

**SENATE OF THE URBANA-CHAMPAIGN CAMPUS**

April 3, 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**

04/03/17-01 The minutes from March 6, 2017 were approved as distributed.

**SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Gay Miller (VMED), faculty senator and Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), reported that the overall timeline has changed for H1B visa processing. Without the Premium Processing option, the approval process for an H-1B will take an estimated 8-12 months. Departments should plan for this lengthy process. We hope that the movement of faculty, students, staff, and most importantly knowledge transfer around the world continues even given the recent constraints that have been placed on all of our institutions of higher education.

At the Board of Trustees (BOT) meeting on March 15, 2017, President Killeen shared two important pieces of information. 1.) Our university has ranked number one for the past seven years in NSF (National Science Foundation) funding received. 2.) IPAC (Investment, Performance, and Accountability Commitment) has been amended and is being resubmitted; the new version will include a commitment called III (or triple I) which stands for Invest in Illinoisans. The UI pledges \$170 million annually over the five years of IPAC for investing in Illinois resident students for scholarship and financial support.

Miller reported that Governor Rauner officially recognized the Carl R. Woese Institute for Genomic Biology (IGB) on March 29 as the IGB celebrates its 10 year anniversary. Special funding came from the Illinois legislature to establish the IGB. IGB researchers have brought in over \$275 million in funding since its inception.

Miller encouraged attendance at the Town Hall meeting scheduled for April 19 at the Illini Union.

We face increasing competition to enroll Illinois high school graduates. In 2015 45% of Illinois high school graduates that enrolled in four-year institutions enrolled in out-of-state institutions. This is an increase from previous years. Out of state competitors, in order, are University of Wisconsin Madison, Indiana University Bloomington, University of Michigan, and Purdue. It is important to improve our yield rates and keep our top Illinois graduates here.

Miller informed senators of the criminal background check report the SEC received from Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Academic Policies Abba Benmamoun. Questions that arose from the discussion at SEC included: were there were any unintended consequences and to what degree has the hiring unit been engaged when further review is required? Academic Human Resources Director Debra Stone attended SEC and answered questions. Stone reported that for faculty, there is a committee of faculty to review the information and the recommendation is made to the Provost. The Provost determines how and to what degree to involve the potential hiring unit. For staff, the recommendations are made to the Associate Provost for Human Resources, Elyne Cole.

**CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS**

Chancellor Robert Jones welcomed everyone back from Spring break. Jones invited everyone to the April 19 Town Hall Meeting at the Union. The structure of the Town Hall will be a little different with an opportunity for it to be a conversation with the senior leadership team. It will be a moderated session with attendees having the opportunity to ask questions of the senior leadership team. This is a chance to take a look at where we are as a university and to take a deep dive on the things we must address in the months and years ahead. The goal is to really make it a conversation and leave ample time for questions and answers.

Jones updated the Senate on the Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost search. Jones thanked the Senate for providing nominees which have been added to nominations from Jones. The search committee has been finalized and April 4 will be the first meeting. The committee consists of 13 members; nine of which have faculty roles. Jones would like to have a Provost named by the fall semester and then a start date would be negotiated with the candidate.

Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Renee Romano plans to retire at the end of the May. Romano has spoken to and cultivated numerous candidates as potential replacements for her position. The VC for Student Affairs search closed last Thursday. Director of the Illinois School of Architecture and soon to be interim Dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts (FAA) Peter Mortensen will chair the search committee.

We welcomed Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Barry Benson, to the university. We look forward to him shaping the comprehensive campaign in the fall, and in our philanthropic efforts that help us to remain competitive with our peers.

There are dean searches in the College of Education and the School of Social Work are underway. There are open on-campus interviews and Jones encouraged senators to attend. Jones hopes to make announcements soon on the leadership for these two critically important academic units.

Jones reported on the federal regulations surrounding Immigration, international travel restrictions, and the “skinny budget”. These mandates and situations continue to be monitored. The proposed suspension of the premium H1B visa is a great concern. Last year 80% of all our H1B visas last year went through the premium process. The policies have changed on what can be brought on international flights. A passport sized information card has been developed by the Office of Public Affairs and are available at the table outside the auditorium.

