

AGENDA

Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus
November 18, 2013; 3:10 pm

Illini Union – Illini Room A

- I. **Call to Order** – Chancellor Phyllis Wise
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – October 21, 2013
- III. **Senate Executive Committee Report** – Chair Roy Campbell
- IV. **Chancellor’s Remarks** – Chancellor Phyllis Wise
- V. **Questions/Discussion**
- VI. **Consent Agenda**

These items will only be distributed via www.senate.illinois.edu/131118.asp. If a senator wishes to move an item from the Consent Agenda to Proposals and have copies at the meeting, they must notify the Senate Office at least two business days before the meeting. Any senator can ask to have any item moved from the Consent Agenda to Proposals.

EP.14.08	Proposal from the College of Business Department of Accountancy and the Graduate College to Increase the Credit Requirement Needed to Earn the MS in Taxation	Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)
EP.14.09	Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) and the Graduate College to Add the Existing Graduate Concentration in Medieval Studies to the PhD in East Asian Languages and Cultures	Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)
EP.14.11	Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) and the Graduate College to Revise the Language Requirement in the Graduate Concentration in Medieval Studies	Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)
EP.14.13	Proposal from the College of Engineering to Revise the Bachelor of Science in Bioengineering	Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)
EP.14.14	Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Revise the Undergraduate Minor in Portuguese	Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)
EP.14.15	Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Establish an Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Minor in Medieval Studies	Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)
EP.14.16	Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) to Revise the Major in the Sciences and Letters Curriculum: BALAS in Interdisciplinary Studies, Medieval Studies Concentration	Educational Policy (G. Miller, Chair)

VII. Proposals (enclosed)

CC.14.06	Nominations for Membership on Standing Committees of the Senate	Committee on Committees (<i>P. Kalita</i>)	1
SP.14.06	Proposed Revisions to the <i>Statutes</i> , Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the <i>Statutes</i> (Second Reading)	University Statutes and Senate Procedures (<i>W. Maher</i>)	3
RS.14.01	Resolution on Governance Procedures for Changes in Academic Organization	K. Oberdeck D. O'Brien K. Riedel	9

VIII. Current Benefits Issues (5 min.)– John Kindt, Chair of Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits**IX. Reports (enclosed)**

HE.14.02	IBHE-FAC Report – October 18, 2013	A. Aminmansour	13
SUR.14.01	SURSMAC Report – October 8, 2013	H.F. Williamson J. Kindt	15

X. New Business**XI. Adjournment**

Minutes
Urbana-Champaign Senate Meeting
October 21, 2013

A regular meeting of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Senate was called to order at 3:11 pm at the Illini Union in Illini Room C with Vice Provost Barbara Wilson presiding and Professor Emeritus H. George Friedman, Jr. as Parliamentarian.

Approval of Minutes

10/21/13-01 The minutes from September 16, 2013 were approved as amended.

Senate Executive Committee Report

Roy Campbell (ENGR), faculty senator and Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), requested floor privileges on behalf of Professor Janak Patel from Electrical and Computer Engineering to speak to HD.14.02.

10/21/13-02 Floor privileges were granted as requested without objection.

Campbell announced that the Annual Meeting of the Faculty will be held on Monday, October 28, 2013 at 3:10pm at the Illini Union. President Robert Easter is no longer available to attend the meeting. Vice President Christophe Pierre will attend the Annual Meeting of the Faculty and answer questions and hold discussion on behalf of President Easter.

Campbell reported that Abbas Aminmansour had volunteered to chair the Seventh Senate Review Commission and the slate of nominees to populate the Commission was approved at the previous Senate meeting.

Faculty senators Harry Hilton (ENGR) and Joyce Tolliver (LAS) and student senator Shao Guo served as tellers for the meeting.

Chancellor's Remarks

Vice Provost Wilson noted that the campus strategic plan had been distributed and there are numerous print copies available by request. On behalf of the Chancellor, Wilson announced that there were 180 faculty searches approved. Units are encouraged to use the campus strategic plan document for recruitment. There are four major searches that will begin soon: 1) The Dean of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS), 2) the Dean of Agriculture, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES), 3) the Senior International Officer (SIO) which will hold that title of Associate Provost for International Affairs and Global Strategies, and 4) the Chief Information Officer (CIO).

The Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and Innovation Charles Tucker will be holding several sessions to discuss enhancing the undergraduate experience at Illinois, and is called Visioning Undergraduate Education. The sessions will run throughout the fall semester and will have significant Senate representation.

The Office of the Provost will begin an academic review program. The review will be on an eight year cycle and will include internal and external reviewers. Many units will find this very helpful as they decide how to move forward and how they can be strategic moving forward. The first three units that will begin the review program include the Department of Sociology, the Department of Agricultural and Consumer Economics (ACE) and the Department of Mechanical Science and Engineering.

