

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

DATE: Thursday, December 10, 2015

PLACE: Room 206 Student Center West, Chicago

PRESENT: Boltuc, Burbules (Chair), Deberry-Spence, De Groot, Erricolo, Francis, Johnson, LaDu, Miller, Mohammadian, Novak, Villegas (Vice Chair), Vincent, Weech

ABSENT: Graber, Jackson, Kalita, Maher, Rao, Wheeler

GUESTS: Michael Amiridis, Timothy Killeen, Christophe Pierre

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

I. Meeting with President Killeen and Vice President Pierre

President Killeen provided an update on the strategic planning process. Each town hall meeting was successful in its own way and summaries have been posted. The town hall meetings included drop-by, open-door discussion sessions. Concerns were expressed about the lack of student involvement in the town hall meetings. The strategic planning steering committee has been meeting regularly. There have been 15-20 focus group sessions. The strategic plan will address branding and marketing issues that will help launch the upcoming philanthropic campaign. A consulting firm is assisting with the strategic planning process. The current strategic planning document is still very preliminary. The President welcomed USC's advice as the process moves forward.

Professor Burbules commented that USC has a draft document with strategic planning recommendations that will hopefully be submitted before the January 5 steering committee meeting. The group discussed the importance of including social justice and student safety issues in the strategic plan. President Killeen commented that he has been working with the three chancellors to bring campus experts together to look at best practices. He added that Professor James Anderson has joined his office as a presidential fellow who will be looking at important matters of inclusiveness and equity across the University.

President Killeen said that efforts have been ratcheted up to persuade Illinois government to approve a budget with funding for higher education. There have been meetings with legislators and top staff of the Governor. Some of the other public universities are concerned about being able to stay open. The President asked for advice concerning various strategies. Suggestions included getting parents of students mobilized to speak out against the effect of the budget impasse on higher education, providing accurate information to faculty since there is misinformation being passed around, and showing the public what will be lost due to cuts in higher education.

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<sup>1</sup>Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of January 25, 2016

The group discussed the implications of the flagship status for the University as a whole and for each campus, the status of UI Labs, and the need for better start-up incentives and assistance for faculty.

Professor Burbules asked the President to comment on the recommendations from the University Administration Review and the UA Budget Review Advisory Committee (BRAC) that have not been implemented. President Killeen responded that the reports are very valuable. There needs to be a deeper look into those recommendations and perhaps even a fresh look at the organizational structure of University Administration.

President Killeen would like to see a multi-year compact with state that would include predictable funding and relief from procurement rules. In turn, the University would demonstrate how funds are used, for example, in ways to improve affordability, accessibility and degree completion, advance economic development and prepare tomorrow's work force. President Killeen said that Vice President Pierre is the architect for the compact proposal.

Vice President Pierre commented that a lot of work went into the UA Review and UA BRAC processes, both of which included a shared governance process. Some of the recommendations have been met with tension, but there have also been positive developments. University Administration interacts with the state, the University Board of Trustees, coordinates with the campuses, and provides administrative services. Some responsibilities could possibly be transferred to the campuses.

Vice President Pierre reported that the working group to review the University Policy on Background Checks endorsed a revised draft document. Professor Novak commented that the UIS Senate would be considering the document the next day. Professor Vincent said that the UIC Senate endorsed the policy and noted that UIC already has a procedure in place because of background checks for those in healthcare. The majority of the concerns are implementation procedures at the campus level. Professor Miller discussed the resolution passed by the UIUC Senate that is not supportive of the policy. She summarized that the policy does not seem to be the right way to be spending the University's money when considering benefits and costs – costs in terms of both dollars and possible implications. She added that there were senate members who supported the policy. She is pleased that there will be faculty input on the committee that will decide whether a candidate with a hit can move forward in the hiring process. Professor Burbules noted that two UIUC Senate committees provided feedback as well. Vice President Pierre said that the working group met often and consulted widely. He felt that the senate reports were constructive and the final draft takes into consideration concerns that have been expressed. He would like to take a document to the Board's GPE Committee on January 7 and then to the full Board on January 21. President Killeen said that he will seek legal advice in response to the UIUC Senate resolution. Professor Burbules commented that one of the most important changes to the document is the ongoing review of how the policy is working.

