

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

DATE: Friday, December 12, 2014

PLACE: Room C, Public Affairs Center, Springfield

PRESENT: Burbules, Campbell, Chambers (Chair), Deberry-Spence\*, De Groote, Fadavi\*, Francis, Graber, Jackson\*, Kalita, Leff\*, Li, Mohammadian, Tolliver (Vice Chair), Villegas, Vincent (*ex officio*)

ABSENT: Erricolo, LaDu, Maher, McDermott, Miller

GUESTS: Jami Painter, Maureen Parks, Christophe Pierre

\*Attended by phone

Professor Donald Chambers, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:40 a.m.

I. Remarks from the USC Chair

Professor Chambers said that this session was to discuss the proposed revisions to the *General Rules*. He commented that the UIS Senate was meeting this morning. Professor Chambers noted that Professor Burbules was commended at the Board's Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee (GPEC) meeting for his many contributions to the University, including his recent efforts in the initiative to edit the *Statutes* and *General Rules*. He turned the floor over to Professor Burbules.

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

II. Old Business – Action Items

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

Professor Burbules provided an update on the status of the proposed revisions to the *Statutes*. The UIC Senate has completed its review, the UIS Senate has reviewed some of the clusters, and the UIUC Senate has completed its review of two of the clusters. He suggested that the USC Statutes and Governance Committee meet around February 13 by video to discuss what has been approved so far. The committee could then report to USC at its meeting on February 25 and report to GPEC before its February 26 meeting.

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<sup>1</sup>Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of January 22, 2015

Professor Burbules reviewed the process to revise the *General Rules* (GR). The Board can revise the GR after consultation with the president. Before providing advice to the Board, the president shall consult with the Senates Conference.

The Conference went through the *General Rules* and approved the following changes to the draft document:

- Revisions to the Nondiscrimination Statement as stated by Professor Burbules
- Line 13, insert “closely” between “working together”
- Change “upon” to “on” in line 10
- Remove each “to” in lines 29-31
- Delete “are encouraged to” in lines 31-32
- Change line 114 to read, “chancellors for research to promote the University’s research agenda and facilitate activities”
- Insert a period after “business” in line 221 and delete the rest of the section
- Do not delete the footnote on page 15
- Add the word “Day” after “New Year’s” in line 959

Professor Burbules reviewed some of the existing edits in the draft document.

- Changing of the term “organic wholeness”
- Adding USC input when the president is evaluated
- Change name to Vice President for Research and Economic Development
- Take out VCR reporting line to VPRED
- Revise the description of the chancellors
- Revisions to bring the section on archives in agreement with the Illinois Records Act

Professor Burbules said that the section of the GR on Intellectual Property will need to be sent to the senates for consideration. He suggested that this be done after the senates have dealt with the changes to the *Statutes*. He commented that he believes the section on Intellectual Property should be moved to the *Statutes*. Another statutory revision to consider at a later time is to define the presidential search committee. In addition, Legal Counsel is reviewing the sections on Dismissal of Academic Staff and Severe Sanctions Other Than Dismissal for Cause.

### III. Meeting with Vice President Christophe Pierre, Maureen Parks, and Jami Painter

Professor Chambers welcomed Vice President Pierre; Maureen Parks, Associate Vice President for Human Resources; and Jami Painter, Assistant Vice President for Human Resources.

Ms. Parks provided background information on a draft policy and guidelines that would expand the use of criminal background checks. About a year and a half ago, the president met with the chancellors to discuss the issue and then asked her to look into putting together a background check policy. She and Ms. Painter co-chaired a committee that

looked at current policies and procedure as well as what is going on across the country. The impetus of the policy came from the sexual child abuse scandal at Penn State.

Currently, the University only does background checks on those in security sensitive positions, for example, those working with minors, those in direct patient care, those who have access to large amounts of cash, and University Officers. Each campus and University Administration has its own policy and set of procedures. The committee is considering a policy that would require a background check for all new employees – faculty, staff, and residents – and consistent procedures for the entire University. Ms. Painter said that there is a trend for increasing the number of background checks in higher education. An existing employee moving to a new position might also have to undergo a background check. Ms. Parks commented that not all findings of offenses (a hit) would preclude someone from being hired. The nature of the offense and type of position would have to be considered. Another issue to consider is how to handle a current employee who incurs an offense. Ms. Painter indicated that they are working with a vendor to make sure they can assume a larger volume from the University and offer a variety of types of checks. The process would be electronic and the results would be sent to the unit. However, hits would be sent to the campus HR office. Ms. Parks added that Legal Counsel has determined that no one should begin working before a background check has been completed.

