

Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus

November 14, 2016

Minutes

A regular meeting of the University of Illinois Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus was called to order at 3:10 pm in the Illini Union Ballroom with Vice Chancellor for Research Peter Schiffer presiding and Professor Emeritus H. George Friedman, Jr. serving as Parliamentarian.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

11/14/16-01 The minutes from October 10, 2016 were approved as distributed.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Gay Miller (VMED), faculty senator and Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), apologized for her lengthy remarks. Miller noted a November 3 New York Times article entitled "Bottom Line: How State Budget Cuts Affect Your Education. The article stated that since the 2008 recession, state support for two and four year universities in the United States is \$10 billion below what it was in 2008. At last week's Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting, Vice-President Walter Knorr provided the following related metric: In 1970, the State of Illinois provided \$12.8 for each tuition dollar generated by the University of Illinois (UI) System; today the UI receives only \$0.3 from the state for each tuition dollar generated.

This historical trend and the state budget impasse has prompted President Killeen to develop what is being referred to as IPAC (Investment, Performance and Accountability Commitment). President Killeen presented the IPAC, or House Bill (HB) 6623, to the BOT on November 10, 2016. The IPAC/HB6623 is to set in law the level of funding and regulatory relief the UI System can rely upon for the next five years, as well as setting in law the performance, accountability, and transparency commitments that the UI System would provide in return.

Miller reported that at the October 26 University Senates Conference (USC) meeting, President Killeen stated his hope that the three Senates would support the IPAC. Miller noted that Killeen envisioned faculty support in the form of a resolution. Since the SEC was aware this announcement was coming, at the November 7 SEC meeting the chairs of the following committees were asked to evaluate the IPAC and consider drafting a resolution in response: Admissions, Budget, Educational Policy (EPC), Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits (Benefits), and General University Policy (GUP).

A link to HB6623 and President Killeen's related website can be found on the Senate website. Miller encouraged everyone to review the information and provide input to one of the Senate committees tasked with evaluating the IPAC. Miller anticipated a resolution relating to the IPAC would be presented at the next regular Senate meeting.

At the last Senate meeting, concern was expressed about what will happen with healthcare premium costs. There are many factors contributing to the increase in healthcare costs in the US from a population perspective. Miller felt the following factors were among the most important. The US population is aging. Illinois and the US have more health problems and therefore higher healthcare costs. Science is uncovering treatments for diseases and conditions that previously were not treatable. Treatments like antiretroviral therapy for HIV positive individuals, and drugs for autoimmune conditions like rheumatoid arthritis. Increased healthcare costs and increased premiums are not just an issue for Illinois. The Affordable Care Act participants are also experiencing increased premiums.

There are complicating behavioral issues that are also factors in increasing costs. These factors can be discussed when details about healthcare market economics can be addressed. Some of the behavioral factors are areas where people could agree to change their behavior in exchange for lowered premium costs. This could be an area for discussion through our shared governance process.

Miller reported that four SEC members, Miller, Graber, Oberdeck, and Maher, along with Chair of the Senate Committee on Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits John Kindt were invited to a special meeting to discuss healthcare concerns with Provost Feser and the Vice-President for Academic Affairs Barbara Wilson along with others within University Administration (UA). The group learned that UA is not at the bargaining table where premium costs will be decided, and there are continued substantial delays in claim payments. UA has no direct control on premium costs. Miller reported that UA stated they are doing what they can from an advocacy perspective for the UI system. All State of Illinois employees' healthcare premiums continue to be negotiated by AFSCME (American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees). Miller stated that explanations she provided are not meant as any attempt to dodge controversy, but thought the information would be helpful to understand what AFSCME and other negotiating bodies in the US are up against.

Miller also noted that UA is aware that the circumstances and the unknowns about the situation can be "unsettling, challenging and demoralizing", and do not think an open forum is a current solution. UA is planning to develop a website with FAQs and the ability to submit concerns or experiences. Miller encouraged senators to contact legislators with concerns.

CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

Vice Chancellor for Research Peter Schiffer conveyed regrets on behalf of Chancellor Jones and Provost Feser who were attending the APLU (Association of Public and Land-grant Universities) conference.

The Chancellor has made it clear that threats and intolerance will not be allowed on this campus. If you hear of any incidents, please report them to the police or other appropriate administrators. Campus safety is one of the highest importance.

Schiffer shared his support of the IPAC. And noted that details are available on the President's website, including a link to the House Bill.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION

In response to a concern regarding the changing VISA rules, Schiffer noted that campus administration is reviewing all contingency plans and would share information as it becomes available.

