

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE
(Final; Information)

UC.19.05 University Senates Conference 2018-2019 Annual Report

The Office of the Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs provides budgetary and secretarial support for the twenty-member University Senates Conference (USC), which consists of ten faculty members elected from the UIUC Senate, seven faculty members elected from the UIC Senate, and three faculty members elected from the UIS Senate, for three-year terms. The Conference reviews and, when necessary, assists in coordinating the actions of the three senates. Another important function is to serve in an advisory capacity to the President. From August 2018 through June 2019, the Conference held ten regular meetings, an organizational meeting, and a retreat.

The members of the University Senates Conference Executive Committee for 2018-2019 were:

Joyce Tolliver (UIUC), Chair;
Sandra De Groot, (UIC), Vice Chair;
Ranjan Karri (UIS);
William Maher (UIUC);
Aria Razfar (UIC);
Magic Wade (UIS).

University of Illinois policies, procedures, and other issues of concern were discussed with President Timothy Killeen and Executive Vice President Barbara Wilson during the monthly meetings. Topics discussed during these sessions included the University's budget, the state budget, legislative issues, the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI), the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN), the University of Illinois Investment, Performance, and Accountability Commitment (IPAC), the IBHE and higher education in Illinois, the Distinguished Faculty Recruitment Program, the Arts and Humanities awards initiative, the International Travel Policy, the Altogether Extraordinary fundraising campaign, reorganization of the Institute of Government and Public Affairs, Board of Trustees July retreat planning, USC review of the vice presidents; academic unit review, sexual misconduct task force, task force for invited speakers guidelines, employee salary program, strategic enrollment management, regulatory burdens, proposed revisions to the *Statutes* and to the *General Rules*, USC interactions with members of the Board of Trustees, and other shared governance issues. These interactions provided an opportunity to learn from each other and share opinions, with the purpose of being better equipped to serve the University.

USC Committees

USC now has four standing committees: Executive; Academic Affairs and Research; Finance, Budget and Benefits; and Statutes and Governance. USC voted to discontinue its Hospital and Health Affairs. Some members of the USC committees attended the corresponding Board committee meetings. The Conference hopes to continue to strengthen the relationship between the Board committees and USC committees. The USC committee structure was revamped in Fall 2012. The Nominating Committee is appointed by the USC Chair in the spring and provides a slate for officers and committees.

USC Representation on External Committees and Related Activities

The Conference had representation on the following external committees and groups:

- Policy on Background Checks Review Committee (William Maher);
- DPI Academic Governance Advisory Group (Sandy De Groote, Harley Johnson);
- DPI Academic Executive Committee (Ranjan Karri);
- Enrollment Management Policy Council (Magic Wade);
- President's Executive Leadership Program 2018-2019 (Danilo Erricolo);
- Establish UI System Guidelines for Invited Speakers Task Force (Christopher Span);
- Vice President for Academic Affairs Faculty Advisory Committee for System Academic Affairs (Joyce Tolliver).

The Conference continued to send observers to each Board of Trustees meeting. In addition, a faculty report from USC was given at each Board meeting.

USC Consultation with System administrative representatives:

The Conference conferred at length during our meetings with the following guests:

- Vice President Ed Seidel, to discuss the Discovery Partners Institute and Illinois Innovation Network (8/29/18);
- Drs. William Sanders and Phyllis Baker, to discuss DPI approvals processes (10/31/18 and 2/26/19);
- Vice President Avijit Ghosh, to discuss system-wide budget issues, outlooks, and concerns (11/28/18);
- Paul Weinberger and Melissa Haas, to discuss faculty participation in federal governmental relations; (2/26/19)
- Jennifer Creasey, to discuss faculty participation in state governmental relations (4/13/19);
- UIUC Chancellor Robert Jones, for campus update (4/2/19);
- UIS Chancellor Susan Koch, for campus update (4/30/19);
- UIC Chancellor Michael Amiridis, for campus update (5/29/19).