Wilson expressed great sympathy on behalf of the Office of the Chancellor and the Office of the Provost for the recent tragedies on campus. Both offices have brought forward support systems. The Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Renee Romano, has wonderful staff members that have been reaching out during this difficult time.

Questions/Discussion

No questions.

Consent Agenda

Hearing no objections, the following proposals were approved by unanimous consent.

- 10/21/13-03 EP.14.07* Proposal from the College of Business to Permanently Establish the Center for Business and Public Policy
- 10/21/13-04 EP.14.10* Proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS) and the Graduate College to Eliminate the Physiological and Molecular Plant Biology Concentration from the MS and PhD in Biology
- 10/21/13-05 EP.14.12* Proposal from Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research to rename the Center for a Sustainable Environment as the Institute for Sustainability, Energy and Environment

Proposals (enclosed)

- 10/21/13-06 CC.14.05* Nominations for Membership on Standing Committees of the Senate
- On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Chair Prasanta Kalita moved approval of the nominees presented on CC.14.05. There were no floor nominations and nominations were declared closed.
- 10/21/13-07 By voice, the slate of candidates listed on CC.14.05 was approved.
- 10/21/13-08 SP.14.04* Proposed Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part D.9 – Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion
- On behalf of the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP), committee Chair William Maher introduced proposal SP.14.04. This proposal represents an amendment to existing *Bylaws* from the Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion. The Equal Opportunity and Inclusion Committee brought forward the requested *Bylaws* change in a resolution that was approved by the full Senate at the November 5, 2012 Senate meeting.
- 10/21/13-09 Chair Maher moved approval of SC.14.04. No discussion followed.
- 10/21/13-10 By voice vote, proposal SP.14.04 was approved.
- 10/21/13-11 SP.14.06* Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes* (First Reading)

On behalf of USSP, committee Chair Maher introduced SP.14.06. This is a first reading of proposed revisions to the *University Statutes* by the University Senates Conference (USC). The USC presented the document that is included in this proposal as Appendix A to the three Senates. Over last several years, USC has brought forward amendments to the *Statutes* for consideration by the Senates, but the Statues does not currently contain language outlining a process for USC to bring forward amendments.

The Urbana campus USSP reviewed the original proposal from USC, and decided to create its own version of the recommendation based on the current language that allows Senates to bring

forward amendments to the *Statutes*. Maher reminded senators that this is the first reading for discussion only and that the second reading and vote would be at the November 18 Senate meeting.

In response to a question about the language, Chair Maher reiterated that the language in Appendix A was the original text suggested by the USC. The Senate will vote at the next Senate meeting on the language created by the Urbana USSP Committee in proposal SP.14.06, not the original proposal by USC. Chair Maher added that under the current system, if one Senate proposes a change to the *Statutes*, but the other two are not in agreement, USC attempts to find consensus among the Senates. Chair Maher indicated that it is important to note that the Senates can amend any document that is presented for the Senate's consideration.

Faculty senator and USC member Mallory (LIBR) noted that the unwritten process of USC suggesting *Statutes* changes has worked successfully approximately five times in the past. USC's role is as a mediator. Mallory expressed her concern that if the process for USC suggesting changes to the *Statutes* is put in writing, that this duty will become just as important of a duty as mediation. Many of the USC members are well versed in Senate procedures and Mallory does not feel that putting this process in writing for USC to make changes to the *Statutes* is necessary.

Mallory also noted that USC is composed only of faculty. The Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus is composed of faculty, students, and academic professionals. There are not students or academic professionals serving on USC. Mallory encouraged senators to run for election on the USC in the spring elections.

Faculty senator Tolliver (LAS) read the USC charge from the *Statutes*. Tolliver pointed out that there is a very significant role of USC in coordinating the senates in recommending policy changes. Tolliver wanted to make it clear that USC's intention was not to achieve more power, but to regularize the process.

10/21/13-12 HD.14.02* Nominations for Honorary Degrees

Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees Chair Jeremy Tyson noted that information on both candidates, Andrews and Murthy, was included in today's Senate meeting packet. Tyson continued by briefly summarizing Andrews's accomplishments.

10/21/13-13 On behalf of the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees, Chair Tyson moved approval of George E. Andrews for an honorary degree to be conferred at the May 2014 Commencement exercises. No discussion followed.

10/21/13-14 By voice vote, the nomination of George E. Andrews for an honorary degree was approved.
Chair Tyson then gave a brief summary of Murthy's accomplishments.