The group discussed various scenarios and Conference members provided advice. Ms. Parks said that the senates will be informed as well. She thanked the Conference for its input and said that any additional comments could be sent to her.

Vice President Pierre commented on the period of transition the University is now experiencing with all of the changes going on. He said that it will be important to understand intercampus relations as well as external matters, determine the structure of the University in relation to who makes which decisions, and understand governance structures.

Vice President Pierre said that there is much uncertainty regarding the University's budget. Revenues are strong in some areas but could be improved in others. Budget reductions can be covered in the short term. Academic Planning Council will put together an impact statement. Efforts are being made for procurement relief. This could be tied to the University gradually assuming pension costs. There are efforts to create a caucus of legislators with ties to the University.

#### IV. New Business

2. OT-318. Resolutions in honor of Chairman Christopher Kennedy and Trustee Pamela Strobel.

Professor Chambers presented the two resolutions for approval. By voice vote, both were approved unanimously.

3. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

Thursday, January 15, 2015 Chicago To be determined

USC Report:  
Wednesday, January 14, 2015 ASAC Gay Miller

V. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of October 8, 2014

The minutes were approved as written.

VI. 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.

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

1. University of Illinois at Springfield, October 10, 2014

Res 44-3 Establish a Health Care Informatics Concentration in the Bachelor of Science Degree in Management Information Systems

2. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 20, 2014

EP.15.17 Proposal to Remove the Masters of Science in Human Factors Degree Program

EP.15.19 Proposal to Revise Requirements for the Graduate Concentration in Writing Studies offered through the Center for Writing Studies

3. University of Illinois at Chicago, October 29, 2014

- PR-15.01 Revision of the Master of Science (MS) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Pharmacology
- PR-15.02 Rename the International Dentist Degree Program to the Doctor of Dental Medicine Advanced Standing Degree Program
- PR-15.03 Revision of the Bachelor of Arts in Urban Education
- PR-15.04 Reorganize, Rename, and Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Urban and Public Affairs as the Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies
- PR-15.05 Establish an Urban Studies (US) Course Subject (Rubric)
- CP-15.01 Establish the Post-Baccalaureate Campus Certificate in Pharmacoepidemiology

4. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, November 17, 2014

- EP.15.15 Proposal to Revise the Biochemistry Specialized Curriculum
- EP.15.16 Revision to the Major in the Science and Letters Curriculum: BALAS Creative Writing, Department of English, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- EP.15.18 Proposal to Rename the Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology & Rename MS and PhD
- EP.15.23 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to eliminate the Food Industry and Business concentration in the Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Human Nutrition
- EP.15.24 Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to establish a minor in Adult Development

5. University of Illinois at Chicago, December 3, 2014

- PR-15.06 Revision of the Doctor of Physical Therapy (DPT)
- PR-15.07 Establishment of the Minor in Social Justice
- PR-15.08 Establishment of a Social Justice (SJ) Course Subject (Rubric)
- PR-15.09 Establishment of the Minor in Chinese

PR-15.10 Revision of the Concentration in Urban Politics Within the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Political Science

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

6. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, November 17, 2014

uNc,s SP.15.07 Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 – Academic Freedom

7. University of Illinois at Chicago, December 3, 2014

cNs,u Provided advice regarding proposed revisions to the *Statutes* (USC ST-77)

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

8. University of Illinois at Springfield, October 10, 2014

sNc,u Res. 44-2 Resolution on Academic Freedom

9. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, October 20, 2014

uNc,s RS.15.01 Resolution on Uniform Pay for Specialized Faculty

SC.15.04 Resolution in Support of the Council of Illinois University Senates “Statement of Concern”

10. University of Illinois at Chicago, October 29, 2014

cNs,u Endorsed the Council of Illinois University Senates Statement of Concern regarding Civil Service Reclassification

11. University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, November 17, 2014

uNc,s SC.15.05 Provost Communication #26: Promotion to Teaching, Research or Clinical Associate or Full Professor Titles

Provost Communication #27: Shared Governance for Academic Units

12. University of Illinois at Springfield, November 21, 2014

sNc,u Res. 44-4 Proposed Revisions to the Academic Integrity Policy

Res. 44-5 Council of Illinois University Senates Statement of Concern Regarding Civil Service Classifications

13. University of Illinois at Chicago, December 3, 2014

cNs,u

Referred back to the UIC Senate Research Committee for further consideration the Classified Research Policy

First Reading: Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 – Academic Freedom (USC ST-72)

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.

