

SENATE OF THE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN CAMPUS

March 6, 2017

Minutes

A regular meeting of the University of Illinois Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus was called to order at 3:10 pm in the Illini Union Ballroom with Chancellor Robert Jones presiding and Professor Emeritus H. George Friedman, Jr. serving as Parliamentarian.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

03/06/17-01 The minutes from February 6, 2017 were approved as amended.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Gay Miller (VMED), faculty senator and Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), reported on various SEC items and important topics senators should be aware of.

The SEC held a discussion following a report from GUP (Senate Committee on General University Policy) Chair Burbules about the GUP committee meeting with Chancellor Jones on racism at our University. SEC members shared their opinions and concerns during this discussion. Before the SEC meeting, Chancellor Jones sent a massmail email on February 23, 2017. Chair Miller quoted the massmail in which Chancellor Jones stated "We value respectful discourse while also recognizing that even offensive speech is protected by the First Amendment." Jones also stated that "We can't predict what the next issue will be but we know there will be one. These are often painful moments for our students, faculty, staff and community and we need to support one another as we strive to address divisive issues in society." Miller added that Jones also asked that "all of us do our part in helping us work to improve our academic community on this."

Miller reported that Matthew Wheeler is the Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) to the Big Ten Conference and COIA (Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics) Representative for Illinois. Originally, Illinois voted to join COIA on principle, but did not agree with all aspects of COIA. A two-thirds majority of those present was needed to amend the COIA bylaws, not the majority of the 64 COIA members. COIA did not give the Senates a chance to properly review the proposed changes to the bylaws so Wheeler voted against the proposed amendment to the bylaws. COIA approved the bylaws and then proceeded to amend the bylaws under the new bylaws rules. Wheeler plans to submit amendments to the newly revised bylaws, but SEC has also asked GUP and USSP to review the document and make additional recommendations by the end of the academic year.

The MCORE (Multimodal Corridor Enhancement) project started today. The project is a significant investment in public infrastructure that will bring streets into a state of good repair. Included in the project are Green, Wright, White, and Armory Street which will be periodically closed throughout the project.

Miller noted the massmail email that was sent on February 17, 2017 inviting participation in this year's Commencement ceremonies. Miller encouraged senators to be involved in acknowledging accomplishments of and celebrating with students, faculty, and staff.

The Sesquicentennial Celebration kickoff last week. Miller encouraged those unable to attend to watch the event video that will be available by the end of the week on the Sesquicentennial website, www.150.illinois.edu.

Lastly, Miller thanked senators for their work this year and invited senators to begin thinking about serving on a Senate committee next year. Miller also encouraged senators to reach out to committee chairs or herself to engage with as new or continuing members. Miller also

invited senators to contact her or committee chairs with topics of interest that need to be addressed.

CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

Chancellor Robert Jones stated that it was unsettling to start the meeting with sad news of a student death during the unsupported Unofficial St. Patrick's Day event. This was a senseless loss during a dangerous event. We need to work together as a community to put an end to this event. This is the third death since the inception of this event.

The Sesquicentennial Celebration kick-off was last week. The entertainment was amazing and included a number of highly experienced performers. This event honors the past, but there is difficult and challenging work ahead. This is an opportunity to define what it means to be a land-grant university in the twenty first century.

Many of you are aware of the Racism and Free Speech petition. Jones sent out a mass email responding to concerns about Chief related Unofficial St. Patrick's Day t-shirts, harassment of Muslim students, anti-immigrant chalking on the Quad, and the defacing of an Israeli flag at a protest. Jones acknowledged that his message was not expressed as forcefully as it should have been. Jones stated that it was important to acknowledge mistakes, learn from them, and then move forward. There is not a question of if another incident will occur, but when will the incident occur. We need to be ready to quickly and clearly respond to incidents. Even if the incident is within the rights of free speech, we must hold true to our values and condemn these types of incidents.