When Jones first arrived on campus, he called for an external review of diversity programs. A preliminary report was received last week. There are some important suggestions and observations included in the report. Jones and his leadership team are reviewing and vetting the report. Once the report is finalized, it will be shared with the SEC and available on the Office of the Chancellor website. This is an opportunity to think about our short-term and long-term strategic plan for diversity.

After 22 months, there still is no state budget. Jones met with legislators to discuss how critically important it is to invest in this university and the consequences and impact of not investing in this university. Jones was in Springfield to meet with the Black Caucus and others to advocate for this university, and will be returning to Springfield again to push for a resolution on the budget and the IPAC agreement. The visit is to remind the legislators of the short-term and long-term effects of not investing in this great university.

The “skinny budget” has created angst. There are proposed changes in funding that has provided the opportunity to be affordable and accessible. These cuts and changes will significantly impact Pell grants and other federal financial aid programs. It would also change how federal work study is funding. These programs are something we are concerned about, and will continue to monitor and advocate for these programs to be funded.

There are also proposals to greatly reduce or eliminate funding of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA). There are also great reductions in funding of the NSF (National Science Foundation), NIH (National Institutes of Health), and the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency).

Jones and Vice Chancellor Schiffer visited with legislators and high level leadership from the USDA (United States Department of Agriculture) and the Department of Energy. These agencies have great respect for this university. Jones also visited with the NSF Deputy Director. UI receives 1% of the overall NSF budget. We were thanked by the NSF for the level of researchers and research proposals

that were submitted to the agency. Jones shared that this has never happened in his 38 years in higher education.

The Grainger Foundation just announced a new challenge that would match gifts of any endowed scholarship funded in the College of Engineering up to \$25 million over the next three years.

#### **QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION**

Faculty senator Rosenstein (MDA) inquired about the external diversity review asking when the report would be available and how the release will be communicated. Jones replied that the draft report was just received last week. The leadership team is vetting the report. There have been points of clarification raised which the external review team will need to respond to. The meeting scheduled with Jones and the Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion (EQ) was postponed until the final report is available. Once the report is available Jones plans to go over the report with the EQ committee, and the report will also be available on the Office of the Chancellor website.

Faculty senator Barnes (LAS) asked the Chancellor to comment on the decline in the number of African American students and faculty, and the student lead groups such as Project 1,000. Chancellor Jones that he has spoken with the student group bring Project 1,000 forward. When Jones started here as the Chancellor he was surprised with the African American students here on campus. The incoming freshman class had the largest percentage of African American students in the history of the university. There have been conversations in the Chancellor and Provost offices on enrollment management and how we can systematically address this issue. Jones thanked the student who brought this issue forward. Jones reminded the Senate that he started in his position a week early so he could attend the Illinois Black Student Reunion and in particular one of the symposiums on this topic. Jones stated that funding is a critical aspect of being able to provide financial opportunities for our students.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

04/03/17-02 Faculty senator Anand (BUS) requested proposal EP. 17.58 be moved to the “proposals” portion of the agenda for discussion.

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

- 04/03/17-03 EP.17.37\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Learning and Education Studies in the College of Education
- 04/03/17-04 EP.17.44\* Proposal to Establish Four New Graduate Concentrations, Eliminate Two Graduate Concentrations, and Rename and Revise One Graduate Concentration for the Master of Laws degree, from the College of Law
- 04/03/17-05 EP.17.57\* Proposal to Increase the Number of Major Credits for the Bachelor of Social Work, (BSW), in the School of Social Work
- 04/03/17-06 EP.17.59\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Sculpture Major from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- 04/03/17-07 EP.17.60\* Proposal to Revise the BFA in Industrial Design from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- 04/03/17-08 EP.17.61\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Photography Major from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- 04/03/17-09 EP.17.63\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Art History Major from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- 04/03/17-10 EP.17.64\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Crafts Major from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- 04/03/17-11 EP.17.65\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Graphic Design Major from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- 04/03/17-12 EP.17.66\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts, New Media Major from the College of Fine and Applied Arts
- 04/03/17-13 EP.17.67\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Fine Arts, Painting Major from the College of Fine and Applied Arts