## II. Meeting with Chancellor Amiridis

Chancellor Amiridis said that a group was appointed to address issues during the transition from having a Vice President for Health Affairs to having a Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs. The report from the group suggested that certain functions should remain unaffected, clinical operations should report to the VCHA, tenure and promotion should remain under the provost but should include recommendation from the VCHA, seven health science colleges should report to the VCHA instead of the provost, and interprofessional education in health sciences should move under the VCHA. There were some issues that the group felt needed more thinking and involvement from others. The chancellor said that these issues should transition to faculty senate committee for resolution. The VPHA position will end on December 31 and the new VCHA position will start on January 1. Dr. Bauman will return to the College of Pharmacy as Dean.

Chancellor Amiridis commented that there should be cross-campus collaboration if it fits well and is not forced. The ability to collaborate with someone here should be as easy to do as with someone at another institution. Obstacles should be removed. The University should make information available that could facilitate opportunities, but this should be done very carefully so not to prevent more successful collaborations. It was suggested that the Vice President for Research and the Vice Chancellors for Research look for opportunities. There could also be collaborative teaching among the campuses.

Chancellor Amiridis discussed the environment on campuses around the country. Members of the community are angry, afraid, and confused. He commented that it is our responsibility to do the best we can to protect our environment. The chancellor also commented on the situation in Springfield. External groups have asked where the outrage is from higher education in Illinois. Appeasement does not work.

## III. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of November 6, 2015

The minutes were approved as written.

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

1. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, November 16, 2015

EP.16.26 Proposal to Revise the 2015-2016 Academic Calendar

EP.16.27 Proposal to Establish an Undergraduate Major in Asian American Studies in the Department of Asian American Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

EP.16.29 Proposal to Revise the Major in Agricultural Leadership and Sciences Education in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

EP.16.30 Proposal to Rename the Graduate School of Library and Information Science to the School of Information Sciences

EP.16.31 EPC Administrative Approvals through November 2, 2015

2. University of Illinois at Springfield, November 20, 2015

Res. 45-07 Change the Name of the Department of Clinical Laboratory Science to Department of Allied Health

3. University of Illinois at Chicago, December 2, 2015

PR-16.08 Establish the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Integrated Health Studies

PR-16.10 Revision of the Doctor of Philosophy in Nursing

PR-16.11 Establish the Master of Science in Comparative Effectiveness Research

PR-16.12 Revision of the Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Revision of the Registered Nurse/Bachelor of Science in Nursing Completion Program

CP-16.02 Elimination of the IBHE-Approved Certificate in Administrative

## Nursing Leadership

- CP-16.03 Elimination of the Campus Certificate in (1) Advanced Practice Cardiometabolic Nursing; (2) Advanced Practice Forensic Nursing; (3) Post-Master's Clinical Nurse Specialist; (4) Post-Master's Nurse Practitioner/Midwifery

4. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, December 7, 2015

- EP.16.25 Proposal to Revise the Curriculum for Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design (BFA in GD), School of Art and Design, College of Fine and Applied Arts
- EP.16.28 Proposal to Revise the Program of Study for the Bachelor of Music Education
- EP.16.32 Proposal to Change Course Requirements in the Undergraduate Engineering Mechanics Curriculum in the Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering
- EP.16.33 Proposal to Revise the Non-thesis Master of Science in Chemistry
- EP.16.34 Proposal to Change two Course Requirements for Master of Science in the Teaching Mathematics in the Department of Mathematics, College of LAS
- EP.16.36 Proposal to Revise LAS Specialized Curriculum in Physics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- EP.16.39 EPC Administrative Approvals through November 30, 2015
- HD.16.01 Nominations for Honorary Degrees

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

5. University of Illinois at Chicago, December 2, 2015

Endorsed the working document titled University of Illinois Policy on Background Checks

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

6. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, December 7, 2015

- SP.16.06 Transmission of Further Comments on the General Revisions to the *Statutes*

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

7. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, December 7, 2015

uNc,s	RS.16.04	Resolution on the Discriminatory Nature of the New University of Illinois Criminal Background Check Policy
	GP.16.02	Comments on the Background Check Policy
	EQ.16.01	Background Check Policy Comments from EQ

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

V. Old Business – Action Items

None.

VI. New Business

1. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

Thursday, January 21, 2016	Chicago	Gay Miller
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2. OT-326. USC Presentations to the Board of Trustees.

The presentation to the Board on January 21 will be on online education and given by Professors Burbules, Mohammadian and Novak.

3. OT-329. Appointments/Confirmation of USC Representatives to External Groups.

USC representation on external committees was reviewed.

