

Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement

Annual Report

2011/2012

The Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement (full committee) met two times over the course of 2011/2012. The committee met once with Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Engagement, Pradeep Khanna, and once with Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Jim Schroeder. In addition, the committee chair met individually with the respective vice chancellors.

As in the past, the meetings were primarily informational and a mechanism for communication between the Vice Chancellors, faculty, academic professionals, and students. This year, the committee chair provided feedback to AVC Khanna on a proposal for possible Engagement grants for which students (and sponsoring faculty member) might apply.

In our meeting with AVC Khanna (November 2011), the committee heard about initiatives and programs, office following the reorganization based upon the “Stewarding Excellence” reports. The main charges (e.g., Public Engagement, Corporate Relations) remain in tact; the Illinois in Washington Program has been moved to LAS, as the purpose of the program is mostly instructional in nature. The committee learned about the Public Engagement Portal (<http://engage.illinois.edu/>) - a new effort designed to be the most comprehensive source for information about public engagement programs and events offered by the university. Finally, members of the committee discussed a concern that the Extension offices and services may be experiencing diminished visibility following the Stewarding Excellence, and asked AVC Khanna to be an advocate for the unit as it is intricately tied to the scholarship, teaching, service and economic development missions of the university. The committee also wishes to encourage campus approval and initiation of AVC Khanna’s proposal for Engagement grants to be awarded to students on a competitive basis, as well as, the continuation of the Public

Engagement Symposium. These efforts promote a positive public image of the university and are deserving of immediate and ongoing support.

A meeting with Vice Chancellor Jim Schroeder scheduled for the fall semester was postponed due to increased demands on his office as a result of the football team's invitation to the Kraft Fight Hunger Bowl. In our meeting with Dr. Schroeder (March 2012), the committee heard about the organizational structure and roles/responsibilities of the OVCIA and the departments across campus. In particular, Dr. Schroeder shared his view that stewardship of gifts once received was an increasingly important function of his office. The committee learned that International corporate and alumni relations have been lagging, and that despite the considerable complications of international donations, his office was exploring additional avenues of institutional advancement across the globe.

Committee membership for 2012-2013 will be determined shortly. A goal for next year will be to take steps to bolster student representation on the committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Members of the Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement:

Cetrone, Regina - MDA

Fennell, Christopher - LAS

Hager, Aaron - ACES

Lopez, Sabrena - LAS

Payne, Laura - AHS

Rockman, Elizabeth - AP

Syer, Katherine - FAA

Shriner James (Chair) – Educ.

Jim Schroeder (Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement), *ex officio*

Pradeep Khanna (Associate Vice Chancellor for Public Engagement), *ex officio*