SP.20.31 Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.10 – Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion

**BACKGROUND**

Responding to the Report of the Eighth Senate Review Commission (XSR.19.01), the Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion examined its charge and composition as provided by the *Bylaws*, Part D.11.

The proposed revisions would change the committee’s name and the descriptions of its duties to better align with terms now in common use on campus and within higher education: “diversity, equity, and inclusion.” In addition, these revisions better align the *Bylaws* with the committee’s practices, clarify some of its activities, and include as an *ex officio* member the new Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The Vice Chancellor now coordinates offices such as the Office for Access & Equity, the Title IX Office, the Office for Academic Inclusive Excellence, and the Office for Business, Community & Economic Development.

On November 12, 2020, the Board of Trustees approved a global set of revisions (ST-77) to the University Statutes, which changed the language referring to each campus (now “University”) and the University of Illinois system as a whole (now “System”). This set of changes has led to some discrepancies in the Senate’s governing documents, including some in the current proposal, which will be addressed via a forthcoming proposal from the Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends the approval of the following revisions to the *Bylaws*. Text to be deleted is struck through and text to be added is underlined. Adoption of amendments to the *Bylaws* requires a two-thirds vote of the Senate.

**REVISION TO THE BYLAWS, PART D.10 – Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion**

1. Committee on Equal Opportunity Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

2. a. Duties

3. The Committee shall:
1. **Develop and support programs** Recommend and advocate for programs and guidelines promoting a **diverse, equitable, inclusive, and welcoming** campus environment for members of any underrepresented, historically disadvantaged, or marginalized groups across all communities and activities both within and outside the University.

2. **Ensure accountability and transparency by**:

   Programs and guidelines may be developed wherever an apparent need exists, including but not necessarily limited to the following areas:

   a. monitoring progress on initiatives that were subjects of previous recommendations and advocacy within and outside the Senate, and

   b. consulting with representatives of groups who are the intended beneficiaries of these programs and policies:

      a. Academic and civil service employment, teaching, research, and public service;

      b. Admission and financial aid policies and practices for undergraduate, graduate, and professional students, as well as educational policies, practices and programs;

      c. Community projects and studies which relate to equal opportunity for disadvantaged and minority groups at all levels (students, faculty, and staff) on the campus.

   2.3 **Evaluate continually** Facilitate conversations Promote and encourage dialogue regarding the equal opportunity posture of diversity, equity, and inclusion on the campus and the University as a whole System with regard to enunciated principles and actions taken;

   3-4. Communicate and cooperate with other campus and University offices and committees established to work toward the objectives of this committee (e.g., the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access and the Chancellor’s Committee on the Status of Women);

   5. Communicate and cooperate as well as with local (non-University) community groups concerned with diversity, equity, and inclusion equal education and
employment opportunity and with the access of that historically disadvantaged community minority groups have to University cultural and recreational facilities and programs; and

4. Where appropriate, make reports and recommendations, where appropriate, that pertain to diversity, equity, and inclusion to the Senate and to other units and officials of the University.

b. Membership

The Committee shall consist of:

1. Seven faculty members,
2. One academic professional member,
3. Three students members,
4. One designee of the Chancellor, The Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion or the Vice Chancellor’s designee (ex officio), and
5. Up to three non-voting members, recommended by the voting members and approved by the Senate, representing from underrepresented, historically disadvantaged, or marginalized groups.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
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