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

UC.16.05 Report on the June 22, 2016 Meeting of the University Senates Conference (USC)

The University Senates Conference (USC) met at the Illini Union, Urbana.

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

- Update on Revisions to the *Statutes*

The Conference encouraged President Killeen to send the proposed revisions that have been approved by all three senates to the Board. Additional consideration that is needed in the section on academic freedom and to the language that provides the definition of faculty can be done separately.

- Update on the Budget

Another stop-gap bill for FY16 funding is being considered, although specifics change day-to-day. The University and its supporters have raised the level of advocacy. Vice President Pierre has assembled a system-level budget group, but he stressed the importance of the three universities having their own established processes for budget review.

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

President Killeen said that the metrics in the U of I 2021 Initiative are current numbers that the University is already delivering on. The five-year plan would provide predictable funding and regulatory relief for the University.

- Update on the University Strategic Plan

The Board of Trustees retreat in July will focus on implementation of the Strategic Framework, particularly the pillars outlined in the document.

- Update on Searches

President Killeen discussed various searches underway, including VP-Research and VP-Academic Affairs.

USC met with Chancellor Barbara Wilson and discussed the following:

- Chancellor Wilson provided an overview of current campus issues, such as searches that are underway, improvements to the admissions and recruitment process, the new Design Center building, a projected 7500 new freshman for fall, the upcoming development campaign, and budget issues – noting that faculty recruitment is one of the biggest risks.

- Update on the new College of Medicine. The new College of Medicine is looking at 2018 for the inaugural class. The partnership with Carle is strong. The dean search should be completed soon. A group is working aggressively on a very innovative curriculum.
- Chancellor Wilson described the many efforts that were made by the Urbana University to have censure lifted by the AAUP.

The minutes were approved.

The USC business agenda included the following items:

- Updates on various agenda items, although not much new information.
- Professor Burbules will present the USC annual report to the Board in July.

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>