AGENDA  
Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus  
December 8, 2014; 3:10 pm  
Illini Union – Illini Room A

I. Call to Order – Chancellor Phyllis Wise

II. Approval of Minutes – November 17, 2014

III. Senate Executive Committee Report – Chair Roy Campbell

IV. Chancellor’s Remarks – Chancellor Phyllis Wise

V. Questions/Discussion

VI. Consent Agenda

These items will only be distributed via www.senate.illinois.edu/20141208.asp. If a senator wishes to move an item from the Consent Agenda to Proposals and have copies at the meeting, they must notify the Senate Office at least two business days before the meeting. Any senator can ask to have any item moved from the Consent Agenda to Proposals.

EP.15.22 Proposal from the College of Education to revise the requirements for the Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education  
*Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)*

EP.15.25 Revision of Certificate in Accountancy program, College of Business  
*Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)*

VII. Proposals (enclosed)

SP.15.06 General Revisions to the Statutes  
Motions #1 and #2  
*University Statutes and Senate Procedures (W. Maher)*

HD.15.01 Nomination for Honorary Degree  
*Honorary Degrees (J. Tyson)*

VIII. Current Benefits Issues (5 min.)– John Kindt, Chair of Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits

IX. Reports (enclosed)

EP.15.30 Report of Administrative Approvals through Dec 1, 2014  
*G. Miller*  

HE.15.03 FAC/IBHE Report – November 21, 2014  
*A. Aminmansour*  

SC.15.06 BOT Observer Report – November 13, 2014  
*G. Miller*  

SUR.15.01 SURSMAC Report – November 18, 2014  
*H. F. Williamson*  
*J. Kindt*

X. New Business

XI. Adjournment
Minutes
Urbana-Champaign Senate Meeting
November 17, 2014

A regular meeting of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Senate was called to order at 3:11 pm in the Illini Room A at the Illini Union with Vice Provost for Faculty and Academic Affairs Abbas Benmamoun presiding and Professor Emeritus H. George Friedman, Jr. as Parliamentarian.

Approval of Minutes
11/17/14-01 The minutes from October 20, 2014 were approved as written.

Senate Executive Committee Report
Roy Campbell (ENGR), faculty senator and Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) welcomed all present. Chair Campbell made several announcements. Christopher Kennedy, Chair of the Board of Trustees (BOT) will not be continuing on the Board. The Chicago State University Senate has been reinstated. And, Several Senate committees are thoroughly reviewing the College of Medicine proposal.

11/17/14-02 Tellers for the meeting were faculty senators H.F. (Bill) Williamson (LAS), John Hart (ENGR), and student senator Calvin Lear (GRAD).

Chancellor’s Remarks
None

Questions/Discussion
None

Consent Agenda
Hearing no objections, the following proposals were approved by unanimous consent.

11/17/14-03 EP.15.15* Proposal to Revise the Biochemistry Specialized Curriculum

11/17/14-04 EP.15.16* Revision to the Major in the Science and Letters Curriculum: BALAS Creative Writing, Department of English, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

11/17/14-05 EP.15.18* Proposal to Rename the Center for Biophysics and Computational Biology & Rename MS and PhD

11/17/14-06 EP.15.23* Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to eliminate the Food Industry and Business concentration in the Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Human Nutrition

11/17/14-07 EP.15.24* Proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to establish a minor in Adult Development

Proposals (enclosed)

11/17/14-08 CC.15.06* Nominations for Membership on Standing Committees of the Senate

11/17/14-09 On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Chair Kalita moved approval of the slate of nominees on proposal CC.15.06. There were no floor nominations and nominations were declared closed.

11/17/14-10 By voice vote, the motion to approve the slate of nominees on proposal CC.15.06 was approved.

11/17/14-11 SP.15.07* Revisions to the Statutes, Article X, Section 2 – Academic Freedom (Final; Action)

On behalf of the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP), Chair Maher moved approval of proposal SP.15.07. Maher noted that this is the second reading of this
proposal that was originally discussed at the October 20, 2014 Senate meeting. Maher gave a summary of the proposal background. Associated Provost Galvin responded to a question stating that the term faculty is used broadly in the revised version of the Statutes.

11/17/14-12 By voice vote, the motion to approve the proposal SP.15.07 passed.

Current Benefits Issues
John Kindt, Chair of Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits, mentioned that Senate Bill 1, Pension Reform, litigation is scheduled this week. Kindt noted the following resources for additional information on employee and retiree benefits issues including updates on Senate Bill 1 litigation: the State University Annuitants Association website http://suaa.org/, the State University Retirement System website http://surs.com/, and Nessie https://nessie.uihr.uiillinois.edu/cf/index.cfm.

Reports
11/17/14-14 USC Report – October 8, 2014
11/17/14-15 New Provost Communications
Communication #26: Promotion to Teaching, Research or Clinical Associate or Full Professor Titles
Communication #27: Shared Governance for Academic Units

Galvin noted that Provost Communication #26 is the same promotional process outlined for non-tenure track faculty that is currently included in Communication #9. Communication #9 will remain as written so those units that have a current process in place can continue with their current process. Eventually Communication #9 will be revised to remove the promotional process outlined for non-tenure track faculty since the promotional process is now in Communication #26. Galvin added that the promotional process itself is not new.

Galvin noted that Communication #27 compiles best practices about shared governance in academic units into one document. Benmamoun added that inclusiveness is encouraged and the intention is to include all non-tenure track faculty. The new Provost Communications are now posted on the Office of the Provost website.

Maher noted that Communication #26 makes reference to public engagement. Maher gave his opinion that Communication #9 does not handle public engagement very well. Maher felt that public engagement efforts should be taken into consideration when promotion and tenure is discussed, and as an important part of what faculty members do, public engagement should count it in a critical way.

New Business
None

Adjournment
The meeting was adjourned at 3:39 pm.

Jenny Roether, Senate Clerk

*Filed with the Senate Clerk and incorporated by reference in these minutes.*
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE  

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures  
(First Reading; Information)

SP.15.06   General Revisions to the Statutes Motions #1 and #2

BACKGROUND
In August 2012, the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee of the Board of Trustees requested an overall review of the University Statutes. The Board authorized an ad hoc committee to conduct this review. That committee consisted of faculty from all three campuses, as well as various University administrators. The Statutes and Governance subcommittee of the University Senates Conference (USC) also participated in the review process. The Board’s committee on Governance, Personnel, and Ethics reviewed the proposed changes, and this October, asked USC to seek the approval of the changes from the campus senates. At the October 20, 2014 Senate meeting, item UC.15.03 communicated a redline/strikeout version of the Statutes for consideration. To correct for a clerical error, the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP) was later provided with an October 24, 2014 updated version of the proposed revisions.