10/21/13-15 On behalf of the Senate Committee on Honorary Degrees, Chair Tyson moved approval of Narayana N. R. Murthy for an honorary degree to be conferred at the May 2014 Commencement exercises. No discussion followed.

10/21/13-16 By voice vote, the nomination of Narayana N. R. Murthy for an honorary degree was approved.

Current Benefits Issues

John Kindt, Chair of the Senate Committee on Faculty and Academic Staff Benefits reminded those present that if an individual employee contacts a representative regarding an issue, University resources cannot be used in support of any political activities and any political activities must not interfere with employment obligations to the University.

Kindt turned the floor over to H. F. (Bill) Williamson as a representative to the State University Retirement System Members Advisory Committee (SURSMAC) and also as a retired faculty receiving an annuity. Williamson reported that retirees will soon be forced to make a decision about health insurance. Health Alliance was not among the four companies awarded the retiree contracts. Retirees should receive a letter soon and will have to make a quick decision by December 13, 2013.

Reports

10/21/13-17

HE.14.01* FAC/IBHE Report – September 20, 2013

Aminmansour noted that FAC/IBHE was formed 50 years ago and the Council plans to hold a celebration.

New Business

No new business.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:03 pm.

Jenny Roether, Senate Clerk

*Filed with the Senate Clerk and incorporated by reference in these minutes.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
Committee on Committees
(Final; Action)

CC.14.06 Nominations for Membership on Standing Committees of the Senate

Educational Policy

To fill one student vacancy created by the resignation of Sarah Halko (LAS)

Andrew Woronowicz

LAS

Term Expires 2014

COMMITTEE ON COMMITTEES

Prasanta Kalita, Chair

Sara Benson

Anthony Fiorentino

Tim Flanagan

William Gropp

Shao Guo

Rachel Heller

David O'Brien

Joyce Tolliver

Jenny Roether, *ex officio*

Nominations from the floor must be accompanied by the nominee's signed statement of willingness to serve if elected. The statement shall be dated and include the name of the position to be filled. If present, the nominee's oral statement will suffice.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures
(Second Reading; Action)

SP.14.06 Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2.b and Article XIII, Section 8 –
to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*

BACKGROUND

The attached proposed revisions are presented to the Senate in response to a June 21, 2013 request from the University Senates Conference (USC) that the *University Statutes* be revised to articulate a means whereby the USC may initiate the process for amending the *Statutes*.

On occasion, the USC has sent to the campus Senates proposals for amendments to the *University Statutes*. Some of these proposals have originated from University administration. These amendments have included ST-30, which provided for sanctions less than dismissal (in *University Statutes*, Article IX, Section 6), and ST-45, on interruptions of the probationary period (which appeared in several different articles of the *Statutes*). In these cases and others, the Administration recommended amendments to the USC, which studied the proposals and then referred them to each respective Senate for consideration and debate.

Although this practice has been employed from time to time, the *Statutes* are silent about what particular process should be followed when *Statutes* proposals originate with USC. The current proposal describes the existing practice, confirming that USC may introduce amendments to the *Statutes*. It further preserves the autonomy of the respective Senates to follow their own legislative processes in considering such proposals. Specifically, it requires that all proposals for amendments to the *Statutes*, including those coming from the USC, must be referred to the respective Senates. A Senate will not be bound by the text accompanying such proposals, and may subject the proposal to amendment and adaptation, following its own procedures.

Accordingly, the Senate Committee on University Statues and Senate Procedures (USSP) is offering an amendment to Article XIII, Section 8 and is offering new language to Article II, Section 2.b to provide consistency with the present provisions in Article II that authorize the senates to propose amendments through the following existing language:

“Each senate may propose amendments to these *Statutes* through the University Senates Conference to the president and the Board of Trustees as provided in Article XIII, Section 8.” (Article II, Section 1.f)

For reference, USC’s June proposal (ST-79) is attached to this document as Appendix A. On examining USC’s proposal, the USSP concluded that the language could be both simplified and clarified, especially in regard to the process that should be followed in the respective campus senates. The USC proposal could be interpreted as limiting the campus Senates to

merely affirming or rejecting the amendment, with or without comments, which would be inconsistent not only with existing practice but also with the spirit of the *Statutes*.

RECOMMENDATION

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends approval of the following revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2.b and Article XIII, Section 8. Text to be added is underscored and text to be deleted is indicated by ~~strikeout~~ (e.g., ~~sample text for deletion~~).