Action items from the Conference's agenda in 2018-2019:

I. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*:

ST-77. Revisions to the *Statutes* – Edits and Updates (A File). Received from the Board of Trustees Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee 10/6/14. Transmitted to Senates 10/10/14. Passed UIC Senate 12/3/14. Passed UIS Senate 1/23/15. Passed UIUC Senate 5/4/15. Transmitted to the President 5/29/15. Transmitted to Senates 9/4/18. Passed by UIC Senate with amendments 10/24/18. Passed UIS Senate with amendment 11/9/18.

A process for revising the *Statutes* and the *General Rules* began in August 2012 when the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee of the Board of Trustees noted the need for an overall review of both documents. Various offices were involved in the process, along with faculty members from the University Senates Conference.

The *Statutes* were transmitted to the President in May 2015. President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson reviewed the proposed revisions and determined that certain areas needed further review. Executive Vice President Wilson and Legal Counsel were involved in subsequent discussions. The USC Statutes and Governance Committee continued to work on the revisions to the *Statutes*, including the addition of the system/university language. Additional revisions were transmitted to the senates in September 2018. The UIC and UIS Senates have proposed amendments to the document. The UIUC Senate has yet to act on the new revisions.

ST-83. Revisions to the *Statutes* – new proposed revisions and proposed revisions from ST-77 that need further discussion (B File).

This item was added to the agenda in order to separate the proposed statutory revisions that were ready to move forward from those that need further discussion. This item also includes new proposed statutory revisions that will be forthcoming. The USC Statutes and Governance Committee has been working on the additional revisions.

ST-84. Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article VIII, Section 4 – Changes in Existing Units. Passed UIUC Senate 11/12/18. Transmitted to Senates 12/18/18. Revised UIUC Senate document 4/22/19. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 5/7/19.

The UIUC senate approved language that distinguishes between academic renaming and honorific renaming. The UIC and UIS Senates have been asked to consider the proposed language.

II. Proposed revisions to the *General Rules*:

GR-46. Revisions to the *General Rules* – Edits and Updates. Received from the Board of Trustees Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee 10/6/14. Transmitted to the President

12/22/14. Intellectual Property transmitted to Senates 1/26/15. Passed UIS Senate 3/6/15. Passed UIC Senate 4/23/15. Passed UIUC Senate 5/4/15. Intellectual Property transmitted to the President 5/29/15. Revised IP to Senates 4/4/18. UIC Senate response 4/26/18 (not approved, provided recommendations) UIUC Senate response 4/30/18 (not approved, provided recommendations). Transmitted to Senates (Article III, Intellectual Property) 9/4/18. Passed UIC Senate 9/20/18. Passed UIUC Senate 10/15/18. Passed UIS Senate 11/9/18. New proposed revisions transmitted to Senates 3/6/19. Advice from UIC Senate 4/24/19.

A process for revising the *Statutes* and the *General Rules* began in August 2012 when the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee of the Board of Trustees noted the need for an overall review of both documents. Various offices were involved in the process, along with faculty members from the University Senates Conference.

The *General Rules* were transmitted to President Killeen in December 2014, and a proposal to move the Intellectual Property (IP) section to the *Statutes* was transmitted to the President in May 2015. President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson reviewed the proposed revisions and determined that certain areas needed further review. In addition, they were not in favor of moving the IP section to the *Statutes*. The President and Executive Vice President worked through areas where there was not agreement with the University Senates Conference during several USC meetings. The USC Statutes and Governance Committee, Executive Vice President Wilson, and Legal Counsel worked on the IP section, which included adding system/university language to the document. The senates had concerns with the proposed revisions to the Intellectual Property section of the document. Additional revisions to the IP section were transmitted to the senates at two different times this past year. The first set of revisions, sent in September 2018, was approved by all three senates. The UIC Senate has responded to revisions transmitted in March 2019. The UIS and UIUC Senates have not responded.

GR-50. Proposed Revision to the *General Rules*, Article IV, Employment Policies, Section 1(i) (1) a) - Proposed Change to Postdoctoral Research Associates Compensable Vacation. Response to President Killeen 4/10/19. Approved by Board of Trustees 5/16/19

The proposal to amend the *General Rules* would remove the payout of unused, accrued vacation when a post-doc appointment ends. However, post-docs can transfer accrued vacation to a new post-doc appointment in another unit. USC recommended approval of the revision. The Board approved the revision. Implementation will be August 16, 2019, for new offers.