As mandated by the Bylaws of the Urbana-Champaign Senate, USSP has conducted its own review of these recommended revisions, prior to their being submitted to the Senate to vote on its advice to the Board, as provided by Article XIII, Section 8 b of the Statutes. The suggested changes are extensive, affecting every Article of the Statutes. Some of them are simply editorial adjustments, clarifying ambiguous language, for example, but some proposals would make more substantive changes.

In the course of its review, USSP found the vast majority of the changes to be appropriate and advisable, but it had specific concerns about some of the proposed changes. USSP has identified these below as part of its recommendations to the UIUC Senate.

For the Senate to consider these amendments in an orderly way, USSP will offer several resolutions covering different sections of the revisions. Because of the extent of the changes being proposed and because of a delay arising from having been provided with a superseded set of the revisions, USSP has not yet completed its review of all of the proposed changes. However, to ensure progress, it wishes to bring those sections which it has readied for action to the Senate for discussion and action. This is the first in that series of proposals, covering amendments to the Preamble of the Statutes, as well as Article I, Sections 1 – 5 and Article II, Sections 1 - 2.

To organize the Senate’s discussion and deliberation, USSP has followed the division of the proposed revisions into eight separate motions as suggested by USC. At the December 8, 2014 meeting, USSP is presenting Motions One and Two and recommends that they be treated in succession. The committee intends to report to the Senate in several additional motions, and at the end of the process, to propose a single motion of final approval of advice to the Board. This is analogous to the procedure in Robert’s Rules of Order for “consideration by paragraph, or seriatim,” except that the process will be spread out over several meetings, rather than in one single meeting.

Attached is the text of the Statutes related to this portion of the review with redline/strikeout markings to illustrate the revisions emerging from the Board of Trustees review and below are USSP’s recommendations for action to be taken by the Senate.

RECOMMENDATION ONE
The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends tentative approval, subject to a later final vote, of the revisions to the University Statutes as contained in Motion 1 (pages i-ii and lines 41-122, i.e., through Article I, Section 5) with the exceptions identified below. For these exceptions, we note the
1. Page i “Nondiscrimination Statement” The statement should be edited to add “political affiliation” as the first of its list of prohibited forms of discrimination. This is necessary to adjust for the fact that the proposed revisions in Motion 5 call for the deletion of Article XI, Section 1 which has previously articulated areas of nondiscrimination. Political affiliation has been part of Article IX, Section 1, and if that Section is to be deleted, USSP believes the categories it has included should be carried forward to the Statutes prefatory Nondiscrimination Statement. With the Board’s proposed revisions and USSP’s addition the statement would read:

NONDISTCRIMINATION STATEMENT: The commitment of the University of Illinois to the most fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity, and human dignity requires that decisions involving students and employees be based on merit and be free from invidious discrimination in all its forms.

The University of Illinois will not engage in discrimination or harassment against any person because of political affiliation, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, genetic information, disability, sexual orientation including gender identity, unfavorable discharge from the military or status as a protected veteran and will comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, orders and regulations. This nondiscrimination policy applies to admissions, employment, access to and treatment in University programs and activities. University complaint and grievance procedures provide employees and students with the means for the resolution of complaints that allege a violation of this Statement. Members of the public should direct their inquiries or complaints to the appropriate equal opportunity office.

2. In Article I, Section 2, lines 61-62, USSP objects to the deletion of the provision requiring that the President be a member of the faculty of each unit of the University. Although symbolic, this provision reflects an important qualification that the President be a faculty member and have been able to meet the standards of tenure that are required of faculty. Accordingly, USSP recommends that the first sentence of Article I, Section 2 remain unchanged, reading as: “The president is the chief executive officer of the University and a member of the faculty of each college, school, institute, division, and academic unit therein.”

RECOMMENDATION TWO
The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends tentative approval, subject to a later final vote, of the revisions to the University Statutes as contained in Motion 2 (Article II, Sections 1-2 and lines 139-250) with the exceptions identified below. For these exceptions, we note the Board’s proposed change, followed by USSP’s recommendation. Text to be added is underscored and text to be deleted is indicated by strikeout (e.g., sample text for deletion).

1. Article II, Section 1, line 149, USSP noted that the senate is the elected representative of the members of the campus rather than just of the faculty. In addition in line 148, USSP recommends that rather than referring to the Senate as “the” authorized partner of the Administration, the language be changed to “an” authorized partner since there are many aspects and participants of shared governance throughout the university. Accordingly, the USSP recommends that the second and third sentences (lines 148-152) of the revision for Article II, Section 1 read:

The senate is the elected representative of the campus in shared governance discussions across the full range of university concerns. It is an authorized partner to engage administration in planning, policy, implementation, and collaborative problem-solving on matters pertinent to the well-being of the campus and its members.
2. Article II, Section 2, Paragraph a, lines 207-208, 210-213, and 246. USSP objects to these proposed changes to the organization of the USC. The rationale for the changes defers several important issues of constitution and operation to the USC bylaws. While the objects of the proposed changes may be a better fit for a bylaws document than the Statutes, the authority for creation of bylaws must first come from the Statutes. Because the USC does not now have bylaws and because the proposed revision for this Section does not provide authority or a process for the creation, approval, and amendment of bylaws, USSP recommends deferring the revisions proposed for Article II, Section 2 until the statutory authority exists to provide for bylaws which are submitted for review and approval by the three campus Senates.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
William Maher, Chair
H. George Friedman
Wendy Harris
Scott Jacobs
Calvin Lear
Anna-Maria Marshall
Mark Roszkowski
Cheyenne Wu
Sandy Jones, Ex officio (designee)
Jenny Roether, Ex officio
Dedra Williams, Observer
University of Illinois

NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The commitment of the University of Illinois to the most fundamental principles of academic freedom, equality of opportunity, and human dignity requires that decisions involving students and employees be based on merit and be free from invidious discrimination in all its forms.

The University of Illinois will not engage in discrimination or harassment against any person because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, genetic information, disability, sexual orientation including gender identity, unfavorable discharge from the military or status as a protected veteran and will comply with all federal and state nondiscrimination, equal opportunity and affirmative action laws, orders and regulations. This nondiscrimination policy applies to admissions, employment, access to and treatment in University programs and activities. University complaint and grievance procedures provide employees and students with the means for the resolution of complaints that allege a violation of this Statement. Members of the public should direct their inquiries or complaints to the appropriate equal opportunity office.

