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SP.26.02

December 8, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
COMMITTEE ON UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES
(Second Reading; Information)

SP.26.02 Proposed Revision to the *Statutes*, Article II, Sections 3a(1) and 3a(2) – Faculty Role in Governance (ST-91)

BACKGROUND

The University of Illinois Chicago has proposed an amendment to the *Statutes*, which has been transmitted to the Urbana Senate via the University Senates Conference (USC) as ST-91. ST-91 proposes including academic staff ineligible for tenure (those with modified professor titles, instructors, and lecturers) in the definition of faculty, thus expanding governance rights at the unit and college level.

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (SP) is currently considering ST-91 as SP.26.02. SP first introduced SP.26.02 to the Senate at the October 13, 2025 meeting, for a first reading without a vote. SP has also requested input from subject-matter bodies including:

- Senate Committee on General University Policy
- Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure
- Office of the Provost and potentially the Council of Deans

SP will provide that input to the Senate once received.

In the meantime, SP returns SP.26.02 to the Senate for another reading without a vote. SP asks the Senate to consider the following questions:

- Does expanding the definition of "faculty" in the *Statutes* to include non-tenure-track professors, lecturers, and instructors (lines 46-48) raise any concerns about the role of faculty, broadly or in relation to governance?
- Do the *Bylaws* of units you belong to adequately address the proposed changes in lines 54-56 and 68-69 or would they need revision?
- Are there uses of "faculty" elsewhere in the *Statutes* or other major governance documents that might need to be clarified if this expanded definition were incorporated into the *Statutes*?

SP invites input on these questions, suggestions for other subject-matter bodies to seek input from, and any other feedback on ST-91. Senate discussion and input on SP.26.02 will inform SP's recommendation, which will be brought to the Senate for a future vote.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES

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