Student senator Villanueva (LAS) shared an anecdote about a student protest. During the protest, the protestors passed a group of student peers writing letters to veterans. As the large number of protestors waked by, the protestors began yelling profanities and making hand gestures at the students writing letters. Villanueva asked that as discussions are held about the election going forward to please discuss civility, to talk about how to have conversations, and a move to better dialogue.

Faculty senator Oberdeck (LAS) mentioned a petition asking the University to become a sanctuary for undocumented students and their families and to provide a social climate to assist without fear. Oberdeck hopes to seek support from the Senate in this effort. Schiffer will bring the petition to the Chancellor's attention.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 11/14/16-02 EP.17.15* Proposal to Change the Name of the Business Process Management Major to Operations Management, College of Business
- 11/14/16-03 EP.17.16* Proposal to Change the Name of the Information Systems / Information Technology Major to Information Systems, College of Business
- 11/14/16-04 EP.17.19* Proposal to Revise Five Undergraduate Bachelor of Science Concentrations in the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics, College of ACES

- 11/14/16-05 EP.17.20* Proposal to Revise the Curriculum to the Ph.D. Requirements for the Department of Aerospace Engineering, College of Engineering
- 11/14/16-06 EP.17.21* Proposal to Establish a Graduate Minor in Statistics, Department of Statistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 11/14/16-07 EP.17.23* Proposal to Revise the BALAS in Interdisciplinary Studies and Discontinue American Civilization and Renaissance Studies Concentrations, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 11/14/16-08 EP.17.24* Proposal to Establish an Undergraduate Minor in Criminology, Law, and Society, Department of Sociology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 11/14/16-09 EP.17.25* Proposal to Revise the BALAS in Sociology, Department of Sociology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 11/14/16-10 EP.17.27* Proposal to Revise the Interdisciplinary Minor in Aging, College of Applied Health Sciences
- 11/14/16-11 EP.17.28* Proposal to Revise the Core Curriculum of the Campus-Wide Master of Science (M.S.) in Bioinformatics Program
- 11/14/16-12 EP.17.29* Proposal to Revise the Requirements for M.A. in Speech and Hearing Science, Clinical Program
- 11/14/16-13 EP.17.30* Proposal to Change the Name of the Major in *Bioenergy* to *Bioprocessing and Bioenergy*, for the Master of Science degree in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences

PROPOSALS

- 11/14/16-14 EP.17.34* Proposed Revisions to the Policy on Acceptance of Transfer Credit for Undergraduate Admission Purpose (USC OT-337)
- On behalf of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC) and the Senate Committee on Admissions (AD), EPC Chair Bettina Francis moved approval of the endorsement of the proposed revisions to the Policy on Acceptance of Transfer Credit for Undergraduate Admission Purpose. No discussion.
- 11/14/16-15 By i>Clicker, proposal EP.17.34 was approved with 135 in favor and 2 opposed.
- 11/14/16-16 CC.17.09* Nominations for Membership on Standing Committees of the Senate
- On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Chair Monda-Amaya moved approval of the slate of nominees listed in proposal CC.17.09. There were no nominations from the floor and nominations were closed.
- 11/14/16-17 By i>Clicker, proposal CC.17.09 was approved with 135 in favor and 1 opposed.

CURRENT BENEFITS INFORMATION

- 11/14/16-18 John Kindt, Chair of the Senate Committee on Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits noted the September 26 News-Gazette article that was distributed at the door entitled "Lock-box plan fraud on public". The article opposes the lock-box amendment that would stop transportation-related tax dollars from being spent on anything but transportation-related projects. Over the years millions of dollars have been reallocated from the state's transportation fund to the general fund for schools and social services. Kindt urged senators to inform themselves before voting on this amendment.
- The anticipated action to repeal and revise the Affordable Care Act will most likely occur in the first 100 days of the new Presidency. Experts are watching, but have no idea how it will affect benefits and healthcare. Kindt urged senators to contact legislators, within ethical guidelines. There is a legislator look-up tool on the <http://www.ilga.gov> website. Once on this page, click on legislator look up, input an address, and the results will display your state legislator.

11/14/16-19 **REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**
EP.17.34* Report of Administrative Approvals through October 17, 2016

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.

Jenny Roether
Senate Clerk

*Filed with the Senate Clerk and incorporated by reference in these minutes.
A video recording of these proceedings can be found at <https://go.illinois.edu/senate>

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