

**University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign  
Senate Executive Committee**

Minutes  
August 26, 2013

**Present:** Chair Roy Campbell, Vice Chair Kim Graber, Abbas Aminmansour, Damani Bolden, Patricia Gill, Shao-Hai Guo, John Hart, Harry Hilton, Calvin Lear, Melissa Madsen, William Maher, Gay Miller, Joyce Tolliver

**Guests:** Chancellor Phyllis Wise, Provost Ilesanmi Adesida, Associate Chancellor Reginald Alston, Associate Chancellor for Public Affairs Robin Kaler, Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits Chair John Kindt, Faculty Advisory Committee Chair Craig Koslofsky, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Renee Romano, Honorary Degrees Chair Jeremy Tyson, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs Barbara Wilson

**Media:** Brittany Gibson (Daily Illini), Mike Helenthal (Inside Illinois), Christine De Garennes (News-Gazette)

A regular meeting of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC) was called to order at 3:11 pm on Monday, August 26, 2013 in 232 English Building, with Chair Campbell presiding.

**1. Announcements/Introductions**

Guests were introduced.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the July 11, 2013 SEC meeting were approved as written.

**3. Chair's Remarks (R. Campbell)**

Chair Campbell welcomed all new members, returning members, and guests. Campbell and Graber presented information about the Senate at the new faculty orientation. The Senate is subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act (OMA) and also requires completing the online training. Please complete the online OMA training. Open Access is an opportunity to make a statement about what should be accessible. Campbell expressed his opinion that Illinois should determine a plan to be part of the process rather than follow others. The MOOC (massive open online courses) oversight committee and the SEC task force met over the summer. Reports from the task force will be coming to SEC within the next couple of meetings. Campbell requested that the Committee on Committees solicit members for the Seventh Senate Review Commission.

**4. Chancellor's Remarks (P. Wise)**

Chancellor Wise noted that Convocation and Quad Day were held this past weekend. Wise is enjoying the return of students and faculty to campus. There are approximately 7200 students in the incoming class. The official report on student enrollment will not be available until September 10. The freshman class is more diverse and has higher ACT scores. This is a very selective class.

President Easter requested the completion of a strategic plan. Visioning Future Excellence made the process of developing a strategic plan easier. The strategic plan is approximately 22 pages and available online through the Office of the Chancellor website. There are plans for real assessment along the way and to work on specific meeting of goals.

At a past town hall meeting, an announcement was made about hiring 500 faculty members over the next several years. Some of these hires are replacing early retirees, some are filling vacancies, and some are brand new. Work is being done on a sustainable funding business model. Wise wants to focus on diversity and not just improving the numbers, but really enhancing excellence in faculty members. There is \$1.5 million in new recurring money and \$1.4 in non-recurring money for the hiring of the 500 faculty members. Some of these hires are filling vacancies due to resignations and retirement and the funding is already in place. This funding is in addition to the already existent funding.

Retention is another issue that must be addressed. Economic development is in the very early stages. Conversations have been held with an MTD consultant. It is important to partner with the surrounding community. Bringing in jobs and industries to the community and creating jobs for graduates is a goal of partnering with the community. The community is only as good as the campus and the campus is only as good as the surrounding community.

**5. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference (USC) to initiate revisions to the *Statutes* (USC ST-79/OT-296)**

Chair Campbell noted that the amendment would allow the USC to initiate revisions to the University *Statutes*. Currently amendments can only be proposed by the Board of Trustees (BOT) or one of the Senates. Maher gave his opinion that if this revision is approved, changes that are initiated by USC could then be taken up by all three Senates simultaneously. Maher suggested it be handled as a suggestion from USC and then the normal process for changes is followed. Discussion continued in agreement with and against the revision to the *Statutes*. It was the consensus of the committee that University *Statutes* and Senate Procedures (USSP) should closely review this proposal.

Aminmansour made a motion to refer this proposal to the Senate Committee on USSP. The motion was seconded and passed by voice with no opposition and no abstentions.

**6. SP.13.08, Proposal from GUP to Revise *Standing Rule 14* (W. Maher)**

Maher presented proposal SP.13.08. This proposal originally was proposed by the Senate Committee on General University Policy (GUP). One aspect of the proposal requested the ability to have a discussion about a member initiated proposal and then postpone the item for one meeting or refer the item to a committee. The proposer would also need to have a finalized as possible document submitted to the SEC. Currently an individual can propose an item without having the full document; only the title is required. Hilton had a concern about SEC's current ability to postpone an item due to too much business on a Senate agenda. Hilton suggested that postponement occur for substance reasons and not due to a lengthy Senate agenda. Maher stated that he would report the discussion to USSP before submitting the final version of SP.13.08.

**7. SP.14.05, Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.12 – Committee on Honorary Degrees (W. Maher)**

Maher noted that the removal of the language "...in executive session" is to bring the *Bylaws* into compliance with the Illinois Open Meeting Act (OMA).

**8. Urbana Senate Observer**

Gay Miller and Harry Hilton were selected as the Urbana Senate Observer for the Board of Trustees meeting on September 12, 2013 held on the Urbana campus.

**9. Reports**

**A. UC.14.01, USC Report – May 15, 2013 (J. Tolliver)**

Tolliver presented an overview of the USC report.

**B. SC.14.03, BOT Observer Report – July 25, 2013**

This report by Nicholas Burbules will appear on the September 16, 2013 Senate agenda.

**10. New Business**

No new business.

**11. Adjournments**

The meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm.

Jenny Roether  
Clerk of the Senate