

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures
SP.15.20, Annual Report for 2014-2015
(Final; Information)

In addition to this report, the Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP) considered twenty-six items this year including six 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.14.03 Amendments to Nicknames in the *Senate Election Rules for the Student Electorate*

The Illinois Student Senate (ISS) approved a resolution to revise the *Senate Election Rules for the Student Electorate* to require students to use their legal name on the ballot for election. USSP proposed a revision to require a candidate's full or shortened given name and to allow nicknames only if the candidate can demonstrate prior common usage upon request. The Senate approved the revisions to the *Election Rules for the Student Electorate* on October 20, 2014.

SP.14.12 Revision to *Standing Rule 13*

The Senate Committee on Educational Policy relies on *Standing Rule 13* which describes a consultative process for review of proposed changes to academic units, including formation, termination, separation, transfer and other changes in status. The proposal amended *Standing Rule 13* to clarify that process in situations where changes in the scope or size of a program might have a significant impact on an academic unit. The Senate approved the new language for *Standing Rule 13* on October 20, 2014.

SP.15.02 2014-15 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 21, 2014.

SP.15.05 Proposed Revision to *Standing Rule 11.B* - Election of a Senate Executive Committee Member from the Committee on the University Senates Conference

USSP proposed a revision to allow electronic or paper ballots for the election of a Senate Executive Committee member from the Committee on the University Senates Conference. The Senate approved the revision to *Standing Rule 11.B* on October 20, 2014.

SP.15.06 General Revisions to the *Statutes Motions #1 and #2*

Through a specially appointed committee, the Board of Trustees developed an extensive set of amendments to the *Statutes* and the *General Rules*. USSP began to review a draft of the proposed amendments in Spring, 2014. The University Senates Conference (USC) communicated to each of the three campus Senates a final proposal in October 2014. To facilitate deliberation on the many amendments, USC divided the proposal into eight separate motions dealing with the amendments in logical groupings. According to its *Bylaws* mandate, USSP reviewed the proposed language and sent to the UIUC Senate recommendations for approval, or in some instances alternate language. The recommendations on the first set (Motions #1 and #2) were presented to and acted upon by the Senate on December 8, 2014.

SP.15.07 Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 – Academic Freedom

Following the December 6, 2010 approval of SP.10.11 authorizing changes to the *University Statutes*, Article X, Section 2, the President and his staff raised concerns about the language. A small working group including members of University Senates Conference and the President's staff suggested revisions to address those concerns. The Senate approved these revisions to the *Statutes* on November 17, 2014.

SP.15.12 Proposed Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part D.18 – Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures

Current language allowed only members of the faculty electorate to be appointed and serve as the parliamentarian. The proposal amended the *Bylaws* to allow other members of the Senate electorate to serve as parliamentarians and thereby to increase the number of individuals available to serve which in turn would help the Senate operate smoothly. The Senate approved the revision to the *Bylaws* on February 9, 2015.

SP.15.13 General Revisions to the *Statutes* Motions #4 and #5

See note on item SP.15.06 above. USSP recommendations on Motions #4 and #5 relating to *Statutes*, Article II, Section 4 through Article IV, Section 4 were approved by the Senate on February 9, 2015.

SP.15.14 General Revisions to the *Statutes* Motion #3

See note on item SP.15.06 above. USSP recommendations on Motion #3 relating to *Statutes*, Article II, Section 3 were approved by the Senate on March 9, 2015.

SP.15.15 General Revisions to the *Statutes* Motions #6, #7, and #8

See note on item SP.15.06 above. USSP recommendations on Motions #6, #7 and #8 relating to *Statutes*, Article VII, Section 3 through Article XIII, Section 8 were approved by the Senate on April 6, 2015.

SP.15.17 Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes* to transfer the provisions regarding Intellectual Property from the *General Rules* to the *Statutes*

As part of its review of changes to the *General Rules*, the University Senates Conference recommended moving the provisions relating to Intellectual Property into the *Statutes*. USSP reviewed the proposed language and forwarded its recommendation to the Senate which voted approval on May 4, 2015.

SP.15.18 General Revisions to the *Statutes*, Final Reconciliation, Motions #1 through #8

Following action by each of the three campus Senates on the *Statutes* revisions referenced under SP.15.06, the University Senates Conference proposed text to reconcile what differences had arisen among the campuses. USSP reviewed those reconciliations relating to Motions 1 through 8 and advised the UIUC Senate on approval of some or offered alternatives to some others. The USSP recommendations were approved by the Senate on May 4, 2015.

