MINUTES¹
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Tuesday, June 22, 2004

PLACE: 364 HAB and 210 Illini Union, Urbana

PRESENT: Ford, Grossman (Secretary), Gupta, Herricks, B. Jones, W. Jones, L. Kaufman, Langley (Chair), Massat, O’Brien, Sisson, Weller, White, Yu

ABSENT: Bodenhorn, Chambers, Finnerty, Schacht, Strom, Wood

GUESTS: Chester Gardner, Richard Herman, Elliot Kaufman, Mary Mallory, James Stukel, Matthew Wheeler

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

I. Executive Session

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

(The Conference recessed from the regular meeting at 11:15 a.m. in order to conduct the 2004-05 Organizational Meeting. The regular meeting resumed at 11:20 a.m.)

II. Approval of University Senates Conference Minutes of May 26, 2004

The minutes were approved as distributed.

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

III. Old Business – Action Items

No action items.

¹Subject to approval at the University Senates Conference meeting of July 22, 2004
IV. New Business

No new business.

V. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

1. OT-205. Presidential Search.

Professor E. Kaufman said that the white paper, which was approved by the Board of Trustees, is a tool to define what type of person the consultative committee should be looking for. The committee will outline more specific requirements of the position. The search firm will be collecting nominations and applications. The pool of candidates will be reviewed in September, and interviews will probably be held in early October. The consultative committee will generate a short list, which will be submitted to the Board. Professor E. Kaufman noted that this is the only presidential search that the search firm is handling at this time.

2. OT-207. USC Retreat 2004

Professor Langley reminded the Conference that the retreat would be held on September 27 at Allerton House. She asked members to submit ideas for agenda topics.


Professor Langley noted that this item had been transmitted to the President.


The Conference discussed the various campus policies related to e-mail. Professor Ford commented that the UIUC policy was more developed than the policies at UIC and UIS. Professor E. Kaufman thought that it makes sense to have a university-wide policy governing e-mail. Professor Langley said that Homeland Security federal law would have to be taken into account. The Conference decided to create a task force to examine the possibility of developing a university-wide policy.
5. NC-10. Nominating Committee for 2004-05 Officers and Executive Committee.

   This item was removed from the agenda.

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

   The Conference discussed possible guests to invite to future meetings.

7. Campus Updates.

   Professor Grossman reported that Provost Herman would be naming an acting provost and that he had asked the UIUC Senate Executive Committee for names. He also mentioned that the Senate would be doing its yearly review of the vice chancellors during the summer. Professor Jones said that the LAS dean search was unsuccessful so there will be an interim dean. However, the College of Engineering does have a new dean. He also commented on changes to make the campus more friendly and attractive to students. Professor Langley commented that the chancellor and provost have been contacted about unilateral academic decisions that have been made without input from the faculty.

8. 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 9, 2004 Professors Grossman and Langley

9. Report of Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

   University of Illinois at Chicago
   Thursday, June 17, 2004 Professor Langley

10. Designation of Future Observer of Board of Trustees Meeting:

    University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
    Thursday, July 15, 2004 To be determined

VI. Guest

   Dr. Richard Herman said that the University is in negotiations with the Graduate Employees’ Organization. Salary and health care benefits are being discussed. He commented on the Conference’s concern that some academic appointments are being delayed. Dr. Herman responded that efforts are being made to improve the process and some complications have been the result of multiple-source funds. He added that student
registration went very well. Some grants are not being paid in a timely manner. Dr. Herman acknowledged that the Chief Illiniwek controversy has caused great polarization. He noted that the sponsors of the consensus resolution are on opposite sides of the issue. He also commented on the involvement of the legislature and North Central Association.

Dr. Herman said that decreasing state funds is one of the most challenging issues facing the University. For the first time, non-state funds will exceed state funds in the amount of dollars spent per student. In order to achieve excellence, the infrastructure should be rebuilt by picking the right areas in which to invest. He said that the last fundraising campaign added 32 named positions to the Urbana campus, bringing the total to approximately 240. Matching funds, graduate fellowships, and scholarships for undergraduates are very important.

Dr. Herman commented on the University’s obligations as a land-grant institution. The University’s economic role plays an important part by contributing to the well-being of the state. He said that the research park has been a success.

Dr. Herman closed by asking the Conference to please seriously consider multi-year contracts.

The Conference members thanked Dr. Herman for meeting with them.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.
Pending USC Items
June 22, 2004


ST-54. Amendment 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.


BG-14. 2003-04 University Administration Budget and Benefits Study Committee.

OT-157. Chief Illiniwek.

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


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.

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

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.

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

OT-201. University-wide Human Resources Committee.


OT-206. Annual Review of the Vice Presidents.