

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures
SP.13.09, Annual Report for 2012-2013
(Final; Information)

In addition to this report, the Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP) considered eleven items this year including three held over from previous years. As of the date of writing this report, the status of these items is as follows:

A. Items passed by the Senate.

SP.13.02 2012-13 Urbana-Champaign Senate Membership

This report to the organizational meeting listed the elected members of the new Senate. It was adopted by the new Senate on April 23, 2012.

SP.13.04 Proposed Amendments to the Statutes Regarding the Title of Chancellor

In November 2010, the Board of Trustees amended the *Statutes* and *General Rules* to, among other amendments, change the titles of the chancellors to "Vice President/Chancellor at the (Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, or Springfield) Campus." It was recommended in October 2012 to reverse the order of the titles from "Vice President/Chancellor at the (Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, or Springfield) Campus" to "Chancellor at the (Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, or Springfield) Campus/Vice President" to signify that each chancellor has primary responsibility for the campus while also serving as a member of the University of Illinois leadership team. The Senate approved the revisions to the *Statutes* on December 3, 2012.

SP.13.06 Revisions to Standing Rule 3 - Proposed Amendments to Documents

Standing Rule 3 of the Senate delineates the procedure for proposed amendments to Senate documents. It includes a formatting requirement that specifies the use of square brackets to signify deletions and underlining to signify additions. USSP recommended that the rule itself be amended now to use strikethrough text, instead of square brackets, to signify deletions. The Senate approved the revisions to *Standing Rule 3* on April 29, 2013.

SP.13.07 Proposed Revisions to the Bylaws, Part D.5 - Committee on Campus Operations

The Senate Committee on Campus Operations proposed the addition to its charge of an explicit statement of the duty to study sustainability issues, and to add the Director of the Center for a Sustainable Environment and the Chair of the Student Sustainability Committee as *ex officio* members. The Senate approved this addition to the *Bylaws* on April 29, 2013.

B. Items presented to the Senate for information.

SP.13.01 Faculty, AP and Student Electorate and Senator Distribution

This report provided a statistical analysis of the membership of the new Senate. It was reported to the organizational meeting on April 23, 2012.

C. Items removed from the Committee agenda.

SP.12.04 Apportionment of Graduate College Student Senators

At the beginning of 2012-13, USSP was waiting for the Graduate College to submit a reapportionment plan. It was learned that the graduate students might wish to constitute a new unit of governance. If this were effected, the unit might be a basis for the apportionment of senators to Graduate College students. However, no such reconstitution developed, and USSP agreed to remove the issue of graduate student apportionment from its agenda.

SP.13.05 Call for Volunteers to Serve as Parliamentarian

This has been accomplished. The parliamentarians are George Friedman and Brian Gaines.

D. Items to be carried over to 2013-2014.

SP.12.03 Follow-Up on New Election Procedures for Other Academic Staff

Following the inaugural Spring 2011 election for Other Academic Staff (OAS) Electorate, USSP's attention was called to the wide variation among colleges in the numbers of Academic Professionals considered eligible for membership in the electorate. Accordingly, USSP established a regular agenda item to follow the election procedures. In addition, USSP remained apprised of issues with timing of the OAS elections and instances where replacement elections had to be conducted.

SP.12.06 Revisions to the *Constitution* and the *Bylaws* Regarding Conduct of Senate Meetings and Formulation of Meeting Agendas

In 2011-12, USSP conducted a review of the Senate's rules regarding the conduct of meetings and the formulation of the Senate's agenda with the goal of making the Senate's conduct of business more efficient, effective, and open. USSP identified two provisions in the *Constitution* and the *Bylaws* that, if amended, could enhance the way the Senate conducts its business. First, USSP is recommending that the quorum be adjusted from 100 senators to 75, which more closely reflects the numbers of senators who normally attend meetings, a guideline articulated in *Robert's Rules of Order*. In addition, USSP is recommending that senators can add new business to the agenda with a majority vote rather than a two-thirds vote. This change will make the Senate agenda more open and flexible, while the Open Meetings Act protects the Senate from voting on any new business introduced at a meeting. The Senate approved the revisions to the *Constitution* and *Bylaws* on October 8, 2012. As of this writing, the Board of Trustees has not approved the amendment to the *Constitution*.

USSP prepared an updated "Basic Parliamentary Procedure" form which was posted on the Senate website and will also be distributed at the Senate organizational meeting each spring.

SP.13.03 Advice to the Senate Executive Committee Regarding the Conduct of Senate Meetings

To aid the Senate in the best use of its time, USSP discussed the advisability of shifting administrative and presentations away from the beginning of Senate meetings, and it developed advice for the Chancellor and SEC on certain practicalities aimed at leaving more time for substantive matters of discussion. It communicated this advice to the SEC Chair for sharing with the Chancellor.

SP.13.08 Proposal from GUP to Revise *Standing Rule 14*

In April 2013, USSP received a proposal from GUP to revise *Standing Rule 14* in regards to individual senators submitting items for the Senate agenda. USSP is currently investigating the historical background relating to the scope of the SEC's authority and the best mechanisms for individual senators to be able to propose resolutions for the Senate agenda.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES

William Maher, Chair

Nikita Borisov

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Anna-Maria Marshall

Jim Maskeri

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Sandy Jones, *Ex officio*

Jenny Roether, *Ex officio*

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