

MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Tuesday, June 21, 2005

PLACE: Room 210 Illini Union, Urbana

PRESENT: Ford, Grossman (Chair), Gupta, B. Jones, W. Jones, Kagan, E. Kaufman (Secretary), Langley, Mallory, Massat, Schacht, Tolliver, Wheeler, Wood, Yu

ABSENT: Bodenhorn, Chambers, Finnerty, L. Kaufman, Strom

GUESTS: Robert Fossum, Chester Gardner, Richard Schoell, Joseph White

Professor Grossman, Chair, called the University Senates Conference to order at 9:05 a.m.

I. Discussion of Agenda

Professor Grossman reviewed the agenda, including topics that would be discussed with President White and Vice President Gardner.

Professor E. Kaufman reported on the President's Summit on Strategic Leadership that had taken place the week before. The University is moving forward with the assumption that there will be no new money from the state at least for the time being. The University will need to bring in more money through tuition, private giving, and grants and contracts. There will need to be a reassessment and reallocation of current expenditures to ensure that funds are being used in the best way possible.

Professor Langley commented that there was a lot of emphasis on competing with and displacing our competitors and on rankings. Professor Schacht said that there is a big difference in the two messages we are hearing: the University needs to make changes in order to survive; and the University should become number one. He added that the number one concept may work in our external message. Professor Langley said that the survival message indicated that the University will have a long slide into mediocrity if some changes are not made. She stressed the importance of units having a strong role in determining program changes and deletions. Professor Gupta asked how units were dealing with an approximate 6% reallocation: 2.5% for salaries and 3.25% for unavoidable. Professor Schacht said that his department has had no new hiring in two years and programmatic needs are going unmet. Professor Tolliver commented that it is important to convey these messages, which are somewhat contrary to the rhetoric being used in the strategic planning process, to the President.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of July 22, 2005

II. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of May 25, 2005

The minutes were approved as distributed.

III. 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 item was classified III by the University Senates Conference:

1. University of Illinois at Springfield, May 6, 2005

R35-1 Revisions to University *Statutes* to provide for Multi-year appointments

Explanation of File Numbers

ST - 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

IV. Old Business – Action Items

1. OT-191. Severe Sanctions Less Than Dismissal -- Follow-up and Senate Procedures. Implementation Passed UIUC Senate 4/28/03. Implementation Passed UIS Senate 10/24/03. Implementation Passed UIC Senate 4/15/05.

Professor Langley moved to remove this item from the agenda. Professor E. Kaufman seconded the motion. Professor E. Kaufman added that he had hoped once the three implementation processes were finalized, the Conference would make sure the three versions were not grossly different. Professor Grossman suggested that the three versions be transmitted to the USC Statutes Committee for review. Professor Langley said that, while the statutory language is the same for all three campuses, there is no requirement of consistency in the various implementation procedures. Professor Schacht suggested that the Statutes Committee review the three versions to make sure there are no red flags, but with the understanding that agreement is not expected. The Conference agreed. Professor Langley withdrew the motion.

V. New Business

No new business

VI. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

2. OT-213. Five-Year Review of the Position of Vice President for Technology and Economic Development.

Professor E. Kaufman reported that he has a long list of people, many external, to contact. Many were identified with the help of Vice President Chicoine. The committee is still waiting for the requested documentation from Vice President Chicoine's office. The focus of the review will be on the structure and function of the Office of the Vice President for Technology and Economic Development. While the review will include how the Technology Management offices interact with the Vice President's office, it will not include a review of the function of the Technology Management offices themselves.

The Conference recessed from the business meeting at 10:05 a.m. and went into Executive Session.

VII. Executive Session

(Text suppressed due to confidential nature of material discussed.)

VIII. Guest

Mr. Schoell discussed the state and federal budgets as they pertain to the University. Short term budget solutions were used to balance the state budget. Mr. Schoell remarked that the budget would not have passed the recent legislative session without the pension holiday. The budget calls for reducing payments to the pension fund for the next two years. Mr. Schoell outlined some of the pension changes, which should not affect current employees. However, new employees will not have the money purchase option. There is \$750,000 of new money for Illinois Ventures. The University also received \$4.5M in the matching grant program. The NSF and NIH budget has been clipped. There was no money for capital programs. Mr. Schoell said that the University needs to recast its public policy message.

Mr. Schoell commented on the use of money from special interest funds to help balance the state's budget. He believes that this is bad public policy, and added that law suits were filed last year. He also commented on the Auditor General's report.

Mr. Schoell said that the overall budget picture is better than a year ago. The flash index is positive.

The Illinois Bill of Health, which concerns medical education at public universities, has received some attention. There is the need to find a special way to finance health care education at public institutions so as not to encroach on the higher education budget. The cost of educating health care providers is very high. Health care providers in rural areas are often educated at public institutions.

Mr. Schoell reported that this year his office has tracked 400 federal bills affecting higher education. The veto session will be the last week of October and the first week of November.

Mr. Schoell said that he would be making arrangements for area legislators to meet with the Conference.

