Minutes
Urbana-Champaign Senate Meeting
February 22, 2010

A regular meeting of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Senate was called to order at 3:15 p.m. on the 3rd floor of the Levis Faculty Center with Interim Chancellor/Provost Robert Easter presiding.

Approval of Minutes

02/22/10-01 The minutes of December 7 and January 25 were approved as written.

Senate Executive Committee Report

Senator Joyce Tolliver (LAS), Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), provided the following report.

Senator Tolliver reported on the first project teams charged by the Campus Steering Committee, as delineated at the Stewarding Excellence @Illinois budget information website. They are 1) Institute of Aviation, 2) IT @ Illinois, 3) Refocusing Scholarship, and 4) Public Engagement. Dr. Tolliver encouraged senators to share campus budgetary information with their constituents.

Please pick up CC.10.07, Nominations for Senate Standing Committees, CC.10.08, Nominations to SURSMAC, and CC.10.09, Approval of Nominations for the Athletic Board. There is also a handout related to the Committee of the Whole discussion of ICES Online, and a report on the February 19 Faculty Advisory Council/Illinois Board of Higher Education (FAC/IBHE) meeting.

The Educational Policy Committee has requested that the following proposals be withdrawn from today’s agenda: EP.10.19, Proposal from the College of Engineering to Revise the B.S. in Agricultural and Biological Engineering; EP.10.22, Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish an Interdisciplinary Minor in Museum Studies; and EP.10.34, Proposal from the Graduate College and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to Establish a M.A. in Religion. There was no objection.

For the Committee of the Whole, I request floor privileges for John Ory, Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE), and Chris Migotsky, Head, Measurement and Evaluation, CTE. I move such privileges be granted (there was no objection). Tellers for today’s meeting are Senators Kara Beach (MDA), Vidar Lerum (FAA), and Phillip Geil (ENGR).

Chancellor’s Remarks

The Chancellor announced that he attended a UI Foundation Board meeting last week in Florida and that passion and enthusiasm remain high for the University of Illinois among its many donors. He reported that the Urbana-Champaign campus received a record 27,000 applications for fall semester 2010 with the expectation that ultimately 7000 will enroll. Chancellor Easter reported Presidents/Chancellors of Illinois public universities wrote to Governor Quinn appealing for resolution to the budgetary shortfall that the state and higher education is experiencing.
Questions/Discussion

Senator James Barrett (LAS) asked about the process used to identify faculty to serve on the various campus budget committees and project teams. Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Richard Wheeler replied that while the Steering Committee is comprised mostly of deans, faculty and students were identified for service on the advisory committee and project teams, as appropriate, through consultation with the Senate Executive Committee and the Committee on Committees.

Consent Agenda

Dr. Easter announced that since there was no objection from any senator, the following proposals were approved by unanimous consent:

02/22/10-02 EP.10.17*, Proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Business to Establish a Graduate Minor in Corporate Governance and International Business
02/22/10-03 EP.10.20*, Proposal from LAS to Reorganize the Gender and Women’s Studies Program as the Department of Gender and Women’s Studies
02/22/10-04 EP.10.21*, Proposal from LAS to Reorganize the Latina/Latino Studies Program as the Department of Latina/Latino Studies
02/22/10-05 EP.10.23*, Proposal from ACES to Revise the B.S. in Animal Sciences
02/22/10-06 EP.10.31*, Proposal from the Graduate College and ACES to Rename the M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural and Consumer Economics as the M.S. and Ph.D. in Agricultural and Applied Economics
02/22/10-07 EP.10.35*, Proposal from Graduate and LAS to Establish a Graduate Minor in Asian American Studies

Proposals for Action

02/22/10-08 Chancellor Easter presented for action CC.10.07*, Nominations for Membership on Standing Committees of the Senate, and CC.10.08*, Nomination to the State Universities Retirement System Members Advisory Committee (SURSMAC). Senator Bettina Francis (LAS), member of the Committee on Committees, moved approval of the nominations. There were no floor nominations and nominations were declared closed.

02/22/10-09 By voice vote, the nominees on CC.10.07 and CC.10.08 were approved.

02/22/10-10 The Presiding Officer presented for action CC.10.09*, Approval of Nominations for the Athletic Board. Senator Francis moved approval of the slate; there were no floor nominations and nominations were declared closed.

02/22/10-11 By voice vote, the nomination slate was approved.
Proposed Revisions to the University Statutes

02/22/10-12 The Chancellor presented for action SP.10.04*, Amend Statutes, Article I, Section 2. – The President of the University. Senator William Maher (LIBR), Chair of the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures, recapitulated the background of this proposal and moved its approval. Some senators expressed concern about the University adopting a corporate title for its president (i.e., chief executive officer). Senator Maher replied that the intent of this statutory amendment is to remove any ambiguity about the president’s authority and responsibility.

02/22/10-13 By voice vote, SP.10.04 was approved.

02/22/10-14 Chancellor Easter presented for first reading and information SP.06.05*, Revision to the Statutes, Article VIII. Senator Maher summarized the lengthy history of this proposal and indicated it will be returning for second reading and vote at the March 29 Senate meeting.

Reports for Information

02/22/10-15 SC.10.05* November 12 Board of Trustees (BOT)
02/22/10-16 SC.10.07* January 21 BOT
02/22/10-17 HE.10.03* November 13 Faculty Advisory Council/Illinois Board of Higher Education (FAC/IBHE)
02/22/10-18 HE.10.04* December 4 FAC/IBHE
02/22/10-19 HE.10.05* January 21-22 FAC/IBHE
02/22/10-20 HE.10.06* February 19 FAC/IBHE

Committee of the Whole

The Senate approved a motion to enter a Committee of the Whole, to discuss Instructor and Course Evaluation System (ICES) Online. John Ory, Director of the Center for Teaching Excellence (CTE), and Chris Migotsky, Head, Measurement and Evaluation, CTE, referred to an informational sheet distributed at the door comparing ICES Online with paper ICES.

Concerns about the possible campus-wide migration to ICES Online included its lower accuracy and response rates, higher standard deviations, and easier access to ICES results for Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. There was debate about the ability of ICES results to be classified as personnel records and resistant to FOIA requests.

Messrs. Ory and Migotsky thanked the Senate and said there was no timeline about a decision to codify ICES Online as campus policy. The Senate rose and reported for purposes of exiting the Committee of the Whole.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 p.m. Robert C. Damrau, Senate Clerk

*Filed with the Senate Clerk and incorporated by reference in these Minutes.