REVISED BY UNIVERSITY POLICY COUNCIL: May 31, 2005 OCTOBER 24, 2014

http://www.fs.uiuc.edu/cam/cam/ix/ix-b/ix-b-1.html
The regulations of the Board of Trustees for the guidance of the staff of the University were called Bylaws until 1901, when the term Statutes was applied. In 1908, the board adopted a revision of the Statutes which was much more comprehensive than anything that preceded it; from 1908 to 1931, separate articles were amended and new articles were added, but no general consideration was given to the regulations as a whole. During the period of 1931 to 1934, the board adopted certain statutes relating particularly to the educational and administrative organization of the University. In 1935, the Board of Trustees appointed a committee of its members to consider the Statutes, including various administrative regulations, which had been adopted from time to time, as a whole, and to present a revised code. This compilation was approved by the Board of Trustees on March 10, 1936, as the University of Illinois Statutes, and all previous editions were declared to be superseded.

On January 16, 1957, the Board of Trustees adopted a revised version of the Statutes, upon recommendation of the University Senate and the President of the University. Preliminary to this formal action, a special committee of the Board of Trustees worked with a committee of the University Senate in preparing the final draft.

Preliminary drafts of the present Statutes were prepared cooperatively by committees of the three senates and administrative officers. The final draft, adopted on May 17, 1972, by the Board of Trustees upon recommendation of the senates, the University Senates Conference, and the President of the University superseded all previous versions and editions of all corresponding Statutes. This edition contains all amendments approved since May 17, 1972.

In 2014, a thorough review of the Statutes was undertaken to revise and clarify provisions that were out of date or out of consistency with changed university practice.

Statutes on the Web: http://www.uillinois.edu/trustees/statutes.cfm
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PREAMBLE

The University of Illinois, as a state university, is subject to the control of the Illinois General Assembly. The General Assembly, subject to the limitations of the state constitution and to such self-imposed restraints as are essential to the maintenance of a free and distinguished University, exercises control by virtue of its authority to change the laws pertaining to the University and its power to appropriate funds for the maintenance and improvement of the University. Under existing state law the University of Illinois is a public corporation, the formal corporate name of which is “The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois.”

Within the limits fixed by the Illinois constitution and laws, the Board of Trustees exercises final authority over the University. For the proper use of funds appropriated by the General Assembly and for the proper administration and government of the University, the board is responsible to the people of Illinois, on whose behalf its members are appointed. The board is the governing body of the University and exercises jurisdiction in all matters except those for which it has delegated authority to the president, other officers, or bodies of the University.

The educational policy, organization, and governance of the University as delegated by the Board of Trustees are promulgated in these Statutes. When acting on such matters, the board relies upon the advice of the university senates transmitted to it by the President of the University. In these matters each senate has a legitimate concern which justifies its participation in the enactment and amendment of the Statutes. The Board of Trustees reserves the power to initiate and make changes in the Statutes, but before making any change it will seek the advice of the senates.

The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure document supplements the Statutes. The General Rules are subordinate to the Statutes and deal with administrative organization, with the powers, duties, and responsibilities of officers of the University, and with various administrative matters.

The Board of Trustees delegates to the President of the University the authority to promulgate regulations and rules implementing The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure. These are printed in the Business and Financial Policies and Procedures manual and other documents subordinate to the Statutes and The General Rules setting forth established policies and procedures.
ARTICLE I. UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATION

Section 1. Functions of the Board of Trustees

Note: This change comes from the Board of Trustees.

The Board of Trustees is appointed by the governor of Illinois and bears the ultimate responsibility to the people of the State. It approves university policies but leaves the execution of those policies to its administrative agents, acting under its general supervision. It is the responsibility of the board to secure the needed revenues for the University and to determine the ways in which university funds shall be applied.

Section 2. The President of the University

Rationale: The symbolic provision that makes the President a member of every department, etc., is an anachronism. The current view of the Presidency is that he/she is more an external representative and leader of the overall institution than a micro-manager of campus affairs. We specified the importance of a search committee process in hiring the President. We put the campus Chancellor in the loop in the process of granting degrees.

The president is the chief executive officer of the University and a member of the faculty of each college, school, institute, division, and academic unit therein. The president shall be elected appointed by the Board of Trustees, after consultation with a committee appointed for the purpose of recommending appropriate candidates. The president's term of office shall be at the pleasure of the board. The president shall attend the meetings of the board and participate in its deliberations; may act with freedom within the lines of general policy approved by the board; shall prepare the annual budgets for presentation to the board; and shall recommend to the board suitable persons for positions in the University, including appointments to appropriate administrative positions, other than academic, which are not provided for in the Statutes. In case of exigencies, it is within the proper jurisdiction of the president to make appointments so that the work of the University shall not be interrupted, but such appointments shall be subject to confirmation by the board. The president is responsible for the enforcement of the rules and regulations of the University; shall make such recommendations to the board and to the senates as the president may deem desirable for the proper conduct and development of the University; and shall issue diplomas conferring degrees, but only on the recommendation of the appropriate senate and by authority of the Board of Trustees. The president may designate the administrative officer(s) who shall exercise the functions of the president during the absence of the president from duty, which designation(s) shall be subject to change by the Board of Trustees.

Rationale: The Statutes establish the principle that the advice of the senate may be sought upon reappointment of the campus chancellor, and that the University Senates Conference may also give its advice upon the reappointment of the University officers. As the University Senates Conference is the advisory committee for the president, it is appropriate that the advice of this body also be sought upon the president's reappointment.
Section 3. The University Officers

The university officers are identified in *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*. Prior to recommending to the Board of Trustees the initial appointment or reappointment of any university officer, except the president and the chancellor/vice president, the president shall seek the advice of the University Senates Conference. Prior to the reappointment of the president, the Board of Trustees shall seek the advice of the University Senates Conference. On the occasion of the reappointment of any university officer, the University Senates Conference may submit its advice if it so elects.

Section 4. Other University Administrative Officers

There may be additional administrative officers with university-wide responsibilities and duties as delegated by the President of the University. The president may make changes in titles and assignment of responsibilities of these officers and may recommend to the Board of Trustees additional administrative positions as provided for in Section 2 of this Article.

Rationale: the added final sentence is intended to clarify what the “vice president” part of the chancellor’s title means.

Section 5. Chancellors and Vice Presidents

There shall be a chancellor at each campus of the University who shall also be a vice president of the University (chancellor/vice president). The chancellor/vice president, under the direction of the president, shall serve as the chief executive officer for the campus. The chancellor/vice president shall perform such duties as may be delegated and assigned by the president and may be consistent with the *Statutes* of the University, *The General Rules*, and actions of the Board of Trustees. As university officers, the chancellors/vice presidents have responsibility for advising the president and working with each other to advance the well-being of the entire university as well as their own individual campuses.

The chancellor/vice president shall be appointed annually by the Board of Trustees on the recommendation of the president. On the occasion of the appointment or reappointment of a new chancellor/vice president, the president shall have the advice of a committee selected by the senate of the campus concerned. On the occasion of a reappointment, the president shall have the advice of a committee selected by the senate of the campus concerned. On the occasion of a reappointment, the senate may submit its advice if it so elects.

