SP.14.06   Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference or the President to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*

**BACKGROUND**

On December 11, 2017, the UIUC Senate passed a proposed set of revisions to the *University Statutes* governing amendments to those *Statutes*. These were similar, but not identical, to proposed amendments adopted by the Senate at the Springfield campus. Similar amendments proposed to the Chicago Senate were defeated there.

The University Senates Conference (USC), in accordance with its charge, and with the cooperation of members of all three senates, set out to develop a version of the proposal that would be acceptable to the three senates. The result was a new text, which your Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP) has examined carefully, and has compared to the proposal passed by the UIUC Senate in December. USSP is satisfied that, except for extremely minor formatting of paragraph and subparagraph numbers, it is an acceptable edit of the previous text approved by the UIUC Senate.

The principal differences between the current proposal and the one adopted by the Senate in December, other than formatting, are:

- The first paragraph (lines 5-8) is new, and serves to summarize the sources of proposed amendments to the *Statutes*.
- There are now separate subsections (lines 41 and 67) for initiation by USC and by the President, both with wording that mirrors that of the subsection for initiation by a senate.
- A new sentence (lines 103-107) has been added to the subsection on initiation by the Board of Trustees, mirroring similar wording in the other subsections, and clearly providing that each Senate has the right to offer amended wording for any proposal.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends approval of the following revisions to the *Statutes*, Article XIII, Section 8, without further amendments. This same text has been forwarded by USC to the Springfield and Chicago senates. If passed by all three senates, USC will send it to the President for consideration by the Board of Trustees.

Text to be added is underscored and text to be deleted is indicated by strikeout (e.g., sample text for deletion).

**PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE STATUTES, ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 8**
ARTICLE XIII. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Section 8. Amendments

a. Initiation of amendment

Proposed amendments to the Statutes can be initiated by a Senate, the University Senates Conference, the President, or the Board of Trustees. In the case of proposals initiated by a Senate, the University Senates Conference, or the President, the process of review is the same. Specific procedures for each entity are below.

(1) Initiation by a Senate

Each of the senates by vote of a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting may propose amendments to these Statutes. No final senate action shall be taken on a proposed amendment until the next meeting following the one at which it was introduced. Each senate may act on the proposed amendment in accord with its own established procedures, including the right to concur, to modify, or to reject any proposed amendment or proposed statutory text. Final action in each senate on the proposed amendment may be taken by a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting held not earlier than the next meeting following the one at which it was introduced in that senate. The secretary of a senate shall notify the secretary of the other senates and the secretary of the University Senates Conference of the text of a proposed amendment promptly after the meeting at which it is introduced.

The proposed amendment shall be referred to the University Senates Conference for its consideration and transmission to the other senates for action; the conference may append its comments and recommendations. The proposed amendment shall be placed promptly on the agenda of the other senates.

If every senate acts affirmatively on the proposed amendment and concurs as to its text, the conference shall send the proposed amendment to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action; the conference may append its comments. If the senates do not agree as to the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to promote agreement of the senates. Where agreement cannot be effected among all the senates within a reasonable period of time, but the text of a proposed amendment has been agreed upon by all but one of the senates, the conference shall send that proposed amendment, the recommendations of the dissenting senate, and its own recommendations to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A senate may record and send its further comments to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees.

(2) Initiation by the University Senates Conference
The University Senates Conference by vote of a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting may propose amendments to these Statutes. The proposed amendment shall be transmitted to the senates for such action as each of them shall see fit; the conference may append its comments.

The proposed amendment shall be placed promptly on the agenda of each senate. Each senate may act on the proposed amendment in accord with its own established procedures, including the right to concur, to modify, or to reject any proposed amendment or proposed statutory text. Final action in each senate on the proposed amendment may be taken by a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting held not earlier than the next meeting following the one at which it was introduced in that senate.

If every senate acts affirmatively on the proposed amendment and concurs as to its text, the conference shall send the proposed amendment to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action; the conference may append its comments. If the senates do not agree as to the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to promote agreement of the senates. Where agreement cannot be effected among all the senates within a reasonable period of time, but the text of a proposed amendment has been agreed upon by all but one of the senates, the conference shall send that proposed amendment, the recommendations of the dissenting senate, and its own recommendations to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A senate may record and send its further comments to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees.

(3) Initiation by the President

The President may propose amendments to these Statutes and refer them to the University Senates Conference for its consideration, comment, and transmission to the senates for action. The proposed amendment shall be transmitted to the senates for such action as each of them shall see fit; the conference may append its comments.

The proposed amendment shall be placed promptly on the agenda of each senate. Each senate may act on the proposed amendment in accord with its own established procedures, including the right to concur, to modify, or to reject any proposed amendment or proposed statutory text. Final action in each senate on the proposed amendment may be taken by a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting held not earlier than the next meeting following the one at which it was introduced in that senate.

If every senate acts affirmatively on the proposed amendment and concurs as to its text, the conference shall send the proposed amendment to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the
senates of its action; the conference may append its comments. If the senates do not agree as to the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to promote agreement of the senates. Where agreement cannot be effected among all the senates within a reasonable period of time, but the text of a proposed amendment has been agreed upon by all but one of the senates, the conference shall send that proposed amendment, the recommendations of the dissenting senate, and its own recommendations to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A senate may record and send its further comments to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees.

(4) Initiation by the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees may initiate proposals to amend the Statutes, but the board shall not finally adopt any such proposal without first seeking the advice of the president, the senates, and the University Senates Conference. Any proposal to amend the Statutes which is initiated by the Board of Trustees shall be transmitted through the president to the University Senates Conference and transmitted by the conference, with its recommendations, to the senates for consideration and advice.

The proposed amendment shall be placed promptly on the agenda of each of the senates. Each senate may act on the proposed amendment in accord with its own established procedures, including the right to concur, to modify, or to reject any proposed amendment or proposed statutory text. Final action in each senate on the proposed amendment may be taken by a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting.

If the senates do not agree in their advice concerning the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to promote agreement; where agreement cannot be achieved within a reasonable period of time, the conference shall send the advice of the senates and its own recommendations to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A senate may record and send its further comments to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees.

b. An amendment shall become effective when approved by the Board of Trustees or at such later time as the board may specify.