III. USC Documents written and distributed 2018-2019:

OT-347. USC Descriptive Summary Document. Approved 8/29/18.

The Conference approved a document that could be given to Board members, guests, and others who will be interacting with USC.

OT-351. Guidelines for Shared Governance and System-Wide Academic and Research Initiatives at the University of Illinois. Approved 1/24/19. Transmitted to President Killeen, Executive Vice President Wilson, and the senates 1/29/19.

The Conference approved guidelines concerning shared governance for system-wide academic and research initiatives.

OT-352. University Senates Conference Statement on System Governing Documents and Collective Bargaining Contracts. Approved 11/28/18. Transmitted to the Board, the President, and various senior administrators 12/5/18.

The Conference approved a statement concerning the University System's governing documents and collective bargaining contracts.

IV. USC consultation on System-wide issues:

OT-355. Staff Engagement Program. Considered 1/24/19.

The Conference reviewed a proposal to establish a program that would allow release time for staff members to participate in programs on the campuses to learn more about their university.

OT-356. Discovery Partners Institute. Transmitted to Senates 2/28/19. Endorsed UIS Senate 3/22/19. UIC Senate did not pass; sent list of concerns 3/27/19. Endorsed UIUC Senate 4/22/19. Transmitted to President 5/7/19.

The Conference discussed plans for the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) with President Killeen, Executive Vice President Wilson, Vice President Seidel, Dr. William Sanders, and Dr. Phillis Baker over an extended period of time. The Conference provided its advice and made recommendations specific to academic issues. After the Conference provided its advice to the three senates, the senates sent their advice to USC. USC transmitted its advice and the advice of the senates to the President in May 2019.

OT-357. Lifelong Alumni Connections. USC Resolution approved 4/2/19. Transmitted to President 4/18/19.

Conference members discussed the various ways for the system, universities, and units to keep in touch with their graduates. USC approved a resolution in support of alumni retaining their university email addresses. In addition, USC plans to meet with alumni leaders from each university in the next academic year.

OT-358. Five-Year Faculty Hiring Plan. USC Statement approved 6/21/19. Transmitted to President Killeen and Executive Vice President Wilson 6/26/19.

The University Senates Conference approved a statement in support of each university developing a five-year faculty hiring plan.

OT-359. Periodic Assessment of the University of Illinois Policy on Background Checks.

The revised background check policy from 2016 has a provision that there be a periodic assessment of the policy at least every three years. USC was asked by System Human Resources for assistance in providing a faculty representative in the process. USC appointed Professor William Maher to be the faculty representative.

OT-360. USC Nominee to the President's Executive Leadership Program (PELP).

Executive Vice President Wilson invited USC to provide a nominee for the 2019-20 cohort of PELP. Professor John Dallesasse was chosen to serve in that role.

V. USC internal matters:

OT-339. Audit of the University Senates Conference.

University Audits conducted a review of the University Senates Conference. The process began in April 2017 and a report was issued in late August. USC has addressed most of the recommendations in the report. Some items have been given new target dates.

OT-353. Proposed Revisions to the University Senates Conference Bylaws, 5.5, 6.3(a), 6.3(d) – Removal of the Hospital and Health Affairs Committee and other minor revisions. Approved 1/24/19.

The Conference approved revisions that include removing all references to the Hospital and Health Affairs Committee.

OT-354. Recalculation of Apportionment of USC Membership. Reported 1/24/19.

The recalculation concluded that the apportionment should remain as is.

VI. Pending items, discussed in 2018-2019 and carried over to 2019-2020:

ST-72. Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 (Academic Freedom). Passed UIUC Senate 12/6/10. Passed UIC Senate 9/22/11. Passed UIS Senate 12/14/12. Transmitted to the President 1/18/13. Revised language approved by USC 3/18/14. Transmitted to Senates 3/21/14. Passed UIUC Senate 11/17/14. Passed UIC Senate 1/29/15. Passed UIS Senate 4/10/15. Transmitted to President 5/12/15. Referred back to UIUC Senate USSP Committee in consultation with AFT 2/23/17.