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE STATUTES, ARTICLE II, SECTION 2.B AND ARTICLE XIII, SECTION 8

1

2 **ARTICLE II. LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION**

3 **Section 2. University Senates Conference**

4 b. *Functions.*

5 The University Senates Conference shall review all matters acted upon by each
6 senate. The conference shall determine whether senate actions requiring
7 implementation or further consideration by officials or other groups within the
8 University have been referred to the appropriate officials or groups. The
9 conference itself may make any original or additional referral it deems
10 advisable, and may append its comments and recommendations. Should the
11 conference find a matter acted upon by one of the senates to be of concern to
12 another senate, it shall refer the matter and the action to that senate. If two or
13 more senates have acted differently on a subject, the conference shall attempt to
14 promote agreement or consistency. Where agreement or consistency cannot be
15 effected within a reasonable period of time, the conference shall transmit the
16 related actions of the senates together with its own recommendations to the
17 appropriate officials or groups within the University and shall simultaneously
18 notify the secretary of each senate of its action. Any senate may record and
19 transmit its further comments to the same addressees and to the conference.

20 The University Senates Conference shall assist the senates to communicate with
21 one another, with University and campus administrative officials, and with the
22 Board of Trustees (through the president), and may develop and implement
23 procedures to enhance such communication.

24 The University Senates Conference may propose amendments to these *Statutes*
25 through the several senates as provided in Article XIII, Section 8.

26 **ARTICLE XIII. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

27 **Section 8. Amendments**

28 a. *Initiation by a Senate or by the University Senates Conference.*

29 (1) Each of the senates by vote of a majority of all members present and voting at a
30 regular or special meeting may propose amendments to these *Statutes*. No final
31 senate action shall be taken on a proposed amendment until the next meeting

32 following the one at which it was introduced. The secretary of a senate shall
33 notify the secretary of the other senates and the secretary of the University
34 Senates Conference of the text of a proposed amendment promptly after the
35 meeting at which it is introduced. The proposed amendment shall be referred
36 to the University Senates Conference for its consideration and transmission to
37 the other senates for action; the conference may append its comments and
38 recommendations. [continue here without paragraph break] The proposed
39 amendment shall be placed promptly on the agenda of the other senates.

40 (2) The University Senates Conference by vote of a majority of all members present
41 and voting at a regular or special meeting may propose amendments to these
42 Statutes. The secretary of the conference shall notify the secretaries of the
43 campus senates of the text of a proposed amendment promptly after the
44 meeting at which it is introduced. The proposed amendment shall be
45 transmitted to the senates for such action as each of them shall see fit; the
46 conference may append its comments. The proposed amendment shall be
47 placed promptly on the agenda of each senate.

48 (3) Each senate may act on the proposed amendment in accord with its own
49 established procedures, including the right to accept, to modify, or to reject any
50 proposed amendment or proposed statutory text. Final action in each senate on
51 the proposed amendment may be taken by a majority of all members present
52 and voting at a regular or special meeting held not earlier than the next meeting
53 following the one at which it was introduced in that senate.

54 (4) If every senate acts affirmatively on the proposed amendment and concurs as to
55 its text, the conference shall send the proposed amendment to the president for
56 transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the
57 senates of its action; the conference may append its comments. If the senates do
58 not agree as to the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to
59 promote agreement of the senates. Where agreement cannot be effected among
60 all the senates within a reasonable period of time, but the text of a proposed
61 amendment has been agreed upon by all but one of the senates, the conference
62 shall send that proposed amendment, the recommendations of the dissenting
63 senate, and its own recommendations to the president for transmission to the
64 Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A
65 senate may record and send its further comments to the president for
66 transmission to the Board of Trustees.

67 *b. Initiation by the Board of Trustees.* The Board of Trustees may initiate proposals to
68 amend the *Statutes*, but the board shall not finally adopt any such proposal without
69 first seeking the advice of the president, the senates, and the University Senates
70 Conference. Any proposal to amend the *Statutes* which is initiated by the Board of
71 Trustees shall be transmitted through the president to the University Senates
72 Conference and transmitted by the conference, with its recommendations, to the
73 senates for consideration and advice. The proposed amendment shall be placed
74 promptly on the agenda of each of the senates. If the senates do not agree in their

75 advice concerning the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to
76 promote agreement; where agreement cannot be achieved within a reasonable
77 period of time, the conference shall send the advice of the senates and its own
78 recommendations to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and
79 shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A senate may record and send
80 its further comments to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees.

81 c. An amendment shall become effective when approved by the Board of Trustees or
82 at such later time as the board may specify.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES

William Maher, Chair

Jennifer Baldwin

H. George Friedman

Wendy Harris

Scott Jacobs

Calvin Lear

Anna-Maria Marshall

Mark Roszkowski

Sandy Jones, *Ex officio (designee)*

Jenny Roether, *Ex officio*

Dedra Williams, *Observer*

Appendix A

USC ST-79
Approved 6/18/13

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE *STATUTES*

(Text to be deleted is in [square brackets] and text to be added is underlined.)

