

Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement

Annual Report

2009/2010

The Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement met four times over the course of 2009/2010. Each semester, the committee met once with Vice Chancellor for Public Engagement, Steve Sonka, and once with Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Jim Schroeder.

The meetings were primarily informational and a mechanism for communication between the Vice Chancellors, faculty, and students.

In meetings with Vice Chancellor Sonka, the committee learned more about the operation of the office of Public Engagement and its four primary programs: Illinois in Washington; Office of Corporate Relations; Office of Sustainability; and, Public Engagement. In the fall meeting, discussions about the March 2010 Public Engagement Symposium included suggestions for enhancements based on the previous year's experience. The spring meeting included a debriefing on the Symposium and those facets that proved successful and opportunities for improvement.

In meetings with Vice Chancellor Jim Schroeder, the committee learned more about the work of the office for Institutional Advancement, the status of the Brilliant Futures campaign, and ways in which faculty might become proactive ambassadors for the university in terms of fundraising. VC Schroeder indicated that positive interactions with students were one of the most significant ways to develop successful relationships with future donors. The fall meeting included a focus on major gifts as announced during Foundation Weekend, and the spring meeting included a discussion of the impact of the economy on fundraising.

The committee had a productive year in terms of becoming better informed (and therefore better ambassadors) about the work being done by the campus units focused on public engagement and institutional advancement.

Respectfully submitted,

Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement:

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Chris Fennell

Laurie Hogin

Bahareh Javadi

Tracey Klees

Nancy O'Brien (Chair)

Robin Orr

Mats Selen

Jim Schroeder (Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement), *ex officio*

Steve Sonka (Interim Vice Chancellor for Public Engagement), *ex officio*