After multiple draft versions, the proposed revisions were sent to the President on May 12, 2015, after all three senates approved identical language. After Legal Counsel expressed concerns with the language, USC asked the UIUC Senate to reconsider the language by sending the document back to its USSP Committee for further consideration in consultation with AFT. The UIUC Senate committees have been working with Legal Counsel.

ST-79. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2.b and Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*. Approved by USC 1/17/13. Transmitted to Senates 4/5/13. Revised language transmitted to Senates 6/21/13. Passed UIC Senate 9/26/13. Revised language passed UIUC Senate 11/18/13. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 11/26/13. Passed UIS Senate 2/21/14. Passed UIC Senate 4/24/14. Transmitted to the President 6/11/14. USC new proposed revisions 4/27/17. Transmitted to Senates 5/11/17. Background statement to Senates 9/6/17. Passed UIS Senate 9/15/17. Voted down UIC Senate 11/30/17. Passed UIUC Senate with revisions 12/11/17. USC reconciled language to Senates 1/29/18. Passed UIUC Senate 4/2/18. Passed UIS Senate 4/6/18. Failed UIC Senate 4/26/18. Approved USC 5/3/18. Transmitted to President 6/1/18 with UIC response.

After several revisions were made to the language that was approved by USC in January 2013, all three senates approved identical language. The proposed statutory changes were transmitted to the President on June 11, 2014. In April 2017, the Conference approved language that would permit the president to propose statutory revisions in collaboration with USC. The new proposed revisions were transmitted to the senates. The UIS Senate approved the language, the UIUC Senate approved the language with revisions, and the UIC Senate voted down the language. USC attempted to reconcile the language and sent the new version to the senates in January 2018. The new version was approved by the UIS and UIUC Senates and voted down by the UIC Senate. USC transmitted the language approved by the two senates to the President in June 2018 and included the response from the UIC Senate.

ST-81. Revisions to University of Illinois Nondiscrimination Statement. Received from Vice President Pierre 10/9/15. Transmitted to Senates 10/12/15. Passed UIC Senate 10/28/15. Passed UIS Senate 12/11/15. Passed UIUC 3/7/16. UIUC Senate version transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 3/31/16. Passed UIS Senate 4/22/16. Passed UIC Senate 9/29/16. Transmitted to Executive Vice President/Vice President for Academic Affairs 11/22/16.

After the UIS Senate and UIC Senate approved the proposed revisions, the UIUC Senate suggested additional revisions, which were transmitted to the other senates. The UIC and UIS Senates approved the additional revisions, which were transmitted to Vice President Wilson.

ST-82. Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Sections 3. (Appointments, Ranks, and Promotions of the Academic and Administrative Staff) a., and 4 (Principles Governing Employment of Academic and Administrative Staffs) b. Approved by the UIUC Senate 5/2/16. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates 6/6/16. Passed UIS Senate 9/23/16. Passed UIC Senate 10/26/16. Transmitted to President 12/5/16.

The Urbana-Champaign Senate approved revisions to the *Statutes* “to Implement the Recommendations of the Hiring Policies and Procedures Review Committee.” The first part of the proposed revisions amends Article IX, Section 3.a, “to provide for the delegation of the Board’s authority over hiring, tenure, promotion, and setting of salaries to the President, who may further delegate authority over these matters to the respective campuses.” The second part of the proposal amends Article IX, Section 4.b, which gives the Board the authority to set salaries. The proposed revision “has the Board delegate power over salaries to the respective campuses.” The second proposal is intended to supersede the changes to Article IX, Section 4.b. that were transmitted to the President in May 2015 as part of the overall revisions to the *Statutes*. The proposed revisions were approved by the UIC and UIS Senates and transmitted to President Killeen.

Officers for 2019-2022

On June 21, 2019, USC elected the following members to its 2019-2020 Executive Committee:

Sandra De Groot (UIC), Chair;
Magic Wade (UIS), Vice Chair;
John Dallesasse (UIUC);
Lynn Fisher (UIS);
Aria Razfar (UIC);
Joyce Tolliver (UIUC).

August 15, 2019

Submitted by Joyce Tolliver, 2018-2019 USC Chair and USC Representative to SEC