B. Items presented to the Senate for information.

SP.15.01 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 21, 2014.

C. Items removed from the Committee agenda.

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

Following several years of monitoring the election process for Other Academic Staff and the prospect of reconsidering the constitution of this electorate (see SP.15.08 below), this item was removed from the USSP agenda.

SP.14.07 Senate Floor Election Procedures

At the October 2, 2013 USSP meeting, Jenny Roether, Clerk of the Senate, noted that Roy Campbell, Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, had requested advice on how to better run elections from the floor. USSP determined that i-Clickers were a reasonable approach if the Office of the Senate would assign the devices to Senators. The i-Clickers were tested at the April 9, 2014 USSP meeting and implemented at the April 21, 2014 Senate meeting to suspend *Standing Rule 11.B* (election must be conducted by paper ballot) and to hold elections. Subsequent evaluation of the election determined the use of i-Clickers was successful, and they were used again in spring 2015. As of May 19, 2015, USSP determined that the use was successful and the Senate Executive Committee was going to be informed to work with the Office of the Senate on future use.

SP.15.03 Apportionment of Other Academic Staff Group ABC Electorate

This item was combined with SP.15.08.

SP.15.09 Revisions to the *Statutes*

This item was established by USSP on October 8, 2014 to address Provost Communication 25 (Employment Guidelines for Specialized Faculty Holding Non-Tenure System Positions). On June 16, 2015, USSP opted to remove this task since it was already addressed under SP.15.03, SP.15.14, and SP.15.08.

SP.15.19 Call for Volunteers to Serve as Parliamentarian

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

D. Items to be carried over to 2015-2016.

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

USSP continued its discussion on the need to make Senate meetings more efficient and effective.

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

On June 21, 2013, the University Senates Conference (USC) requested that the *Statutes* be revised to articulate a means whereby the USC may initiate amendments to the *Statutes*. The Senate approved an alternate formulation of these revisions to the *Statutes* on November 18, 2013. USSP will continue to monitor this issue as it is reviewed by UIC and UIS.

SP.15.04 Proposed Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part D.6(b) - Committee on Committees, Membership

USSP discussed the intention of the *Bylaws* wording to determine if faculty members should be senators at the time of election, at the time their Committee on Committees term begins, or through the entirety of their Committee on Committees term. USSP will work towards a proposal to present to the Senate next year.

- SP.15.08 Proposed Revisions to the *Constitution*, Article II, Section 1.b – Faculty Representation and Article III, Section 1.b – Other Academic Staff Representation**
 USSP discussed the new title modifiers in Provost’s Communication #25 (Employment Guidelines for Specialized Faculty Holding Non-Tenure System Positions) to determine whether all, or none, of non-tenure track, full-time appointments should be eligible for the faculty electorate.
- SP.15.10 Revisions to the *Senate Bylaws*, Part C, Section 4 to Conform with Student Election Practices**
 The Campus Student Election Commission (CSEC) inquired regarding “run off” elections for crowded ballots. USSP reviewed the inquiry and noted that no structures exist in the *Elections Rule for the Student Electorate* or in those supplementary rules of the CSEC for such elections. USSP will propose a revision to the *Bylaws* to remove the wording regarding run off elections.
- SP.15.11 Revision to *Standing Rule 5 – Open Meetings Regulations***
 USSP has been asked to consider a proposal to amend the *Standing Rules* to permit e-mail discussions of matters before the Senate in a way that is consistent with the demands of the Open Meetings Act. USSP is reviewing this proposal.
- SP.15.16 Proposed Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part D.1 – Senate Executive Committee, Membership**
 The proposed revision would give the Council on Academic Professionals representative voting privileges on the Senate Executive Committee. USSP will forward this *Bylaws* revision to the Senate in the fall semester.
- SP.15.21 Revisions to the *Statutes* to Implement the Recommendations of the Hiring Policies and Procedure Review Committee**
 USSP discussed the possible revisions to the *Statutes* following the recommendations of the Hiring Policies and Procedures Review Committee in its Final Report dated December 12, 2014.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
 William Maher, Chair
 H. George Friedman
 Wendy Harris
 Scott Jacobs
 Calvin Lear
 Anna-Maria Marshall
 Mark Roszkowski
 Cheyenne Wu
 Sandy Jones, *ex officio*
 Jenny Roether, *ex officio*
 Dedra Williams, *Observer*