Section 6. *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*

*The General Rules* supplement the *Statutes*. *The General Rules* are subordinate to the *Statutes* and deal with administrative organization, with the powers, duties, and responsibilities of officers of the University, and with university employment policies, property, and other
matters. -- *The General Rules* are adopted by the Board of Trustees acting on the advice of the
President of the University. -- The board reserves the right to make changes in *The General Rules*
after consultation with the president. -- Before providing such advice or consultation, the
president shall consult with the University Senates Conference, with due regard for the
provisions of Article XII, Section 5. -- However, consultation with the conference is not required
when because of exceptional circumstances a proposed action of the Board of Trustees would
authorize a deviation from *The General Rules* for a specific transaction.

ARTICLE II. LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION

Rationale: this revision provides more information about the mission and role of the
senates. Section (e) is revised to reflect the actual practices of educational policy review.
The procedure for honorary degrees is being revised under a separate process, and will be
considered separately.

Section 1. Campus Senates

a. A senate shall be constituted at each campus of the University. *The senate is the
elected representative of the faculty in shared governance discussions across the full range of
university concerns. It is the authorized partner to engage administration in planning, in policy,
in implementation, and in collaborative problem-solving on matters pertinent to the well-being of
the campus and its members. The basic structure of a senate, including its composition, shall be
provided for in its constitution. -- The constitution and any amendments thereto shall take effect
upon adoption by the senate concerned and approval thereof by the Board of Trustees.

b. Each senate may exercise legislative functions in matters of educational policy
affecting the University as a whole or its own campus only. -- No such senate action shall take
effect until it has been submitted to the University Senates Conference as provided in Article II,
Section 2, and either approved by the Board of Trustees itself or approved in a manner agreed to
by the board.

c. Except as otherwise provided in these *Statutes*, each senate shall determine for its
campus matters of educational policy including but not limited to: -- requirements for admission
to the several colleges, schools and other teaching divisions; general requirements for degrees
and certificates; relations among colleges, schools and other teaching divisions; the academic
calendar; and educational policy on student affairs. -- Neither the powers conferred on the senates
by this paragraph (c) nor the powers conferred by Article II, Section 1b shall extend to matters
over which the college is given jurisdiction by Article III, Section 2c.

d. Each senate shall recommend candidates for honorary degrees and shall determine
for its campus the manner in which the faculty shall recommend to the chancellor/vice president
candidates for earned degrees, diplomas, and certificates to be conferred by the president under
the authority of the Board of Trustees.
e. No new line of work involving questions of changes to general educational policy shall be established on any campus except upon approval of the senate concerned and except as elsewhere provided in these Statutes.

f. Each senate may propose amendments to these Statutes through the University Senates Conference to the president and the Board of Trustees as provided in Article XIII, Section 8.

g. Each senate shall adopt bylaws which, shall govern except as otherwise provided in these Statutes, shall govern its procedures and practices, including such matters as committee structure and duties, calling of meetings and establishment of agenda, and selection of officers. The bylaws of each senate shall provide for committees or other bodies to exercise those statutory duties specified in other sections of these Statutes, e.g., academic freedom and tenure, student discipline, and student affairs. The bylaws and any changes thereto shall be reported to the Board of Trustees through the chancellor/vice president and the president.

Section 2. University Senates Conference

a. Organization

(1) The University Senates Conference shall be made up of twenty members. The basic representation shall be two members from each senate. Additional members shall be apportioned to each senate, at least one from each senate, in numbers proportional to the number of faculty members on each campus. The apportionment shall be recalculated every five years. Each senate shall elect its own representatives from its membership.

Rationale: Changes to this section concern material more appropriate to the USC Bylaws than to the Statutes, and so were removed from this document.

(2) Senators whose senatorial terms expire before their conference terms expire shall complete their conference terms. Any faculty senator or faculty senator-elect shall be eligible for election to the conference. The term of office shall be three years beginning on the first day of the next academic year following the election. Approximately one-third of the conference members from each senate shall be elected annually.

(3) A quorum for conference meetings shall consist of a simple majority of the total membership of the conference. If a quorum cannot be obtained otherwise, the conference members from a senate may designate as many as two alternates from the faculty members of their own senate to serve at a specific meeting.

(34) The conference officers shall be a chair and a vice chair, who shall not be from the same senate and who shall be elected for one-year terms by and from the conference and shall not be from the same senate. The chair shall not be from the same senate in two consecutive years.

(45) The executive committee of the conference shall consist of two members from each senate; the conference chair, the conference vice chair, and four additional members.
elect annually by and from the conference. The conference may authorize the executive committee to act on behalf of the conference between scheduled meetings.

b. Functions.

The University Senates Conference shall review all matters acted upon by each senate. The conference shall determine whether senate actions requiring implementation or further consideration by officials or other groups within the University have been referred to the appropriate officials or groups. The conference itself may make any original or additional referral it deems advisable, and may append its comments and recommendations. Should the conference find a matter acted upon by one of the senates to be of concern to another senate, it shall refer the matter and the action to that senate. If two or more senates have acted differently on a subject, the conference shall attempt to promote agreement or consistency. Where agreement or consistency cannot be effected within a reasonable period of time, the conference shall transmit the related actions of the senates together with its own recommendations to the appropriate officials or groups within the University and shall simultaneously notify the clerk or secretary of each senate of its action. Any senate may record and transmit its further comments to the same addressees and to the conference.

The University Senates Conference shall assist the senates to communicate with one another, with University and campus administrative officials, and with the Board of Trustees (through the president), and may develop and implement procedures to enhance such communication.

c. The conference may act and may authorize its executive committee to act as an advisory group to the Board of Trustees (through the president), the president, other administrative officials, and the several senates on matters of university-wide concern. It shall be a special concern of the conference executive committee to aid in maintaining harmonious relations among such officers and the units of the University.
The Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees is pleased to nominate the following individuals for an honorary degree to be conferred at the May 2015 Commencement exercises:

- Ralph J. Cicerone
- Risa Lavizzo-Mourey
- Timothy J. Nugent

Information relative to the background and achievements of these nominees is attached. Based on the criteria approved by the Senate, the Committee has selected these individuals for Senate consideration.

The Committee wishes to express its sincere appreciation to all who participated in the process, particularly those who spent considerable amounts of time and effort in preparing documentation for these nominees.