- 04/03/17-14 EP.17.68\* Proposal to Eliminate the MENG with a Major in Bioinstrumentation from the College of Engineering
- 04/03/17-15 EP.17.69\* Proposal to Establish a Graduate Concentration in Actuarial Science and Risk Analytics from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 04/03/17-16 EP.17.71\* Proposal to Revise the French Commercial Studies Concentration in the BALAS, French Major from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 04/03/17-17 EP.17.72\* Proposal to Revise the Concentrations in the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Psychology Major from the College of LAS
- 04/03/17-18 EP.17.75\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Journalism from the College of Media
- 04/03/17-19 EP.17.76\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Arts in the Teaching of French from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 04/03/17-20 EP.17.81\* Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Media and Cinema Studies, Eliminating the Concentrations in Media Studies and in Cinema Studies from the College of Media

**PROPOSALS**

- 04/03/17-21 EP.17.58\* Proposal to Establish a Formal Addition of Winter Session to the Illinois Academic Calendar Starting in 2017-2018 Academic Year

In response to a question about the winter session, Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC) Chair Francis replied that the letter attached from the EPC is the opinion of the EPC and strongly urges units to consider various aspects before putting a course forward, but these are not requirements.

- 04/03/17-22 By i>clicker, proposal EP.17.58 was approved.

- 04/03/17-23 SC.17.11\* Extension of the Term for the Athletic Board Faculty Representative to the Big Ten Conference

On behalf of the SEC, Chair Miller introduced and moved approval of proposal SC.17.11. This proposal extends Matthew Wheeler's term as Faculty Athletic Representative (FAR) to the Big Ten Conference by one additional year to 2018.

- 04/03/17-24 By i>clicker, Wheeler's term was extended through 2018 with 104 in favor and 7 opposed.

- 04/03/17-25 SC.17.12\* University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate Statement on Inclusion, Tolerance, and the Free Pursuit of Knowledge

On behalf of the SEC, members Burbules, Oberdeck, and Steinberg introduced and moved approval of proposal SC.17.12. Burbules highlighted the collaborative process that took place in revising the Statement. Oberdeck added that there have been various petitions on similar topics signed by various faculty. Oberdeck wanted to bring a similar Statement forward for affirmation collectively by the full Senate. Steinberg expressed his support and encouraged senators to support the Statement.

- 04/03/17-26 Faculty senator Anastasio (LAS) made a motion to amend the third paragraph of the Statement by adding the following underlined text to the end of the last sentence:

While we seek to create a welcoming and inclusive learning environment, we want that environment to include difficult, challenging, and controversial ideas, even ideas that some members of the university community consider hateful.

The motion was seconded and discussion followed.

- 04/03/17-27 By i>clicker, the motion failed with 32 in favor and 75 opposed.

- 04/03/17-28 Anastasio made another motion to amend the fourth paragraph of the Statement by removing the words "and information".

We condemn attacks against fact-based institutions, including the free press, scientific researchers, and the university itself, when they disclose facts ~~and information~~ that go against preferred policies.

04/03/17-29 Faculty Senator Maher (LIBR) moved to amend the amendment by substituting the word “evidence” in place of “information”.

We condemn attacks against fact-based institutions, including the free press, scientific researchers, and the university itself, when they disclose facts and ~~information~~ evidence that go against preferred policies.

04/03/17-30 By i>clicker, the amendment to the amendment was approved with 102 in favor and 9 opposed.

04/03/17-31 By i>clicker, the amendment to the fourth paragraph was approved with 103 in favor and 8 opposed.

04/03/17-32 By i>clicker, the motion to approve the amended SC.17.12 proposal was approved with 93 in favor and 14 opposed.

04/03/17-33 EP.17.55\* Proposal to Reorganize the Departments of Comparative Biosciences & Pathobiology into the Dept. of Comparative Biomedical Sciences in the College of Veterinary Medicine

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC), Chair Francis requested this item be removed from the agenda.

04/03/17-34 SP.15.08\* Proposed Revisions to the Senate *Constitution* and *Bylaws* to Provide Representation for Specialized Faculty (Second Reading)

On behalf of the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP), Chair Maher introduced and moved approval of proposal SP.15.08. Maher noted that this is the second reading of this item and if the Senate approves the proposal it still requires the approval of the Board of Trustees. Maher added that he had some inquiries about numbers, but it is not possible to accurately provided numbers without actually going through the process. The ratio will need to be assessed on an annual basis and will most likely need to be changed. The Senate Committee on Elections and Credentials will assess the changes that would occur with the addition of the specialized faculty into the faculty electorate.