ARTICLE XIII. General Provisions

Section 8. Amendments

a. *Initiation by a Senate.* Each of the senates by vote of a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting may propose amendments to these *Statutes*. No final senate action shall be taken on a proposed amendment until the next meeting following the one at which it was introduced. The secretary of a senate shall notify the secretary of the other senates and the secretary of the University Senates Conference of the text of a proposed amendment promptly after the meeting at which it is introduced. The proposed amendment shall be referred to the University Senates Conference for its consideration and transmission to the other senates for action; the conference may append its comments and recommendations.

The proposed amendment shall be placed promptly on the agenda of the other senates. If every senate acts affirmatively on the proposed amendment and concurs as to its text, the conference shall send the proposed amendment to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action; the conference may append its comments. If the senates do not agree as to the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to promote agreement of the senates. Where agreement cannot be effected among all senates within a reasonable period of time, but the text of a proposed amendment has been agreed upon by all but one of the senates, the conference shall send that proposed amendment, the recommendations of the dissenting senate, and its own recommendations to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A senate may record and send its further comments to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees.

b. *Initiation by the University Senates Conference.* The University Senates Conference by vote of a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting may propose amendments to these *Statutes*. The secretary of the conference shall notify the secretary of the campus senates and the secretary of the Board of Trustees of the text of a proposed amendment promptly after the meeting at which it is introduced. The proposed amendment shall be transmitted to the senates for action; the conference may append its comments.

The proposed amendment shall be placed promptly on the agenda of the senates. If every senate acts affirmatively on the proposed amendment and concurs as to its text, the conference shall send the proposed amendment to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action; the conference may append its comments. If the senates do not agree as to the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to promote agreement of the senates. Where agreement cannot be effected among all senates within a reasonable period of time, but the text of a proposed amendment has been agreed upon by all but one

of the senates, the conference shall send that proposed amendment, the recommendations of the dissenting senate, and its own recommendations to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A senate may record and send its further comments to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees.

[b]c. *Initiation by the Board of Trustees.* The Board of Trustees may initiate proposals to amend the *Statutes*, but the board shall not finally adopt any such proposal without first seeking the advice of the president, the senates, and the University Senates Conference. Any proposal to amend the *Statutes* which is initiated by the Board of Trustees shall be transmitted through the president to the University Senates Conference and transmitted by the conference, with its recommendations, to the senates for consideration and advice. The proposed amendment shall be placed promptly on the agenda of each of the senates. If the senates do not agree in their advice concerning the proposed amendment, the conference shall endeavor to promote agreement; where agreement cannot be achieved within a reasonable period of time, the conference shall send the advice of the senates and its own recommendations to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees and shall simultaneously notify the senates of its action. A senate may record and send its further comments to the president for transmission to the Board of Trustees.

[c]d. An amendment shall become effective when approved by the Board of Trustees or at such later time as the board may specify.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE
Prefiled Resolution

RS.14.01 Resolution on Governance Procedures for Changes in Academic Organization

BACKGROUND

With ongoing budget concerns and a strategic plan stressing the importance of change and agility, various units of the University either are considering reorganization possibilities or on notice that such discussions may soon be recommended. University *Statutes* Article VIII Sections 3 and 4 provide for processes whereby units OR administrators at a higher level can initiate changes “such as the termination, separation, transfer, merger, change in status (e.g., department to school), or renaming of the academic units.” Such proposals when made to the Senate must be accompanied by the advice of the unit registered through a secret written ballot of their members. Subsequent advisory votes by the appropriate senate, advice of the appropriate chancellor/vice president, and of the University Senates Conference are to accompany the proposal to the Board of Trustees. Standing Rule 13 of the UIUC Academic Senate provides for reporting of the unit votes in such processes to the Chair of the Education Policy Committee, who then holds a public hearing on the reorganization plan. The votes and a summary of the public hearing are then provided by the Ed Pol Committee Chair to the Senate for its advisory vote.

In two recent cases in separate units, reorganization processes and discussions have been initiated by university administrators for these units over several years. In the case of the Institute of Aviation, faculty had been moved and major programs suspended before the *Statutes*- and Senate Rule-mandated votes on reorganization were undertaken by the unit and the public hearing required by Rule 13 was duly called by the Education Policy Committee.ⁱ In the more recent case involving the School of Labor and Employment Relations, the current *Statutes* and Standing Rules provisions have not yet been triggered, but press reports have made clear that administrators are advocating faculty to embrace reorganization scenarios other than independent status. This has occurred despite the fact that when the unit was asked previously and repeatedly to consider reorganization or merger as part of both the Stewarding Excellence and the Visioning Excellence campaigns, it determined that independent status as a unit remained the best organizational outcome.ⁱⁱ On a policy level, what may be more worrisome is that in the course of these discussions, which have come to light in the press rather than through shared governance processes, administrators have justified these ongoing pressures by saying that other units will be asked to consider reorganization as well.

