

University Senates Conference
Academic Affairs & Research Committee
Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, May 28, 2025

PLACE: University of Illinois Chicago, Student Center West, Room 213
828 S. Wolcott Ave, Chicago, IL

PRESENT: Hobbs, Kalita, Mi, Schwinn, Sharma

ABSENT: Symes

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Professor Hobbs.

II. Approval of remote participation

No remote participants.

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approval of the Minutes from April 8, 2025

Professor Kalita made a motion to approve the minutes from April 8, 2025. Professor Hobbs seconded the motion. No discussion. The minutes were approved with a voice vote by AARC Members.

Yes: Hobbs, Kalita, Schwinn, Sharma

No: None

Abstain: Mi

V. Today's Business

a. Sort out duties of mini conferences

AARC held a discussion on how to conduct the mini conferences and will discuss with EVP Jones. The plan will be to develop subject areas that are cross-cutting and issue a call for proposals.

Topics that were mentioned:

- i. "AI and Innovation"
- ii. What's the next Big Thing (in your field)?
- iii. Connecting our Work or Campus to Community

AARC discussed having a keynote speaker and panels for each conference. The question was raised about the amount of resources available for the mini conferences. Further consideration will be important to determine if the mini conferences will be in-person or online. If the mini conferences will take place in the spring, it will be important to get proposals soon. Effort will need to be made to obtain funding.

b. Available and continuous communication about international student and faculty status

No discussion.

VI. New Business
None

VII. Old Business
None

VIII. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Information for Minutes provided by Professor Schwinn.

David Perryn
USC Administration