

# STATUTES & GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE ADDENDUM TO ST-83 AS APPROVED UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

## University Senates Conference October 9, 2024

This addendum provides additional information on the legislative history of the proposal to revise numerous sections of the University of Illinois *Statutes* that the University Senates Conference (USC) transmitted to the university senates on September 2, 2021. We offer this additional detail in the hope that the greater context it provides will enrich the current consultative process, while also constituting a more substantial legislative record.

The totality of *Statutes* revisions that were proposed in ST-83 represents one phase of a process that has stretched over more than a decade. As our August 28, 2024 cover letter noted, that process began in late summer, 2012, when the Board of Trustees charged a small *ad hoc* committee to review both the *Statutes* and the *General Rules* and to propose revisions that would “update and streamline” our governing documents. The following year, this committee shared a draft of the proposed revisions with USC for discussion and potential revision. On October 10, 2014, USC received the final version of the proposed revisions, which reflected revisions that had been proposed by USC. USC transmitted this final draft to the senates for their review and advice, with the file designation ST-77. Having received the advice of all three senates on the amendments proposed in this initial version of ST-77 during the 2014-2015 academic year, University Senates Conference proceeded to review and reconcile the various Senate versions. On May 29, 2015, USC sent the proposal to the President for transmission to the Board.

During the period in 2014/15 when the senates were formulating their advice on ST-77, the University of Illinois system underwent several changes in senior leadership, most significantly a change of president. At the moment in May 2015 when the USC transmitted the complex set of *Statutes* revisions and the advice of each senate on each proposed revision, Dr. Killeen had held his position as President of the University of Illinois system for only eleven days. Given the transition in senior university leadership, the detailed review of the proposal by the President and the Vice President of Academic Affairs/Executive Vice President took until late summer 2017. In September 2017, the USC received a draft response from the president’s office to the revisions proposed in ST-77.

At that point, those elements of ST-77 that the President judged as not ready for adoption by the Board were separated out of ST-77 by USC, to be examined in detail and revised as necessary for later submission as a separate item. Working in close consultation with the Executive Vice President and senior leaders in the offices of System Human Resources and System Legal Counsel, USC then revised and expanded those sections that had been separated out from ST-77. That package became what was presented to the senates in September 2021 as ST-83. Therefore, while some revisions proposed in ST-83 had not been contemplated in ST-77, other *Statutes* sections proposed for revision in ST-83 had already been considered by the senates and the president during the review of ST-77. The section defining “faculty” in Article II, Section 1 is the primary example.

**END**