Professor Villegas reported that the UIS Senate plans to consider this item at its February 6 meeting. Professor Vincent reported that the UIC Senate had a first reading on December 3 and plans a second reading on January 29.

5. 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.

Professor Chambers said that the proposed statutory changes were transmitted to the President, who referred them to Legal Counsel for review.

6. OT-316. University Senates Conference White Paper.

Professor Chambers commented that he mentioned the White Paper as one of the USC goals in his report to the Board. Board members were enthusiastic to hear about the initiative. Professor Chambers plans to mobilize the USC Executive Committee and perhaps a couple of others to generate an outline. Professor Tolliver asked if the document would be included in President-elect Killeen's briefing book. Professor Chambers responded that he would check. He said that he gave Professor Michael Grossman's shared governance document to the Board last month.

7. OT-317. Actions of the State Universities Civil Service System (SUCCS) and preserving public universities' exemption authority. USC support of CIUS "Statement of Concern" 10/8/14.

Professor Burbules said that a report from Maureen Parks indicates that a clear set of policies are being generated. The trustees on the Civil Service Merit Board are being more aggressive in defending public universities' exemption authority.

8. OT-304. Open Access to Research Articles. Transmitted to Senates 10/21/14.

Professor Chambers reported that this item had been transmitted to the senates.

9. OT-307. Leadership Development Program.

Professor Villegas reported on the group's final meeting, which was held in Urbana. The focus was on Research One Universities, with highlights being the Beckman Institute and Research Park. Professor Villegas felt that participating in the program was a wonderful experience.

10. OT-309. Presidential Search.

The members of the search committee commented on the success of the search. The process went very well and the appropriate discussions took place. The search firm worked for the committee rather than running the search. The committee was pleased with the pool of candidates.

11. 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.

Professor Chambers commented that classified research is shifting more from government research to industrial research. Professor Vincent said that UIC has concerns with the vagueness and rationale of the policy. Professor Campbell said that there are concerns at UIUC with how the policy will be implemented and where it will reside. Professor Chambers asked that the senates send concerns to USC and they will be forwarded to the VPR and VCRs. He asked that they also include what they would like to see in the policy.

12. OT-313. Search for Executive Director of Governmental Relations.

Professor Villegas reported that finalists will be interviewed in January.

13. OT-123. University Senates Conference Guests.

Guests to invite were discussed.

14. Board of Trustees Reports:

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Thursday, October 30, 2014

Chicago

GPEC

Gay Miller

Donald Chambers

15. Campus Updates.

Professors Villegas said that there are quite a few new programs and students at UIS. The campus is growing in a healthy way.



Professor Campbell said that the honorary degree program is back on track but there are still long-term issues to resolve. Two committees will be reporting on issues surrounding Professor Salaita. The proposed College of Medicine is being very carefully thought out.

Professor Vincent said that a new UIC chancellor should be named by the end of the semester. Other positions that need to be filled are a Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and a Provost. The proposed statutory revisions have been completed by the senate. Professor Mohammadian said that the final proposal for the Presidential Library had been submitted today.

#### 16. Reports from USC Committee Chairs:

Academic Affairs and Research Committee	Gay Miller
Finance, Budget and Benefits Committee	Roy Campbell
Hospital and Health Affairs Committee	Jorge Villegas
Statutes and Governance Committee	Nicholas Burbules

Professor Tolliver suggested asking the Statutes and Governance Committee to review the USC Organization and Functions document to consider making changes to the structure of the USC committees and determine whether the document should be renamed as the USC bylaws.

Professor Campbell reported that FBBC met with budget people from UIS at noon. There are difficulties in addressing the possible budget cuts because it is all speculative. A procedure is needed where there is a wide range of input. Professor Chambers commented that budget transparency is different on each campus. He said that the UIUC model might help the other campuses. Professor Burbules said that Provost Communication #27 provides a guide for best practices and could be helpful for the other senates. Professor Chambers suggested that FBBC produce a set of best practices for the three campuses and send out the provost communication.

Professor Villegas said that HHAC will wait to hear what President Easter recommends concerning the Universities health enterprise.

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

Professor Chambers reported that the VPAA FAC had a robust meeting the day before.

Professor Villegas said that the VPAA BRAC has requested a complex report from each unit. Units have been asked to prepare a 20% budget cut scenario.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Pending Items

OT-223. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.

OT-265. Academy on Capitalism and Limited Government.

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

OT-298. Shared Governance in a Changing Environment.

OT-315. Proposed University Senates Conference Resolution on Avoiding Cross-Campus Conflicts. Transmitted 8/27/14.