COMMITTEE ON HONORARY DEGREES
Jeremy Tyson, Chair
Stephen Cartwright
Elvira Demejia
Andrew Kim
Harrison Kim
Soo Min Kim
Connor Schickel
Jinming Zhang
Ralph J. Cicerone
President, National Academy of Sciences

EDUCATION:
B.S., Electrical Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1965
M.S., Electrical Engineering, University of Illinois, 1967
Ph.D., Electrical Engineering, University of Illinois, 1970

Nominated by: William H. Sanders, Department Head and Donald Biggar Willett Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Douglas Beck, Professor, Department of Physics, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
May Berenbaum, Department Head and Swanlund Chair of Entomology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Andreas C. Cangellaris, Dean, College of Engineering and M. E. Van Valkenburg Professor in Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
Gene E. Robinson, Director, Institute for Genomic Biology and Swanlund Chair of Entomology, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

BASIS FOR NOMINATION:
Dr. Cicerone is nominated for seminal contributions to research in the areas of atmospheric chemistry and global climate change, and for leadership in public policy in protecting the global environment.

EXCERPT FROM THE NOMINATION LETTER:
"Dr. Cicerone has made outstanding seminal contributions in climate science, as well as to leadership in the sciences and public policy, for more than 40 years. He is nationally and internationally renowned, and has given congressional testimony on numerous occasions over the past several years on global climate, energy and national resources, and the environment.

The focus of Dr. Cicerone’s research has been the sources and impact of greenhouse gases, including methane, chloro- and fluorocarbons, their relationship to the ozone layer, and the resulting impact on climate. In 2001, responding to a charge from President Bush, he led a National Academy of Sciences study of the state of climate change and its potential impact on the environment and human health. In 2004, he was awarded the Albert Einstein World Award in Science by the World Cultural Council, primarily for his work linking stratospheric chlorine to the depletion of ozone and for methane production resulting from agriculture.

Dr. Cicerone is a distinguished member of our Illinois family who has led an impressive scholarly career, making numerous important contributions that not only have advanced the research in global climate, but that have advanced society worldwide. As President of the National Academy of Sciences, Dr. Cicerone continues to make a global impact in shaping science and environmental policy.”
Honors/Awards (Not Inclusive):

1990 Elected to the National Academy of Sciences
1991 Elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
1999 Bower Award and Prize for Scientific Achievement, Franklin Institute, Philadelphia
2000 Elected to the American Philosophical Society
2004 Albert Einstein World Award of Science, World Cultural Council
2005 Foreign Member, Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (Rome)
2007 Honorary Doctor of Science, George Washington University
2009 Foreign Member, The Korean Academy of Science and Technology
2012 Foreign Member, The Royal Society

Excerpts from the Letters of Recommendation:

Susan Solomon, Ellen Swallow Richards Professor of Atmospheric Chemistry and Climate Science, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

“Dr. Cicerone is an exemplary scholar whose personal groundbreaking work in atmospheric chemistry would amply qualify him for this distinguished honor in and of itself. Among his accomplishments is his highly cited 1974 paper with Stolarski, which first showed how chlorine could participate in a catalytic cycle that destroys stratospheric ozone. This paper is a cornerstone in our understanding of how chlorofluorocarbons deplete the planet’s ozone layer.

In addition to his own work as a scientist, Cicerone has been a distinctive and effective leader to the efforts of others, beginning with his service as Director of the Atmospheric Chemistry Division at NCAR, to his chancellorship at UC Irvine, and as President of the National Academy of Sciences. In each of these roles, Cicerone has effectively guided the organization under his stewardship, and has made extraordinary contributions to public understanding of science.”

Donald J. Wuebbles, Harry E. Preble Professor of Atmospheric Sciences, School of Earth, Society and the Environment, Department of Atmospheric Sciences, University of Illinois

“He is well known for his research into biogeochemical cycles, atmospheric chemistry, and the effects of various gases on the atmosphere, especially methane, nitrous oxide and several methyl halides. Also, while at the University of Michigan as a young assistant professor, he coauthored the paper in 1972 that suggested that chlorine reactions could be important to stratospheric ozone. Ralph has also been a leader in various national and international assessments on stratospheric ozone and climate change. He indeed is clearly an exemplary leader amongst his peers. He has a huge impact on science and humanity, and well deserves this honor.”

James J. Duderstadt, President Emeritus and University Professor of Science and Engineering, University of Michigan

“Dr. Cicerone’s scientific achievements have been of immense importance, both to American science and more broadly, to the sustainability of Planet Earth itself. Working with James Anderson, he discovered the role that the release of CFCs played in destroying atmospheric ozone and creating the ozone hole over Antarctica. These discoveries led to an extraordinary international treaty banning CFC emissions.

Dr. Cicerone is distinguished not only for an extraordinary career in science, but as well for his leadership in education as Chancellor of the University of California, Irvine, and in science policy through his strong participation in and leadership of the National Academies.”
Risa Lavizzo-Mourey  
President and CEO, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation  

EDUCATION:  
M.D., Harvard Medical School, 1979  
MBA in Health Care Administration, Wharton School of Business, University of Pennsylvania, 1986  

Nominated by: Wojtek J. Chodzko-Zajko, Head, Department of Kinesiology and Community Health, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  

BASIS FOR NOMINATION:  
In her capacity as President and CEO of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, over the past decade, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey has had a profound impact on the health and well-being of Americans of all ages and colors. Under her leadership, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation (RWJF) has implemented a number of significant campaigns to improve the health of the nation, focusing in particular on vulnerable populations including children, youth and the very old. Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey is without question one of the most influential women in health care and philanthropy. By her leadership and example, by her innovative thinking, and by her unwavering commitment to overcoming disparities, Dr. Risa Lavizzo-Mourey has proven herself to be an extraordinary role model for our students and for other future leaders in the fields of health care and beyond.  

EXCERPT FROM THE NOMINATION LETTER:  
“In her capacity as President of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey oversees an endowment of more than $8 billion that distributed more than $400 million per year to support projects that impact the health and wellness of Americans. Under her leadership, the RWJF has spearheaded initiatives to combat childhood obesity that have been credited as playing a major role in decelerating growth of the obesity epidemic among America’s children and youth.”  

HONORS/AWARDS (NOT INCLUSIVE):  
1995 Elected to American Clinical and Climatological Society  
1997 Elected to Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Science  
2001 Master, American College of Physicians  
2005 Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Colby College  
2006 Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters, Syracuse University  
2006 Distinguished Service Award, National Medical Fellowships  
2009 Honorary Doctor of Science, Pennsylvania State University  
2010 Honorary Doctor of Law, University of Pennsylvania  
2013 Honorary Doctor of Medical Science, Brown University  
2014 Elected to American Academy of Arts and Sciences
Excerpts from the Letters of Recommendation:

James Firman, President and CEO, National Council on Aging

“The focus and discipline that the [Robert Wood Johnson] Foundation has brought to bear on combatting the epidemic of childhood obesity is producing great benefits to the long-term health of our nation.

Recently, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey led the Foundation to make an even more fundamental shift in health philanthropy: from a primary focus on access, quality and affordability of health and medical services to a focus on creating a culture of health in the United States. This is a profound sea-change that is in its infancy, but I believe is essential to achieving our vision for a health and engaged society.”

