

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures
SP.17.14, Annual Report for 2016-2017
(Final; Information)

In addition to this report, the Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP) considered twenty-two items this year including eight 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.16.11 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.2 – Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

The Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure requested the addition of a non-tenure track faculty member to its committee membership. The Senate approved the revision to the *Bylaws* on April 3, 2017.

SP.16.14 Revisions to the *Senate Constitution* – Committee on Elections and Credentials

USSP proposed to recreate the Committee on Elections and Credentials (EC) in SP.16.09 which required an amendment to the Senate Constitution to transition all relevant duties from USSP to EC. The proposal was presented to the Senate on May 2, 2016 for first reading and on September 19, 2016 for second reading and approval.

SP.17.02 2016-17 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 18, 2016.

SP.17.03 Proposed Revision to *Standing Rule 6* – Tellers

With the use of i>Clickers to vote electronically, tellers were no longer necessary to hand count ballots at Senate meetings. The revision allows the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee to determine at the beginning of each Senate meeting if tellers are needed. The Senate approved the revision to the *Standing Rules* on September 19, 2016.

SP.17.04 Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part A.5 – Meetings

When Other Academic Staff members were added to the Senate, the addition of this class of senators to the Senate Organizational Meeting was overlooked. The Senate approved the revision to the *Bylaws*, on September 19, 2016.

SP.17.05 Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part F.4 – Research Policy Committee

The Vice-Chancellor for Research and the Research Policy Committee requested a streamlining of the process used to establish the committee roster. The Senate approved the revisions to the *Bylaws* on April 3, 2017.

SP.17.06 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part E – Joint Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Licensing and Investment

Following a review of the policies and practices on Naming Rights, the Senate Committee on General University Policy recommended the addition of the responsibility to the Joint Advisory committee on Socially Responsible Licensing and Investment, which has similar duties and a membership suited to these sorts of discussion. The Senate approved the revision to the *Bylaws* on March 6, 2017.

SP.17.08 Revisions to the *Standing Rules* – Voting by electronic clickers

USSP proposed a new *Standing Rule* regarding the use of electronic clickers at Senate meetings. The Senate approved the revisions to the *Standing Rules* on May 1, 2017.

SP.17.09 Proposed Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part B.5, Senate Committees – Eligibility of academic professional positions

Amendments to the *Senate Constitution* in SP.15.08, approved by the Senate on April 3, 2017, changed the title of the Other Academic Staff electorate to the academic professional electorate. This proposal (SP.17.09) proposed the same change to the *Bylaws*, Part B.5. The proposal also clarified that those academic professionals who are eligible to serve on Senate committees must be members of the academic professional electorate. The Senate approved the revisions to the *Bylaws* on May 1, 2017.

B. Items presented to the Senate for information.

SP.17.01 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 18, 2016.

C. Items removed from the Committee agenda.

SP.15.11 Revision to Standing Rule 5 – Open Meetings Regulations

USSP was asked to consider a proposal to amend the Standing Rules to permit e-mail discussion of matters before the Senate in a way that is consistent with the demands of the Open Meetings Act. USSP determined that allowing discussion electronically between physical meetings does not appear to be in line with the Open Meetings Act.

SP.16.05 Proposed Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part D.1 – Senate Executive Committee – to address membership composition

USSP discussed the membership composition of the Senate Executive Committee and has recommended the question be considered by the next Senate Review Commission.

SP.16.08 Guidelines for Senate Meetings

USSP was asked by the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee to provide suggestions on logistics of Senate meetings in relation to the use/non-use of Power Point overhead slides from Senate members in the course of debates. This item was combined with SP.17.10 (Proposal on Senate Processes).

SP.16.13 Concerns with the Relation between Collective Bargaining Agreements and the *Statutes*

USSP was asked to consider whether the Senate should be presented with a resolution calling for matters covered in the *Statutes* not to be subject to collective bargaining agreements. In the absence of specific disjunction between the *Statutes* and union contract negotiations, USSP took note of the issue but did not see anything USSP could say other than that the *Statutes* need to be considered as the broadest document owned jointly by the Board of Trustees and the Senates of the campuses.

SP.17.11 Review of the Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) Bylaws

Matthew Wheeler, Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) to the Big Ten Conference, shared the proposed Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) Bylaws for review and feedback. USSP reviewed the draft Bylaws and sent feedback to Wheeler.

SP.17.13 Call for Volunteers to Serve as Parliamentarian

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

D. Items to be carried over to 2017-2018.

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, which has since been incorporated into the general revisions of the *Statutes* referenced in

SP.16.06, Transmission of Further Comments on the General Revisions to the *Statutes* (adopted by the Senate on December 7, 2015). USSP will continue to monitor this item until it is approved by the other two campus Senates and the Board of Trustees.

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

Following the 2014 issuance of Provost Communication #25 relating to specialized faculty, USSP discussed the Communication's creation of new titles for non-tenure system faculty and the resultant implications for the role of specialized faculty in the Senate. The *Senate Constitution* does not fully address the role that specialized faculty have played in representing some units or their relation to tenure system faculty and Other Academic Staff representation in the Senate. With guidance from the Senate, USSP proposed changing the definition of the faculty electorate to include full-time non-tenure-track faculty. The Senate approved the revisions to the *Constitution* on April 3, 2017; however, USSP will continue to monitor this item until the Board of Trustees also approves the revisions to the *Constitution*.

SP.17.07 Proposed Revision to Standing Rule 13 – Formation, Termination, Separation, Transfer, Merger, Change in Status, or Renaming of Units

USSP met with Bettina Francis, Chair of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy, to discuss whether revisions are needed to *Standing Rule 13* since the continuing budget situation could cause small units to unintentionally lose a significant number of faculty.

SP.17.10 Proposal on Senate Processes

The Senate Executive Committee referred to USSP a January 20, 2017 memorandum from the Senate Committee on General University Policy calling for examination of what new processes might be created or existing ones reinforced to make Senate meetings more effective and efficient. USSP began work on aspects of this by drafting guidelines for the formulation of resolutions as well as on how background statements for proposals should be made to the Senate. Meanwhile, USSP separately (SP.17.08) addressed the issue of regularized use of electronic clickers for the taking of all votes in Senate meetings.

SP.17.12 Revisions to the Statutes, Article X, Section 2 – Academic Freedom

Amendments to the *Statutes'* academic freedom provisions in order to fill a gap that had been created by the Supreme Court's ruling in Garcetti v. Ceballos were approved by the UIUC Senate in November 2010 and transmitted to the University Senates Conference. Following their approval by the other two Senates, the amendments were transmitted to the President. In response to concerns raised, the amendments were returned for modifications which then were approved by the UIUC Senate in November 2014. After the other Senates approved this new formulation, they were forwarded to the President. However, because new concerns have been raised by Counsel, the University Senates Conference has asked USSP to work with the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure to determine if alternative language can be developed. Accordingly, USSP has met with members of CAFT and will continue to consult to determine if any new language might address the concerns from Garcetti as well as Counsel.

SP.17.15 Revision to the Bylaws, Part D.10 – Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion

The Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion (EQ) has recommended that its membership be increased from five to eight faculty members because of its heavy workload. USSP is considering a draft of the necessary amendments to the *Bylaws*.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
William Maher, Chair
Nikita Borisov
Tara Chatteraj
H. George Friedman
Shawn Gilmore

Wendy Harris
Gisela Sin
Jessica Mette, *Ex officio*
Jenny Roether, *Ex officio*
Sarah Zehr, *Observer*