

University Senates Conference
Finance, Budget, & Benefits Committee
Minutes

DATE: Tuesday, March 26, 2024

PLACE: I Hotel & Conference Center, Honors Room
University of Illinois Chicago, Daley Library, Room 1-360
University of Illinois Springfield, Brookens Library, Room 180G

PRESENT: Campbell, Danziger (Online), Erricolo, Funderburg, Leff, Lyons

ABSENT: None

GUEST: Jay Walsh

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:53 p.m. by Professor Campbell.

II. Public Comment

No public comment.

III. Approval of minutes

a. February 21, 2024

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from February 21, 2024. A brief discussion was held. The minutes were approved with a voice vote by FBBC Members.

Yes: Campbell, Danziger (Online), Erricolo, Funderburg, Leff, Lyons

No: None

Abstain: None

IV. Meeting with VP Walsh

Professor Campbell expressed appreciation to VP Walsh for his careful and detailed presentation. Some observations from the meeting were:

- a. The efforts by Jay Walsh, Vice President of Economic Development and Innovation involved considerable funding and a large and increasing number of projects including NSF TIP awards, Smart Logistics, and the Hydrogen Hub. The Quantum and Bio processing initiatives are in review. The CHIPS and Science Act was authorized by Congress but, as of yet, not fully funded. Overall, being associated with a major metropolitan area appears to be an advantage in these large grants.
- b. The Governors efforts under the title Innovate Illinois offers major funding opportunities. These included Beyond Carbon, Beyond Biology, and Beyond Workforce possibilities.
- c. Brad Henderson's P33 group and Penny Pritzker look at the needs of the tech communities in the Chicago area also offer opportunities.
- d. Professor Lyons moved the discussion towards the pathways for the campuses to participate. Major groups of people from across the universities are likely needed to be involved, requiring good communications. It was noted that UIS might not have such good communications for this purpose as the other campuses. Vice chancellors for research participate in building these communications on local campuses but there might be a need to empower thought leaders for specific areas of

opportunity. There followed a discussion of the opportunities provided by a major call of semiconductors.

- e. We ended with a discussion of how humanities and arts might become further engaged in the Economic Development and Innovation activities.

V. New Business

For the next meeting agenda

- a. Follow up to Jay Walsh presentation and discussion.
- b. Follow up on Pension Benefits Information.
- c. Discussion of budget update from President Killeen at the last meeting about a smaller budget being allocated than requested.

VI. Old Business – Action Items

None

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37 p.m.

Information for the minutes provided by Professor Campbell.

David Perryn
USC Administration