Shelly Y. Pfohl, Executive Director, President’s Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition

“In June 2010, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey was appointed by President Barack Obama to serve as a member of the President’s Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition. In her work with the PCFSN, Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey helps to guide the Council and advance our mission to engage, educate, and empower all Americans to adopt a healthy lifestyle that includes regular physical activity and good nutrition. In her career as a physician and as President and CEO of the RWJF, she is a leader and ambassador who has helped transform our nation’s health care system and create a national culture of health.

Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey is a true visionary in her field. We are fortunate to have her expertise as a member of the President’s Council, and our nation benefits from the great work that she does in her capacity as President and CEO of the RWJF. She is the type of leader that we need working on behalf of the American people, to leave a legacy of health for generations to come.”

James F. Sallis, Distinguished Professor and Chief, Division of Behavioral Medicine, Department of Family and Preventive Medicine, University of California at San Diego

“Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey has led the RWJF to play major roles in shaping health care reform, improving addiction treatment and prevention, highlighting the crucial need to prioritize health equity, and setting the course for a broader model of prevention. The Commission for a Healthier America she led identified the critical need for non-health sectors ... to be actively engaged in finding ways to help all Americans be healthier. This cross-sector approach can now be seen in the National Prevention Strategy that, for the first time, brings together all federal departments to make plans to improve health.

I believe Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey’s most significant achievement and what she will be best known for is championing the cause of childhood obesity prevention. ... There is no doubt that Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey can take credit for creating a consensus about how to approach this complex problem.

She has made her mark on the history of American medicine and public health. Of the many extraordinary leaders in the health field, few are as well known, and very few have had the demonstrable impact on health as Dr. Lavizzo-Mourey.”
Timothy J. Nugent
Professor and Director Emeritus, Division of Disability Resources and Educational Services, University of Illinois

EDUCATION:
B.S., Health & Physical Education, University of Wisconsin, La Crosse, WI
M.S., Health Sciences & Physical Education, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI

Nominated by: Tanya M. Gallagher, Dean, College of Applied Health Sciences, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

BASIS FOR NOMINATION:
Tim Nugent’s ground-breaking work and tireless advocacy transformed the national landscape for persons with disabilities. The program which he founded at Illinois in 1948 was the first and for many years the only program in the country to provide accommodations for students with disabilities. It remains to this day the national leader in disability.

EXCERPT FROM THE NOMINATION LETTER:
“A World War II Army veteran himself who was decorated with the Bronze Star, the Belgium Fourragée, and a Presidential Citation, [Tim] wanted to make it possible for WWII veterans with disabilities to utilize the educational benefits of the GI Bill and pursue post-secondary education. He was relentless in his effort to accomplish what was at that time considered to be unthinkable.

Under his 38-year leadership Illinois’ inter-related research, education and service programs led to innovative breakthroughs that changed the world for persons with disabilities. Among them were the first curb cuts for persons with disabilities, the first bus equipped with a wheelchair lift, architectural accessibility standards that were later adopted nationally, the founding of collegiate wheelchair sports programs that led to the formation of the National Wheelchair Basketball Association, the first study abroad program for students with disabilities, and the transformation of national and international perceptions of persons with disabilities from incapacity to ability. The core principle Tim espoused, that still guides our ongoing work, is that disability is not defined by impairments alone but by the interactions of impairments and environments, all environments – physical, technological and social. The strength of the foundational work he did here is evident in the sustained leadership of a program that continues to work toward building a society that embraces all people.”
HONORS/AWARDS (NOT INCLUSIVE):

1957  President’s Public Personnel Award, “For Distinguished Service in Encouraging and Promoting the Employment of the Physically Handicapped”, awarded by President Dwight D. Eisenhower
1985  “Tim Nugent Day” Proclamation, Governor James Thompson, State of Illinois
1990  Charter Member of the James Naismith Museum and Basketball Hall of Fame
1993  Distinguished Service Award, “For Distinguished Service to America in Promoting the Dignity, Equality, Independence and Employment of People with Disabilities”, awarded by President Bill Clinton
1999  10th Annual Henry B. Betts Award, American Association of Peoples with Disabilities
1999  Special Citation, Mayor Richard M. Daley and City Council of Chicago
2007  Chancellor’s Medallion, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
2011  Lincoln Laureate

EXCERPTS FROM THE LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION:

B. Joseph White, James F. Towey Professor of Business and Leadership, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

“Suffice it to say that for decades, he persistently and bravely championed the right of people with disabilities to participate in both athletics and the full life of the University. ... Tim never accepted conventional wisdom about people with disabilities. He fought it successfully and replaced it with a philosophy of respect, dignity, challenge and achievement. Tim Nugent literally changed the world in an incredibly positive and lasting way.”

Sue Suter, Associate Commissioner of the Office of Employment Support Programs, Social Security Administration

“Dr. Nugent’s work provided major breakthroughs in knowledge in the field of disability, and he made distinguished contributions in administration, legislative activity, and innovation that advance inclusion in all segments of society for individuals with disabilities.”

Ann Cody, Three-time U.S. Paralympian and Member of the International Paralympic Committee Governing Board

“It is rare that an individual has such a profound impact on the lives of so many. Tim Nugent is such a person and he is extremely deserving of an Honorary Degree from the University of Illinois. I was fortunate to have been at Illinois as an undergraduate during Tim’s tenure as Director of DRES. The University of Illinois was an oasis for me and many other students with disabilities from all over the country. The majority of colleges and universities in the U.S. were not accessible to young people with disabilities for decades.

Attending the University of Illinois had a profound impact on my life. I remain indebted to Tim Nugent for having had the vision to make a college education accessible to students with disabilities.”
EP.15.30 Report of Administrative Approvals at the December 1, 2014 meeting of the EPC.

Undergraduate Programs

ACES – BS in Food Science and Human Nutrition, concentration in Dietetics – FSHN 428 – Community Nutrition has been added to the list of concentration electives.

ACES – BS in Food Science and Human Nutrition, concentration in Human Nutrition – The Department would like to add FSHN 398 – Nutrition & Physical Activity, FSHN 465 – Principles of Food Technology, FSHN 471 – Food & Industrial Microbiology and FSHN 480 – Basic Toxicology to the list of Restricted Electives. Students must select a minimum of two courses from the list of 20 courses.
The Faculty Advisory Council (FAC) of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) held a regularly scheduled meeting at the Oakton Community College (OCC) with 26 members present. Special guests from Oakton included President Dr. Peg Lee; V.P. for Academic Affairs, Dr. Tom Hamel; V.P. for Student Affairs, Dr. Joi Smith; and Gloria Liu, Coordinator & Co-Director of the "Center for Promoting STEM"

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM with introductions of those present. Oakton President Peg Lee welcomed the group to her campus. Dr. Lee has been at Oakton for 30 years including serving as President for 20 years. She will be retiring in the near future. Lee opined that higher education has become credential driven and commoditized. She also called the escalating cost of higher education as unsustainable. A question/answer session followed Dr. Lee’s remarks.