Enrollment Management Policy Council:	Sally Jackson
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Pre- and Post-Award Research Money Policy Group:	Matthew Wheeler
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President's Executive Leadership Program:	Gay Miller Kouros Mohammadian
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Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee:	Benet Deberry-Spence Nicholas Burbules Kouros Mohammadian Jorge Villegas
Vice President for Academic Affairs UA Budget Review Advisory Committee:	Kouros Mohammadian Jorge Villegas Matthew Wheeler
Vice President for Finance Faculty Advisory Committee:	Benet Deberry-Spence Beverly Bunch Terry Weech
Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee:	Peter Boltuc Jorge Villegas Matthew Wheeler

## VII. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

4. 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.

No new information.

5. 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.

No new information.

6. 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.

No new information.

7. 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.

Professor Novak reported that the UIS Senate would be considering the language at its meeting the next day. Professor Miller said that USSP has been working on this item.

8. OT-304. Open Access to Research Articles. Transmitted to Senates 10/21/14. Feedback from UIC Senate 10/19/15. Passed UIUC Senate 10/19/15.

The Conference discussed the process for approving a policy. Professor Burbules said that the USC will attempt to reconcile any differences among the senates. He added that the document can be sent back to the senates for approval if needed.

9. OT-310. Recommendation for New Policy Language Related to Classified Research at the University of Illinois. Transmitted to Senates 6/25/14. Passed UIS Senate 9/12/14. Withdrawn UIC Senate 1/29/15. Passed UIUC SEC 4/17/15.

Professor Vincent said that the UIC Senate had concerns that have not been addressed.

10. OT-324. University Policy on Background Checks. USC Statement on Background Checks 8/26/15. UIUC Senate Resolution on Postponement of the Criminal Background Checks 9/21/15. UIC Senate Criminal Background Check Policy Resolution 9/24/15. UIS Senate Postponement of Criminal Background Check Policy Resolution 10/9/15. UIUC Senate Report in Response to the University Policy on Background Checks 10/19/15. UIUC Senate Report in Response to the University Policy on Background Checks 10/19/15. VPAA Working Group document transmitted to Senates 11/12/15. Updated document transmitted to Senates 11/30/15.

The University Senates Conference members discussed how to proceed. No one wanted to revise the language of the recent revised document from Vice President Pierre's working group. However, the Conference decided to not take a vote on the policy, but rather move the document forward. There was agreement that the transmittal letter to the President should include the following points: 1) express appreciation for initiating a process of shared governance at the university level after hearing faculty concerns, 2) state the actions of each senate, pending action by the UIS Senate at its meeting the next day, 3) communicate the consensus opinion that there is concern that the policy has the potential to have a disproportionate impact on certain groups, 4) acknowledge that events across the country have heightened concerns about racial bias, 5) stress the need to review the policy for unintended consequences, and 6) in the future, begin a meaningful shared governance process sooner.



## 11. OT-327. University Strategic Plan.

Professor Burbules commented that he hopes USC can send recommendations to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee before it meets on January 5. He asked for comments and suggestions concerning the most recent version of the document.

Professor Johnson had concerns with the section that measures and indexes diversity. He suggested focusing on climate, marginalization, and support systems. Professor Deberry-Spence did not object to measurements, but felt it was more important to focus on the real issues. Professor LaDu thought the document should have social justice and student safety issues threaded throughout. Professor Miller said that the USC AAR Committee was looking at cross-campus collaboration issues and commented that Chancellor Amiridis had resilient comments about the issue. Professor Burbules asked her committee to work on this section of the document. He also asked the FBB Committee to look at Section 8 and provide some bullet points.

Professor Burbules asked Conference members to send any additional comments they might have to him.

## 12. OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

No new information.

## 13. OT-320. Salary increments and campus budgeting priorities.

No new information.

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

The Conference discussed possible future guests.

## 15. Report of USC Observer to Board of Trustees Meeting:

Thursday, November 12, 2015  
USC Report

Chicago

Meena Rao  
Danilo Erricolo

## 16. Campus Updates.

There were no campus updates.

## 17. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee  
Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee  
Hospital and Health Affairs Committee  
Statutes and Governance Committee

Gay Miller  
Sally Jackson  
Jorge Villegas  
Matthew Wheeler

There were no reports.

18. OT-142. Updates on External Committees: Enrollment Management Policy Council; UI Labs Task Force (Chambers); Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee (Burbules, Mohammadian, Villegas); Vice President for Academic Affairs UA Budget Review Advisory Committee (Mohammadian, Villegas, Wheeler); Vice President for Finance Faculty Advisory Committee (Deberry-Spence, Weech); Vice President for Research Faculty Advisory Committee (Boltuc, Villegas, Wheeler).

There were no updates.

#### VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.