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**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE**
University Senates Conference
(Final; Information)

UC.16.04 Report on the May 26, 2016 Meeting of the University Senates Conference (USC)

The University Senates Conference (USC) met at Student Center West, UIC.

The session with President Killeen and Vice President Pierre included the following discussions:

- Update on the Budget

There is another stop-gap bill for FY16 funding that is currently on the Governor's desk. There is also a partisan bill for FY17 that the Governor is not expected to sign. A bipartisan group has been meeting extensively to try to develop long-term solutions to the inconsistent budgets.

- U of I 2021 Initiative (compact with the state)

The proposed document contains conservative metrics that the University would commit to in exchange for predictable funding and regulatory relief, especially in the area of procurement. The initiative is a five-year plan.

- Update on the University Strategic Plan

The Strategic Framework document was approved by the Board of Trustees in May. The implementation process will kick-off at the Board Retreat in July. The President asked for advice on how to move the framework forward. The Strategic Framework is a ten-year plan.

- Vice President for Research Position

President Killeen discussed possible changes to the position, including a name change. There will be a search to fill the position that will be vacated in August by Dr. Larry Schook, who plans to return to the faculty.

- Review of the Academic Program Approval Process

The Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Christophe Pierre, provided an update on the review. The goal is to optimize the process and remove some of the approval layers.

USC met with Dr. Robert Barish, Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, Dr. Susan Poser, Provost, and Dr. Raymond Curry, Senior Associate Dean for Educational Affairs at the UIC College of Medicine, and discussed the following:

- Dr. Barish provided an overview of the UI Health system, which consists of the hospital, 22 outpatient clinics, 13 health centers, the seven health science colleges, and 5 regional campuses. The health affairs deans report to him. He discussed the many outreach programs provided to the community and to the state by UIC's health system.
- Dr. Poser commented that eight deans and several vice provosts report to her. Moving the

medical health affairs deans out from under the Provost has been a big change for UIC. However, she and Dr. Barish work very well together and they are striving to bring the units together and find ways to collaborative between east side and west side.

- UIS has a relatively small number of majors, but is creating new academic programs in high demand areas. UIS has partnered with the UIC College of Nursing to offer a Bachelor of Nursing degree beginning in the fall.
- Dr. Curry discussed the initiative to revamp the medical school's curriculum, which has not been done in fifty years. There is urgency now due to various factors, so there is tremendous enthusiasm and many people want to be involved in the changes that will permeate throughout the entire curriculum. Student success is the first priority in making changes.

The minutes and the classification of senate minutes were approved.

The USC business agenda included the following items:

- The Conference agreed to forward statutory changes approved the UIUC Senate to the UIC and UIS Senates. The changes deal with language covering the approval process of appointments.
- There was an update on the statutory revisions that have been approved by all three campuses but have not yet been sent to the Board. Some items seem acceptable to move forward; others might need additional review and consideration or completely rewritten.
- Several items were referred to USC committees.

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew B. Wheeler
USC Representative to the Senate Executive Committee

The USC minutes and agendas can be found at:

<http://www.usc.uillinois.edu/documents>

The USC membership list can be found at:

<http://www.usc.uillinois.edu/membership>