

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE**

Committee on General University Policy

**GP.18.03 Annual Report for 2017-2018**  
(Final; Information)

The Senate Committee on General University Policy (GUP) is responsible for studying, reporting and making recommendations to the Senate concerning general University policy in broad terms. This report summarizes the activities of GUP during the 2017-2018 academic year. GUP met ten times (September 5, October 3, October 31, November 28, December 12, January 16, February 13, March 13, April 10, and May 1). More detailed information is provided in the minutes of those meetings.

**Items that were under active consideration this year (2017-18):**

**GP.18.01, Faculty Policy Guide**

This resource compiles excerpts from and links to all the major policy and governance documents that address issues of faculty rights and responsibilities. It is posted on the Senate website, the Provost website, and the Illinois Human Resources website. GUP will revisit and update the Faculty Policy Guide once every year.

**GP.18.02, General Principles on the Ethical Conduct of Research and Scholarship**

These guidelines were developed in collaboration with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research (VCR). It was reviewed by the Senate and will be posted on the VCR website. It will also be linked to by the Faculty Policy Guide.

**Proposed Policy on Administrator Interactions with Donors**

In response to concerns raised in the Senate, GUP developed language about the rightful constraints on what donors can and cannot expect as conditions of their donations. The key idea is that academic policy matters, including program requirements, curriculum, faculty hiring, and promotion, the autonomy of the campus, and the key role of faculty in such matters, cannot be infringed by donor influence. After some revision, this statement was approved by the Chancellor and will appear in the Campus Administrative Manual (CAM).

**Double Majors/Dual Degrees**

GUP has discussed the issue of dual degrees and dual majors, and did some preliminary information gathering from the Office of the Provost. Based on what was learned, there do not seem to be general policy issues that prevent students from pursuing dual degrees, dual majors, or majors and minors should they desire that. It is true that certain degree program requirements make it difficult to do so, but this concerns the curricular decisions of those majors and it is not for us to question them.

The only outstanding issue is whether a new student can *apply* to a dual degree or dual major – and that is not possible given our overall admissions process. Where this might be a factor in a student considering whether to attend Illinois, we see it as a recruitment and advising issue to inform students that they can pursue this option after they begin here, but simply can't do it as part of admission. This seems to be a consideration that affects a relatively

small number of students, and not something that would justify overhauling the entire admissions process.

#### **Faculty Intellectual Property Issues**

A preliminary proposal has been drafted, but action will carry over to next year on this issue.

#### **Proposed Revisions to the Policy on Conflicts of Commitment and Interest**

GUP reviewed the Policy on Conflicts of Commitment and Interest and forwarded its comments to the Senate Executive Committee.

#### **GUP Statement on the Mascot**

After developing a statement on the importance of choosing a new direction that makes clear that Chief Illiniwek is not and will never again become a campus symbol/mascot, GUP had a follow-up discussion with the Chancellor to discuss specific ways forward. The Chancellor believes that a new direction should grow out of “critical conversations” that involve the key constituents and stakeholders on this issue. GUP agreed that how the decision is made is crucial to its acceptability as a way forward, but also stresses that a new direction – sooner rather than later – was a priority.

#### **Items that are being monitored by the committee on an ongoing basis:**

- GP.07.04      Multi-Year Contracts Policy and Implementation**
- GP.09.01      Academy on Capitalism and Limited Government Foundation**
- GP.13.09      Records and Information Management Communication**
- Criminal Background Check Policy**
- Guidelines on Senate Meetings**
- Specialized Faculty: Multi-Year Contracts and Hiring Trends**
- Statement on Administrative Hiring Practices**
- Tenure Review Processes**

GENERAL UNIVERSITY POLICY  
Nicholas Burbules, Chair  
Maryam Khademian  
David Lange  
Tina Rolfe  
Bruce Rosenstock  
Stephen Taylor  
Joyce Tolliver  
William Bernhard, *Ex officio*