In light of these examples, it appears that the *Statutes*' language regarding reorganization leaves much latitude for administrators to recommend and shape unit conversations about reorganization, and to limit the alternatives open to units, long before the shared governance processes of the Senate are ever involved. In many cases these conversations may proceed uneventfully and result in reorganization plans that benefit the missions of the units concerned and the tenure home of individual faculty. But it is apparent that in some cases discussions are initiated and shaped in ways that, long before the vote-based advice of the faculty is taken for reporting to the Senate, curtail organizational alternatives that unit faculty deem best suited to their collective missions and individual tenure home.

With these examples in mind, as well as the prospect of many new conversations about reorganization being initiated across the campus by upper administration, the following resolution is submitted to generate a role for the Senate and/or its appropriate committees to provide advice and oversight in processes of administratively initiated reorganization discussions.

WHEREAS, University *Statutes* (Article VIII Sections 3 and 4) allow for discussions about the reorganization of a unit to be initiated within a unit or by higher administration, and

WHEREAS, in recent cases such as the Institute of Aviation and School of Labor and Employment Relations, such discussions have often been undertaken over several years during which changes in faculty have occurred or alternative scenarios have been shaped outside the control of the faculty whose advisory vote triggers the shared governance role of the Senate under Standing Rule 13; and

WHEREAS University *Statutes* Article II, Section 3c, provides that each senate determines for its campus matters of educational policy including but not limited to, “relations among colleges, schools and other teaching divisions; and

WHEREAS discussions of unit reorganization “such as the termination, separation, transfer, merger, change in status (e.g., department to school), or renaming of the academic units” fall under such relations; and

WHEREAS the Academic Senate of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign should rightly exercise some oversight and advice in the structuring of reorganization plans not just at the end of but throughout development of such plans; therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign calls for the review of procedures of Academic Reorganization provided for in Article VIII, Sections 1 and 4 of the University Statutes and Standing Rule 13 of the Senate Rules to provide for the advice and oversight of appropriate Senate committees of these processes during discussions initiated by administrators before a faculty vote, when such advice is deemed necessary by affected faculty, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate requests relevant committee including (but not limited to) Educational Policy, University Statutes and Senate Procedures, and the Seventh Senate Review Commission to review the relevant statutes and recommend procedures for Senate oversight of reorganization discussions where appropriate, and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate be apprised of developing reorganization discussions in order to offer and provide oversight where necessary.

Sponsored by:

Kathryn Oberdeck, LAS

David O'Brien, FAA

Kristina Riedel, LAS

ⁱ On concerns regarding the changes in Institute of Aviation staffing the may have affected the procedures of shared governance, see http://senate.illinois.edu/ep/Aviation/USSP_Letter_to_Provost.pdf which is provided here as an Appendix.

ⁱⁱ On the process of discussions LER reorganization, see <http://www.news-gazette.com/news/local/2013-10-15/legislative-hearings-planned-ui-labor-school.html>

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Office of the Senate
228 English Building
608 South Wright Street
Urbana, IL 61801

February 22, 2011

Richard P Wheeler
Provost & VC Academic Affairs
Office of the Provost
601 E. John St.
215 Swanlund
MC-304
Champaign, IL 61820

Dear Provost Wheeler:

I write on behalf of the UIUC Senate's Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP) to express our concern with certain developments in the prospective closure of the Institute of Aviation. As you may know, since at least 1982, USSP has been concerned over the policies and procedures for changes in the status of academic units, especially regarding formation, merger, and dissolution. Indeed, over the past five years, the full UIUC Senate, as well as the Senates at Chicago and Springfield have joined us in an effort to ensure that Senate rules and the *Statutes* themselves make clear long-standing understandings of the need for careful and sequential deliberation on proposals for such changes to ensure that the faculty's and the Senate's role in educational policy is observed. This process was recently concluded when the Board of Trustees accepted and adopted the Senates' new text for Article VIII of the *Statutes*. Thus, both the *Statutes'* Article VIII and Senate Standing Rule 13 call for a series of deliberations and votes to occur before a change such as closure is effected.