Gloria Liu, Coordinator of the Center for Promoting STEM, gave a presentation titled, “Retaining STEM Students through Student Research.” The Center was established with a grant from the National Science Foundation (NSF). Liu reported that 25 to 40 students participate in the program through about eight projects per semester. The OCC experience has been that students who participate in this program often take more STEM courses the following semesters or transfer to four-year institutions.

Oakton Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, Michael Carr, gave a presentation on OCC’s participation in “Achieving the Dream,” a national program. Oakton joined the program in 2013 with the goal of improving student success and eliminating achievement gaps. According to the OCC website, the program helps 3.8 million community college students at about 200 schools in 34 states. Carr reported that the program maintains five principles as follows: community leadership; use of evidence to improve programs and services, broad engagement of constituents, systematic institutional improvement, and equity. Oakton uses the longitudinal data for tracking of students and their success.

Aminmansour stated that Dr. James Applegate, the IBHE Executive Director, will discuss Guided Pathways to Success (GPS) with the Council at our December 12 meeting in Springfield. Aminmansour also reported that the IBHE Performance Based Funding (PBF) Steering Committee had met on November 20th to discuss potential changes in the models used for assessing PBF for four year institutions. The Committee had decided to recommend not increasing the 0.5% allocation for PBF and that we do not change the model over the next three years, allowing the model to be evaluated.

The three caucuses of the Council (four year public universities; community colleges and private/independent institutions) met separately and reported back to the Council later in the day. The
Privates discussed MAP funding, meaningful information on graduation rates, academic integrity issues, social media influence on students. The Publics are working on a resolution on shared governance as well as one on academic freedom. Community college caucus discussed the 6% SURS rule and its implications on hiring faculty as adjuncts after their retirement to help teach courses. Oakton Community College will not hire retired faculty due to a heavy fine they had to pay due to a recent case.

Steve Rock, FAC Secretary and FAC Liaison to the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC) updated the Council on new developments affecting MAP including reduced funding and the mandate to set aside a certain amount of funds for veterans, another unfunded mandate. Rock reported that MAP funding runs out earlier each year with about half of eligible students not receiving any funds.

In the Business portion of the meeting, the minutes of the October 17, 2014 FAC meeting were approved. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 PM. The next FAC meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2014 in Springfield and will be hosted by the IBHE staff.

This report is prepared based on the draft minutes of the FAC meeting minutes prepared by the FAC Secretary, Professor Steve Rock of Western Illinois University (WIU). Much credit is owed to him.

Respectfully submitted
Abbas Aminmansour
Report on the November 13, 2014 meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois at the Chicago campus

Chairman Kennedy convened the meeting of Wolcott, Wood and Taylor with Board Secretary Susan Kies calling the Roll.

The BOT went into Executive Session to consider:

- University employment and appointment-related matter
- Setting the price for the sale and lease of property owned by the University
- Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act

Open Session resumed following the Executive Session with remarks from Governor Pat Quinn. Governor Quinn’s remarks covered a wide range of topics including sustainability and use of renewable energy sources, the IL MAP scholarship program where he noted more than half of the students provided with funds are minority students, the challenges of financing an education today, and the role UIC plays for the Hispanic citizens of IL.

Chairman Kennedy introduced Ms. Morgan Pirtle who sang the State song Illinois accompanied on the piano by Mr. Supasit Supawong.

UIC Chancellor Paula Allen-Meares welcomed BOT members and meeting attendees to the UIC campus using a video which included the engineering-art synergies demonstrated via the imaging capabilities for research on conditions such as depression using the Cave-2, as well as a vision statement from Dimitri Azar for the UIC College of Medicine.

Vice President Walter Knorr gave a financial report, highlighting the State’s poor credit rating and including details about unpaid State vouchers, lower State appropriations to UI and Administrative costs of the University.

Professor Richard Dye, IGPA, presented the quarterly report on the State economy. This report demonstrated that revenues in the model growing slower than IL State government spending, the large State liabilities, and that the IL bond rates are the worst of all 50 US States. Prof. Dye’s summary:

- IL is lagging significantly behind in the economic recovery seen in other Midwest states
- IL has a large structural financial deficit
- IL has huge liabilities from past deficits
- IL bond ratings are threatened by fiscal inaction

BOT committee reports:

- Trustee McMillan: Audit, Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee.
- Trustee Stroebel: Governance, Personnel and Ethics Committee. She included in her report that the UI Presidential search is on track stating it is anticipated that a new President will be known by the end of the semester.
- Trustee Koritz: University Healthcare Systems Committee. He noted a nursing strike was avoided and that plans are made for dealing with Ebola should it come to IL. Trustee Koritz stated that
Senates have approved the two proposals one, from UIUC and one from UIC, related to their respective plans for Colleges of Medicine, and that these will be discussed at USC in December. President Easter has been asked to study these proposals and to present to the BOT in March the findings. Trustee Koritz said that a conversation with Dean Cangellaris, UIUC College of Engineering revealed that in order for the UIUC College of Engineering to maintain its premier cutting-edge status, it must embrace Bio-engineering and have a College of Medicine. Trustee Koritz also noted and congratulated Chancellor Wise and Trustee McMillan who will serve on Governor-Elect Rauner’s Transition Team. Chancellor Wise provided a correction to Trustee Koritz’ statement saying that her campus Senate had approved preliminary endorsement of the COM and that several Senate Committees were currently studying this topic carefully. Trustee Koritz thanked Chancellor Wise for her correction.

- Trustee Hasara: Academic and Student Affairs Committee. Of particular note was receipt of the Taskforce Report on Open Access, and the development of a dashboard approach for future Provost’s presentation of Academic Unit review and analyses, the data which will drive future decisions related to academic units. Trustee Hasara also noted the presentation by Vice-President Christophe Pierre on tuition and financial aid and the Diversity Awards received by UIC complimenting the UIC campus on these achievements.

Public Comment was received from:

- Prof. Mary Jo Ladu – UIC who spoke to the needed strength of the UI Health Sciences Enterprise.
- Prof. Catherine Vincent – UIC who endorsed the statements of Prof. Ladu.
- Prof. Rashis Bashir – UIUC Department Head of BioEngineering, who spoke on behalf of himself and Dean Cangellaris, UIUC College of Engineering (COE). Prof Bashir stated that the microelectronics revolution of the last century lead to the recognition that the UIUC College of Engineering is the most influential COE in the world. He requested Trustee’s to reflect on Lincoln’s standards which guide the UIUC campus to change the world. The overarching theme of the proposed new UIUC College of Medicine is to provide medicine of higher quality to more people at lower cost. This new College of Medicine will allow the UIUC College of Engineering to maintain itself as the leading COE in the world.
- Mr. Cary Shepherd spoke about coal use.