Massmail emails is one way to communicate, but it will not resolve these divisive issues. There is a need to restructure how we define diversity and inclusivism. Jones has called for an external review of diversity so we can further the wonderful programs we have, but also do better.

Jones is acting on these issues. He has reached out to the deans and to others to have critical and sometimes uncomfortable conversations that will move us forward. The chalking policy and the student code are being reviewed to potentially revise and add more explicit language.

There will be training scheduled through Interim Provost designate Wilkin's Office for executive officers on the new H1 visa changes that came out today.

Jones thanked the Senate on the work in putting together a search committee for the Provost position. Jones is hopeful that he will be able to at least name a new Provost by this fall.

The Career Center released this year's edition of the first-destination report "Illini Success." The report shows the success rate of graduates and what their current positions are after graduation. Across campus, the average salary for full-time employed graduates is \$57,031. The report showed 66% of employed graduates said their jobs were located in Illinois, and 39% of graduates who participated in internships while in school indicated that it lead to a full-time job offer.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION

Faculty senator Romero (LAS) recounted an attack on his son at a University sponsored event by an unknown man last summer. Romero's son was attacked for wearing a hat mocking Trump that read, "Make America Mexico Again." To Romero's knowledge, no follow-up on the attack has taken place. Romero read from the petition on racism and free speech.

Jones thanked Romero for sharing comments and thoughts on this subject. Jones again acknowledge that communications were not framed as strongly as needed. Jones also

expressed concern with the petition's suggestion that administration would tolerate xenophobia, racism, as well as white supremacy, as forms of free speech.

Faculty senator Benson (LIBR) commented on bars allowing entrance at age 19 and thought this should be a topic of discussion with students.

Faculty senator Oberdeck (LAS) and Chair of the Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion (EQ) stated that the EQ committee wants to urgently work on the issues discussed today, but was unable to present an item for action due to the submission deadlines.

Faculty senator McDuffee (LAS) expressed concern for the safety of people of color, women, and the LGBTQ community. McDuffee called for an end to the violence and racial climate on campus.

CONSENT AGENDA

Faculty senator Snir asked to move EP.17.51 from the Consent Agenda section to the Proposals section of the agenda. Senate Committee on Educational Policy Chair Francis noted that EP.17.51 was a report and not part of the Consent Agenda. Therefore, not eligible to be moved.

Hearing no objections, the following proposals were approved by unanimous consent.

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| 03/06/17-02 | <u>EP.17.46</u> *Proposal to Revise the BALAS in Spanish from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences |
| 03/06/17-03 | <u>EP.17.47</u> *Proposal to Revise the Undergraduate Spanish Minor from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences |
| 03/06/17-04 | <u>EP.17.53</u> *Proposal to Revise the Curriculum Requirements for the Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering, Dept. of Mechanical Science & Engineering |

PROPOSALS

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| 03/06/17-05 | <u>CC.17.13</u> * Nominations for Membership on Standing Committees of the Senate |
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On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Chair Monda-Amaya moved approval of the slate of nominees listed in proposal CC.17.13. There were no nominations from the floor and nominations were declared closed.

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| 03/06/17-06 | By i>Clicker, proposal CC.17.11 was approved with 122 in favor and 3 opposed. |
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| 03/06/17-07 | <u>CC.17.14</u> * Nominations for Membership on the Search Committee to Advise the Chancellor on the Selection of the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost |
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On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Chair Monda-Amaya introduced the slate of nominees listed in proposal CC.17.14.

Faculty senators Oberdeck (LAS) and Maher (LIBR) nominated Harley Johnson from the floor. Chancellor Jones declared nominations closed and invited Chair Monda-Amaya to explain the voting procedures outlined in the previously approved document SC.17.10: Procedures for Selecting a Search Committee to Advise the Chancellor on the Selection of a Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

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| 03/06/17-08 | <u>SP.15.08</u> * Proposed Revisions to the Senate <i>Constitution</i> and <i>Bylaws</i> to provide representation for Specialized Faculty (First Reading) |
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On behalf of the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP), Chair Maher introduced proposal SP.15.08 for a first reading. Maher also reviewed the procedures for amending the Senate *Constitution* and *Bylaws*.