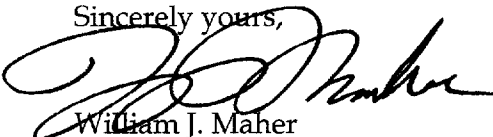
In the case of the Institute of Aviation, we understand that significant budgetary problems and strategic planning have necessitated the reassessment of the campus's ability to continue this program. We are all aware of the careful study of the Institute that was part of the Stewarding Excellence at Illinois (SEI) process and that the SEI report supported a discontinuation or transfer of the program.

USSP does not doubt the amount of discussion, analysis, and pursuit of options that the campus administration has invested in this issue. Rather, what concerns us deeply is how a number of actions have been taken that pre-empt the very consultation and shared governance principles outlined in *Statutes* Article VIII and Standing Rule 13. In particular, by placing limits on transfer students, limiting enrollment, managing transfers of faculty to other units, and most recently admitting Aviation applicants to General Studies rather than to the Institute, the campus has eviscerated any kind of meaningful consultation at the required March 8 public hearing or the subsequent vote by the UIUC Senate.

We can understand the mechanics of the logic that if the Institute might be closed eventually, then making advanced preparations would seem reasonable. However, given the deterministic effect of the transfer of faculty and the strictures on enrollment/majors, we believe that the campus administration has proceeded in a way that not just circumvents policy and procedure but may actually circumvent the principles of shared governance which have otherwise been so important to the national leadership the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has achieved.

Perhaps it is too late to reverse some of these actions and allow the expected process to unfold normally. This is most regrettable. USSP, however, has asked me to write now to underscore that in light of other closures and mergers that might be ahead, the campus administration must pay closer attention to the established policy and understanding of the faculty and students. Without attending to these policies, it will be so much more difficult to secure the campus community's support for the tough choices that lie ahead. We believe that the University can emerge stronger from these difficult times if we take the time required to ensure that the conditions of shared governance we jointly developed over many decades are observed as we go forward.

Sincerely yours,



William J. Maher

Chair, Committee on University Statutes
and Senate Procedures Committee

Cc: Abbas Animansour
Robert Easter
David Olsen
Joyce Tolliver

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

HE.14.02 Report on the October 18, 2013 meeting of the FAC to the IBHE.

The [Faculty Advisory Council \(FAC\)](#) of the [Illinois Board of Higher Education \(IBHE\)](#) held a regularly scheduled meeting at Chicago State University on Friday October 18, 2013 with 30 member institutions present. Special guest of the Council included Dr. Wayne Watson, Chicago State University President; Dr. Angela Henderson, Chicago University Provost and Dr. Richard Darga, Chicago State University Dean of Library.

Chair Aminmansour called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. After introduction of members present, Chicago State University President Wayne Watson welcomed the Council to his campus. President Watson opined that a revolution is needed in education. He noted three items as significant challenges for higher education: pensions; performance-based funding and as well as affordability of higher education for the middle-class and the poor.

Chicago State Interim Provost Angela Henderson drew attention to the need for quality, access, affordability, student success, accreditation, crisis management, diversity, technology, remediation, and non-traditional students in higher education. A question/answer session followed the remarks by President Watson and Provost Henderson.

Dr. Richard Darga, Chicago State's Dean of Library and Information Sciences observed ten trends in academic libraries as follows: using data to demonstrate value; data curation; digital preservation; using the latest technology along with supporting online programs; information technology including social media; mobility; patron driven acquisition; scholarly communication; staffing including the need to hire tech savvy employees, and user behavior/repurposing space. A question/comment period followed Dean Darga's presentation.

Council representative on the MAP Advising Group, Steven Rock, gave a presentation on the group's activities including ongoing discussions on increasing retention and graduation of MAP recipients.

Council members received a tour of the state-of-the-art archiving facility of Chicago State University library following lunch.

The three caucuses of the Council (four year public universities; community colleges and private/independent institutions) met separately and reported back to the Council. Topics addressed by caucuses included the following: pensions; dual credit; quality of instruction at high school level, affordability; accessibility; common core; student debt; possible brain drain due to the state's fiscal crisis.

The Council conducted a discussion on topics of interest to the group and established priorities for the year. The group agreed to pursue the following areas: affordability (MAP, student debt, performance based funding); faculty quality (pensions, work environment, tenure/classification) and Common Core Standards / Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC). It was noted that quality should be an integral part of all areas.

During the Business portion of the meeting, the Council approved the minutes of its September 20, 2013 meeting at UIUC. In addition, the Council held a discussion on the exemption authority for public universities to hire academic professionals. The Council voted unanimously instructing the Chair to send a letter to the Executive Director of the State Universities Civil Service System (SUCSS) reiterating the Council's position that our public universities should maintain the exemption authority to hire academic professionals and to request faculty representation on SUCSS' stakeholders' task force. The Council also directed the Chair to solicit opportunities for Council representatives to participate in the search for the IBHE Executive Director.

