized its financial aid operation. The diversity of the campus has been greatly increasing. 25% of students are African-American and 16% are Latina. One of the main reasons students do not come to UIS is because of the small number of academic programs that are offered.

Chancellor Koch recognized that UIS would not be the second choice for most students who are not accepted to the Urbana campus. Many are looking for a different experience from what is provided at the UIS campus. However, many students are unaware of the campus and some may decide that a smaller campus experience would be more suitable for them.

Chancellor Koch said that UIS provides a liberal arts foundation for all students, has an emphasis in public affairs, and has an obligation to serve as a regional institution. She added that the institution cannot depend on public affairs as its only strength.

Chancellor Koch commented that students have good things to say about UIS, but would like to have more student on-campus social life and activities. The campus has approved one fraternity and one sorority. UIS also continues to serve non-traditional students. She said that 27 is the average student age.

Chancellor Koch said that UIS continues to develop its strength in online education. She added that technology has provided more opportunities for collaborations.

The meeting reconvened in Room C at 1:20 p.m.

VII. Meeting with Ms. Katherine Laing, Executive Director of Governmental Relations

Ms. Laing reported on the audit of academic professional positions and the threat of the University losing its discretion to decide when to hire academic professionals. So far, the University has been able to keep the proposal from the State University Civil Service System from going forward. Ms. Laing suggested that the Conference speak with Maureen Parks for additional information.

Ms. Laing discussed efforts to get relief from certain state procurement rules. Two years ago, the University was able to get some relief from procurement rules as they apply to ticketed events related to sports and the performing arts. There are still significant problems related to academic research purchases and hospital purchases.

Ms. Laing provided an update on pensions. The legislature is hoping to come back in January and approve pension reform with a simple majority before the 98th General Assembly is sworn in. She commented that it is hard to predict what will happen. Pension reform will most likely include changes to the Tier II plan that is in place for employees who started on or after January 1, 2011. This plan is greatly inferior to what the rest of University of Illinois employees have. Conference members discussed problems with the self-managed plan.

Ms. Laing outlined priorities for the coming year: 1) work on putting a floor under appropriations, which cannot continue to fall, especially if the University will be contributing to the cost of pensions, 2) continue to push for procurement relief, and 3) prevent the state from undermining the University's authority over issues such as tuition waivers for employees' dependents and rehiring of employees.

The business meeting began at 1:55 p.m.

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

VIII. Old Business – Action Items

None.

IX. New Business

1. Board of Trustees Meeting: Thursday, January 24, 2013, Chicago

Designation of Observer: Kouros Mohammadian

Faculty Report: Joyce Tolliver

X. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

2. ST-77/GR-46. Revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules* – Edits and Updates.

Professor Burbules said that the proposed revisions might go to the Board in January. After the Board gives approval, the proposed revisions will follow the normal processes of going to USC, USC will transmit the documents to the senates for consideration, and the senates will report back to USC. The USC Statutes and Governance Committee will be asked to help facilitate the process. Some of the changes are simply editorial or to correct out-of-date information. Other changes are more significant, such as defining the relationship of the University to the campuses and a rewrite of the section on sanctions less than dismissal. Professor Burbules did not know if some issues would be given more time for consideration. Professor Tolliver thought that the USC Statutes and Governance Committee, which she chairs, could sort out which changes were substantive, updating, and stylistic. Professor Burbules commented that, while he is on the committee reviewing the documents, he is also the facilitator for USC recommendations.

3. ST-72. Consideration of the language in the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 (Academic Freedom). Passed UIUC Senate 12/6/10. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 2/7/11. Passed UIC Senate 9/22/11.

Professor Burbules noted that the UIS Senate had first reading on November 30. Professor Boltuc said that the senate will act on the item in December.

4. OT-291. Recommendation to establish Faculty Advisory Committees for all four Vice Presidents.

No new information.

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

The Conference discussed possible guests for future meetings.

6. Campus Updates.

Professor Tolliver reported that the UIUC Graduate Employees Organization voted overwhelmingly to approve a strike. However, last night word was out that a deal had been reached and a contract will be taken to the group for ratification.

The Conference discussed opportunities to interact with and provide advice to the Board.

7. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee	Matthew Wheeler
Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee	Peter Boltuc
Hospital and Health Affairs Committee	Donald Chambers
Statutes and Governance Committee	Joyce Tolliver

Professor Boltuc reported that he has reviewed past materials from the previous budget and benefits committee and the current committee has met twice. Professor Mohammadian attended the last meeting of the Board's Audit, Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee. He and Professor Campbell met with Trustee McMillan the night before the last Board meeting. One of the main issues ahead appears to be financing benefits. He would like to work with the campus-level budget committees.

Professor Tolliver reported that the Statutes and Governance Committee will try to coordinate the advice from the senates concerning the statutory changes regarding the chancellor title before the January USC meeting. She attended the Board's Governance, Personnel and Ethics Committee meeting and the following issues were discussed: All FOIA requests now go to Tom Hardy's Office instead of each campus; a policy on sexual harassment and protection of minors program (presented by Maureen Parks); and the point of responsibility of reviewing the conflict of commitment and interest of the president.

Professor Chambers reported that the Hospital and Health Affairs Committee met the night before. There are issues that need to be resolved regarding the position of Vice President for Health Affairs; in particular how the person relates to the Dean of the College of Medicine and the deans of the Health Sciences. While several health science programs are highly ranked, the College of Medicine and the hospital are not. The Committee plans to meet with the President and various other administrators, faculty, and stakeholders to discuss the appropriate vision and strategy that can be reasonably and rapidly implemented in order to move forward to become a nationally recognized academic health enterprise. Professor Chambers would like to see the Committee be involved in the planning of the summer retreat.

The Conference decided that Professor Tolliver would give the faculty report to the Board of Trustees on the topic of cross-campus collaborations. Professors Boltuc and Chambers will assist in creating the report.

8. Report of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

November 8, 2012

Springfield

Lynn Fisher

9. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: Common Application Consortium (Graber); Enrollment Management Policy Council (Leff); Pre- and Post-Award Research Money Policy group (Wheeler); Strategic Communications and Marketing Council; UI Labs Task Force (Chambers); University Technology Management Team (Campbell); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (Burbules, Chambers, Mohammadian, Villegas); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Boltuc, Chambers, Wheeler).

10. Review of Pending Items.

No new information

XI. Closing Comments from the USC Chair

Professor Burbules said that the *Statutes* require that the apportionment of members from each campus on USC be recalculated every five years. Connie Sailor will perform the recalculation based on current faculty numbers. There will be a report in January.

Professor Burbules reminded the Conference that the Open Meetings Act require all members of a public body to complete OMA electronic training. He said that Connie would send the link to the training to everyone.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Pending USC Items
November 28, 2012

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. Letter to Ikenberry 12/10/09.

OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

OT-248. Intellectual Property Issues.

OT-260. University Information Security Policy.

OT-262. Accelerated Degree Program.

OT-265. Academy on Capitalism and Limited Government Foundation.

OT-268. Administrative Reorganization.

OT-276. Performance Based Funding.

OT-280. Faculty Participation in Shared Governance at University of Illinois.

OT-288. Faculty/Staff Pension and Benefit Issues (formerly Resolution on Pensions/
Pension Reform).