Maher noted that this proposal addresses how to move specialized faculty into the Senate with a greater role and summarized the USSP committee discussions that have occurred since this topic was first introduced to the Senate as a Committee of the Whole Discussion on March 7, 2016. The process for Senate elections is complicated. With simplicity and inclusiveness in mind, the conclusion USSP came to was to include the specialized faculty in the regular faculty electorate. After discussion today, USSP will consider the comments and bring the proposal back at the next regular Senate meeting. Discussion and questions followed.

Maher responded to questions about allocation of Senate seats. Maher stated that the allocation of senators a given unit is allotted is dependent upon the number of eligible faculty in that unit, but the overall faculty portion of the Senate would be as close to 200 as possible.

Maher also responded to questions about the ratio of eligible faculty to the number of faculty Senate seats. The number of 200 faculty was put into place in the early 1970s when there were about 3,000 faculty. At one point the 200 faculty were representing about 3,000, now the 200 represent approximately 1800. The current formula used in apportionment would have to change, but is an annual responsibility anyway. At any given year the number of eligible faculty changes.

Concern was expressed regarding unintended consequences and changing the composition of the Senate as a whole. Some units have more NTT (non-tenure track) faculty than others. Other senators were supportive of the inclusion of NTTs in the regular faculty electorate.

USSP committee member Friedman noted that one of the reason USSP was not proposing to increase the size of the Senate was that if the faculty seats are increased, then students will also want increased representation.

Any additional comments or questions should be directed to USSP Chair Maher for consideration by the USSP committee.

03/06/17-09 SP.17.06* Proposed Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part E – Joint Advisory Committee on Socially Responsible Licensing and Investment

On behalf of the USSP, Chair Maher introduced and moved approval of proposal SP.17.06.

GUP originally developed the proposal that was sent to USSP. Burbules, as Chair of GUP, responded to a question about the inclusion of building naming in the name of and the duties of the committee. Naming of buildings and spaces can be extremely political and increasingly so. The issues raised in building naming is compatible with the current duties of the committee and the socially responsible aspect was not removed.

03/06/17-10 By i>Clicker, proposal SP.17.06 was approved with 96 in favor and 5 opposed.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PRESENTATION

Lt. Todd Short presented information on emergency preparedness including information on the Run-Hide-Fight response campaign and Building Emergency Action Plans (BEAP).

Short reviewed the Run-Hide-Fight campaign and discussed the elements that are included in each BEAP. There are about 350 BEAPs completed. This includes floor coordinators to help account for employees on each floor of the building.

Short noted that some faculty members have resisted disseminating information on the Run-Hide-Fight campaign to students. Short also acknowledged that the Run-Hide-Fight strategy is not appropriate for every situation. The notion to run in an emergency goes against what most

people have been taught since childhood. Short stated that in an emergency situation, people should move quickly and as orderly as possible.

Presentation slides are available online:

<http://www.senate.illinois.edu/20170306runhidedefight.pdf>

CURRENT BENEFITS ISSUES

John Kindt, Chair of Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits, noted that everyone will now need to use the www.Mybenefits.illinois.gov website to manage their benefits and encouraged everyone to become familiar with the website.

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

- 03/06/17-11 [EP.17.51*](#) GEB (General Education Board) Proposed Revisions to the Criteria for Approval of Courses in All Cultural Studies Categories
- 03/06/17-12 [EP.17.56*](#) Report of Administrative Approvals through February 13, 2017
- 03/06/17-13 [EP.17.70*](#) Report of Administrative Approvals through February 27, 2017

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm

Jenny Roether, Senate Clerk

*Filed with the Senate Clerk and incorporated by reference in these minutes.
A video recording of these proceedings can be found at <https://go.illinois.edu/senate>