The data on specialized faculty only includes lecturers and instructors because those are the only two title currently included in the faculty electorate. It was also brought to USSP’s attention that with the new promotional lines created for specialized faculty, some lecturers and instructors have changed titles and can no longer be included in the current faculty electorate.

A few senators spoke in support of the proposal and a concern was expressed about the proposal not providing the specialized faculty with representation. Friedman responded to the concern by stating that it is up to the departments to award titles and therefore who is included in the electorate.

04/03/17-35 By i>clicker, proposal SP.15.08 was approved with 81 in favor and 19 opposed.

04/03/17-36 SP.16.11\* Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.2 – Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure

On behalf of the USSP, Chair Maher introduced and moved approval of proposal SP.16.11. This proposal makes it clear that a non-tenure track (NTT) member must be part of the committee. USSP worked with the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure (AFT) and with SEC to prepare the proposal.

In response to a concern about this proposal contradicting the previous proposal by making distinctions, AFT Chair Steinberg stated that the previous proposal was not to erase a distinction, but to make sure NTT faculty are fully included in the Senate.

04/03/17-37 By i>clicker, proposal SP.16.11 was approved with 71 in favor and 14 opposed.

04/03/17-38 SP.17.05\* Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part F.4 – Research Policy Committee

On behalf of the USSP, Chair Maher introduced and moved approval of proposal SP.17.05. Maher noted that USSP worked with the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research and the Chair of the Research Policy Committee to try and simplify the procedures for nominating member to this committee.

04/03/17-39 By i>clicker, proposal SP.17.05 was approved with 73 in favor and 3 opposed.

#### **ATHLETIC BOARD UPDATED**

Tom Ulen, chair of Athletic Board for 8 years, presented an overview of the Academic Review System (ARS) for Athletics. The slide presentation\* was distributed in print form. Each of the 19 intercollegiate sports teams is reviewed every six semesters. Three teams are reviewed each semester. The review covers the previous six semesters since the last review. The ARS was put in place in 1992 and the student athletes have improved over that period. The review is to compare student athletes on a particular team with non-athletic students. Student athletes are also compared with other Big Ten universities and also with Division One athletes. The chair of the Academic Progress and Eligibility Committee (APEC) prepares a report for each sport under review which includes the athletic director and the associate athletic director of the team. Ulen shared some statistics on student athletes' academic records for fall 2016 including that 42 student athletes had a 4.0 GPA, 56% of student athletes achieved a 3.0 GPA or higher, and the graduation rate is higher than the overall Illinois student body.

The Athletic Board has reviewed concerns outside of those specifically mandated by the Senate such as the clustering concern in the Big Ten. There does not seem to be any undue clustering in a college or in any classes. All colleges and most majors are represented. Overuse of independent study was also a concern. There were only 11 students taking an independent study. Half of those were a requirement of their course. There is a required form for independent study that must be filled out by the student and professor.

Ulen noted that online course have become a benefit for student athletes and allows students the ability to take classes online over summer. The Athletic Director and head coaches understand the expected standard of academic excellence. Most of the head coaches see this as a positive recruiting element. There have been no sports out of compliance with the review done to Senate standards. There are some units that provide some extracurricular programs for student athletes such as community involvement and outreach, national speakers on student athlete issues, a leadership academy, and career readiness programs.

04/03/17-40 AB.17.01\* 2016-2017 Annual Report of the Athletic Board

#### **CURRENT BENEFITS ISSUES**

John Kindt, Chair of Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits, noted that there would be a free retirement seminar on April 29. The website to use for benefits is now MyBenefits.il.gov. The faculty and academic staff emergency fund drive begins tomorrow. Kindt also encouraged senators to contact legislators, but not during work hours on university time.

#### **REPORTS FOR INFORMATION**

04/03/17-41 EP.17.79\* Report of Administrative Approvals through March 13, 2017

04/03/17-42 EP.17.82\* Report of Administrative Approvals through March 27, 2017

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 pm

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>