The BOT approved by voice vote Board items 001 through 013, with 009 revised. All passed unanimously.

The BOT approved by roll call vote Board items 014 through 023. All passed with some dissenting and some abstention votes.

The BOT then convened to Executive Session.

Following Executive Session, the BOT handled other old and new business. Chairman Kennedy announced that the next BOT will be on Thursday, January 15, 2015, in Chicago.

The BOT meeting was adjourned.

Details of the meeting can be found at: [http://www.bot.uillinois.edu/multimedia](http://www.bot.uillinois.edu/multimedia) and at: [http://www.trustees.uillinois.edu/trustees/agenda/November-13-2014/](http://www.trustees.uillinois.edu/trustees/agenda/November-13-2014/)

Respectfully yours,
Gay Y. Miller
SURSMAC met at the SURS headquarters in Champaign from 10:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. The meeting consisted of presentations by SURS staff, discussion of key issues and a brief business meeting. The major focus of the meeting was the number of changes that will be taking place at SURS and with regard to the retirement system in the next six months to a year. We attended the meeting representing the Senate along with Laura Czys from University Office for Human Resources.

SURSMAC chair, John Shuler (UIC), chaired the meeting and welcomed the participants who introduced themselves. This was followed by approval of the minutes of the April 9, 2013, meeting. Shuler then outlined the challenges facing SURS and SURSMAC during the coming year. These will include adapting to policies of the new Governor and to the changes that will occur when William Mabe steps down April 1 as Executive Director of SURS and when the SURS Board of Trustees starts to work after the elections and appointments of members occurs next summer. Shuler also noted the changes which have occurred as a result of the court decision on retiree health care and which may occur as a result of the court challenges on pensions.

Albert Lee, Associate General Counsel provided a summary of the current legal activity concerning the pension reform law. He noted that we will know a lot more on November 20 when Sangamon County Circuit Judge John Belz holds a hearing. In his presentation and in answering the questions what arose, Lee outlined the range of possible outcomes that could occur. For example, it is possible that the Judge could decide that the decision in the Kanerva health care case is a precedent for the pension reform case and decide accordingly. It is then a question of whether and how quickly the case will be appealed to the Supreme Court. Regarding the ordered refunds of health insurance premiums, Lee was not certain of the timing and whether or not there would be requests for payment of contingency fees from this fund.

Jeff Houch, SURS Legislative Liaison, joined Lee to present the legislative update. He predicted relatively little activity during the veto session starting that afternoon. Regarding pension bills, he thinks it is unlikely that there will be an attempt to propose again the normal cost shift bill in the lame duck session. He also feels it is unlikely that the expiration of “temporary” tax increase will be overturned in good part because the Republicans have opposed it and the Democrats may feel unwilling to help the new Governor by attempting to pass it. Though Rauner’s platform was not specific on many issues, one likely pension reform plan he will propose will start with a “freeze” on all pension benefits already earned so that current retirees are not affected. From that date on, everyone will be moved to a 401(k)-style retirement plans. A major problem, as Houch noted, is that the savings from such a plan don’t occur until years or decades to come principally because of the resulting reductions in contributions to the defined benefit plans.

William Mabe, Executive Director, made a brief report on the “state” of SURS. He noted that the funding ratio was 48.5% on June 30, 2014; an increase from 43.7% a year earlier. He briefly discussed the SURS “Agenda 2015 Investment Plan” (September, 2014) copies of which were provided. He noted the uncertainties about how funding will proceed given the decisions to be made about (a) the “temporary” income tax increase by the governor and the legislature and (b) the law suits contesting the pension bill. He noted that between 2000 and 2014 the number of active members of SURS has been fairly steady around 70,000 while the number of individuals receiving benefits has about doubled from around 30,000 to 60,000. If future changes include more emphasis on 401(k)-type plans especially for new employees, this will further erode the number of individuals contributing to the defined benefits plans. For SURS in particular, this
would occur if more individuals selected the self-managed plan (SMP). An increase has occurred recently as around 18% of the new hires chose the SMP compared to the current 12-15% in that plan.

Dan Allan, Chief Investment Officer, joined Mr. Mabe and reported that the SURS portfolio had earned an annualized rate of return of 18.2% for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2014. He summarized some of the elements of the long term plans for the SURS Investment Program. In particular, there have been changes in the strategic targets for the share of the portfolio in public equity (down); fixed income (up slightly), and alternatives such as private equity and real estate (up).

Suzanne Mayer, interim Director of Outreach, reported on the programs that had been established to help the SURS staff hand the high demand during the spring and summer. Group counseling sessions introduced with such a good effect that they plan to continue them on a regular basis.

Mabe and Shuler then continued the discussion of the number of changes that will be occurring at SARS in particular and regarding the pension system in general. As noted, there will be a new SARS Executive Director and probably some turnover on the SARS Board of Trustees. A search firm has been selected to lead search for the new Executive Director choice. It seems likely that an interim Director will be chosen once Mabe retires. There will also be a new General Counsel as of February, 2015. Mabe is confident that SARS will continue to have a solid leadership team after these changes.

Mabe concluded his presentation by discussing his hopes for improving the role of SURSMAC in (a) providing advice to the SARS Executive Director and Board of Trustees as the representative of the SARS members and (b) providing information to those members about the actions being taken by SARS. As he and Shuler noted, one element of this change will be to revise the Constitution and Bylaws of SURSMAC. It will then be possible to improve the procedures by which SURSMAC representatives are chosen and the effectiveness of the group. Mabe indicated that he would be willing to begin the revision process.

Shuler concluded the program by discussing the key characteristics he feels the new Executive Director should have. These included expertise on pension management, strong consensus building and leadership skills, and the ability to communicate effectively with the SARS constituencies including SURSMAC. He concluded the meeting with a brief summary of what he hoped to accomplish as we prepare for the spring meeting which will include selecting a Chair (his term ends but he is willing to serve another) and Vice Chair (currently vacant).

There was a brief discussion of possible dates for the spring meeting. The meeting was adjourned at about 1:45 p.m.

H.F. (Bill) Williamson  
John Kindt  
UIUC Senate Representatives

*SURSMAC is the State University Retirement System Members Advisory Committee to the SARS Board of Trustees. Members are faculty and staff representing the various institutions and agencies affected by SARS: public universities, community colleges, state surveys, and retiree organizations. It normally meets twice a year in October and April at SARS headquarters at 1901 Fox Drive in Champaign.