Professor Kaufman thanked Mr. Schoell for meeting with the Conference.

(The Conference recessed from the regular meeting at 1:20 p.m. in order to conduct the 2005-06 Organizational Meeting. The regular meeting resumed at 1:35 p.m.)

(VI.) Old Business – Information and Discussion Items (continued)

3. NC-11. Nominating Committee for 2005-06 Officers and Executive Committee.

The Nominating Committee reported during the Organizational Meeting.

4. OT-217. President's Summit on Strategic Leadership.

This item was discussed during the Executive Session.

5. 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.

Professor E. Kaufman reminded the Conference that the original resolution called for benefits for both same-sex and opposite-sex domestic partners. However, the proposal that President Stukel presented to the Board, and ultimately approved by the Board, excluded opposite-sex domestic partners. Professor E. Kaufman said that there is at least one trustee who would like the Conference to revisit the issue of benefits for opposite-sex domestic partners.

Professor Langley said that there are other issues as well. As the benefits are now, same-sex partners cannot receive the benefit if they have a commuter relationship. A six-month residency is required before the benefit can be obtained. There is also a requirement of shared financial obligation, which is not imposed on those who are married. Another problem is that employees must go out and get their own insurance for their partners and then get reimbursed on a quarterly basis. The reimbursement rate is based on the difference between what the employee pays to purchase medical coverage and the premium the employee would pay for dependent coverage under the state plan, but the rate is limited to the amount the state pays to cover dependents covered by the state plan.

Professor Langley commented that some states have ruled that health care benefits are not covered under employee discrimination. She added that it would take a state statutory change for CMS to include domestic partners in the state plan. A union is trying to bargain for same-sex partner benefits. In the meantime, there are employees who cannot get equal coverage for their partners and are having to meet requirements that are different and more onerous than other employees.

The Conference decided to ask the USC Budget and Benefits Committee, or a subcommittee of the group, to look into these issues in the fall after the new committee is appointed.

6. BG-16. Review of the Charge to the University Administration Budget and Benefits Study Committee.

Professor E. Kaufman moved to remove this item from the agenda. The motion was approved.

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

The Conference discussed possible guests to invite to future meetings. Professor E. Kaufman said that he planned to move forward with working with Mr. Schoell to invite legislators to meet with the Conference at each campus. He also said that there would probably be a retreat at Allerton in September, and possibly legislators could meet with the Conference during that event. It was noted that Trustee Eppley might be able to attend the July meeting. Professor E. Kaufman noted that the President and Vice President are not available to attend the July meeting.

8. Campus Updates.

Professor E. Kaufman reported that the UIC campus has a group working on strategic planning. Professor Langley reported that the UIS campus has finished its campus-wide strategic planning. She also said that the interim provost has agreed to stay for a year. Professor Grossman said that the UIUC campus is searching for a provost. The campus has started its strategic planning process.

9. OT-142. Update on the Management Teams: Academic Affairs; Business Administration and Human Resources; External Relations; Governmental Relations; Technology and Economic Development; University Technology.

Reports:

AAMT	June 10, 2005	Professor Kaufman
BAHRMT	June 8, 2005	Professor Yu
UTMT	June 9, 2005	Professor Mallory

10. Designation of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Thursday, July 14, 2005	Professor Mary Mallory
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11. Review of Pending Items on the Agenda Addendum.

The Conference reviewed the pending agenda items.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

Pending USC Items
June 21, 2005

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.

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 the President 2/14/02.

ST-61. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article XIII, Section 8.a. – General Provisions, Amendments. Passed UIUC Senate 4/25/05.

ST-62. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Section 11 – to clarify employment policies applicable to Academic Professional Employees at the University Administration level.

GR-38. Proposed Revision to *The General Rules*, Article III, Section 7 (j). Passed UIUC Senate 4/25/05.

BG-15. 2004-05 University Administration Budget and Benefits Study Committee.

OT-157. Chief Illiniwek. UIUC Senate Resolution Passed 3/9/98; UIS Senate Resolution Passed 4/3/98; Resolutions (without USC endorsement) transmitted to the President 7/10/98; Trustee Plummer report to BoT 3/14/02; UIS Senate Resolution Passed 2/13/04; UIUC Senate Resolution Passed 2/16/04; UIUC Senate Resolution Passed by USC 2/20/04; Resolution transmitted to BoT Secretary 3/3/04. BoT Resolution Concerning Chief Illiniwek 6/17/04. BoT Policy to Preserve and Recognize the State's American Indian Heritage 9/9/04.

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 12/1/04.

OT-187. UI-Integrate/Support Services Strategy (S3) Related Issues.

OT-192. Update on the UI-Integrate Steering Committee and Faculty Advisory Committee.

OT-201. University-wide Human Resources Committee.

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

OT-208. E-Mail Security Policy.

OT-210. Tuition and Fees Executive Committee.

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

OT-214. Flexible Tenure.

OT-215. Discussion of University-Wide Committee to Address Issues Relating to Administrative Computing System.