The meeting adjourned at 3:08 PM. The next IBHE-FAC meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2013 at MacMurray College.

Respectfully submitted

Abbas Aminmansour

University of Illinois
Urbana-Champaign Senate
(Final; Information)

SUR.14.01. Report on SURSMAC* Meeting October 8, 2013

SURSMAC met at the SURS headquarters in Champaign from 10:30 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. The meeting consisted of presentations by SURS staff, discussion of key issues and a brief business meeting. The major focus of the meeting was the as yet unknown impact of recent actions on health insurance and the expected changes in pensions, whatever form they take. We attended the meeting representing the Senate along with Laura Czys from University Office for Human Resources.

SURSMAC vice chair, Mardell Wilson (ISU), chaired the meeting and welcomed the participants who introduced themselves. This was followed by approval of the minutes of the April 9, 2013, meeting.

Michael Weinstein, General Counsel, and Jeff Houch, Legislative Liaison, provided a legislative update. They focused on the various legislative proposals for pension reform. They were pleased that the Governor signed Public Act 98-0017 which provides full funding for SURS for 2013-2014. The bulk of their presentation concerned the contents and estimated financial impact (savings for one year and over 30 years) for: (a) SB 1 (as amended by House Amendment 1) from Speaker Madigan which has passed the House but not the Senate; (b) SB 2404 (as amended) from Senate President Cullerton; (c) SB 2591 from Senator Hastings which includes provisions proposed by IGPA faculty and the University Presidents; and (d) the “potential” content of the Proposal expected from the Conference Committee currently addressing this problem.

Each of these plans proposes changes in a number of aspects of the pensions system. Two of the more important are the AAI (adjusted annual increase also known as the COLA) and the effective rate of interest. The former determines how well annuities will keep up with inflation. The latter is applied toward crediting interest to such items money purchase plan accounts, portable lump sum payouts, portable plan refunds, and purchases of service credit. It also used for the Money Purchase benefits for those SURS covered employees hired before 2005. Both speakers pointed out the uncertainties about when a “final” proposal would be presented to the legislature and whether or not it would meet the requirements of the state constitution.

Dan Allan, Chief Investment Officer, reported a return on investments for the 2012-2013 year of 12.5% and that the funding ratio had increased from 41.3% to 43.6%. This placed the SURS return among the top half for similar funds for the past year and the top quarter for the past three to ten years. He also discussed the general strategic goals for the makeup of the investment portfolio over the past ten years as it has moved from such components as U.S. equity and fixed income to non-U.S. and global Equity and real estate.

Pam Butler, Director of Outreach, reported on a number of programs that have been introduced to help serve the SURS members. These include the hiring of a new manager for the Self-Managed Program and a number of seminars, forums, and webinars. Angela Lieb, Director of Member Services, reported on data for the number of retirees since last spring and the programs in place to assist them.

William Mabe, Executive Director, made a brief report on the “state” of SURS noting that he wanted instead to discuss an issue of importance to him, the improvement of communications between SURS and its members and, perhaps more importantly, between the members and SURS. As a first step toward the latter, he requested that during the break session, those present discuss how communications could be improved and provide him and the staff with a list of suggestions.

Following lunch, the meeting’s chair, Mardell Wilson, led a discussion of the suggestions which the group had in this regard. The need for improved communications will be particularly critical during the next few months as so many annuitants will be making choices regarding the Medicare Advantage programs being proposed by CMS. The group suggested some means that SURS and others such as the State Universities Annuity Association and the institutions

we represent might employ to meet this need. Significant concerns were expressed about those almost impossible to reach (e.g., older annuitants without access to the web) or lacking even a minimal understanding of the factors involved in making a reasonable choice.

Finally, the members discussed the need for SURSMAC to maintain a level of communication and activity between meetings and to increase the visibility and impact of the group. This will be a major topic of concern for the SURSMAC leadership during the coming year.

In the brief business meeting John Shuler (UIC) was elected chair. Mardell Wilson (ISU) will continue as vice-chair. The dates of April 1 and 8 were identified as possible spring meeting times. Shuler called for volunteers for a subgroup to work on possible revisions in the Constitution and Bylaws for SURSMAC.

H.F. (Bill) Williamson
John Kindt
UIUC Senate Representatives

*SURSMAC is the State University Retirement System Members Advisory Committee to the SURS Board of Trustees. Members are faculty and staff representing the various institutions and agencies affected by SURS: public universities, community colleges, state surveys, and retiree organizations. It normally meets twice a year in October and April at SURS headquarters at 1901 Fox Drive in Champaign.