

Meeting of the University Senates Conference  
President's House  
Urbana, Illinois  
September 29, 2000

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**Executive Summary**

The University Senates Conference (USC) met on Friday, September 29, 2000, at the President's House in Urbana, IL.

The morning was devoted to an executive session meeting with Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Vice President for Economic Development and Corporate Relations Chet Gardner and President Stukel.

The afternoon was devoted to the business of the conference.

This is a report on the meeting

There is also a brief report on a retreat held by the members in Bloomington, IL, on September 15 and 16, 2000.

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## 1 Executive Session

The Executive Session began without President Stukel who was delivering an address at Allerton. The meeting began with Vice President Gardner addressing some of the topics proposed by the Executive Committee of the Conference.

- Seminar on Economic Development. A Seminar on Economic Development will be sponsored by Vice President's Office together with the Conference. The lead in this is Professor Uchtmann. It will be similar in structure to the Seminar on Tenure. Several aspects of the seminar were discussed
- ERP. Vice President Gardner updated members of USC on the Enterprise Resource Planning<sup>1</sup> A contract was to be signed within a few weeks. Andersen Consulting has been retained to assist in the implementation of ERP. It is estimated that it will cost over \$200,000,000 over the next few years in order to implement ERP.
- Distance Education. Distance education is still on the front burner in the Vice President's office.
- Retreat on Performance Measures. Vice President Gardner discussed a recent retreat held on performance measures.
- President's Retreat. A President's retreat will probably not be held this year.

President Stukel arrived at about 10:30. He also discussed a handful of topics presented by the Executive Committee of the Conference.

- Vision and strategic objectives. President Stukel presented his vision for the next few years. Of course bringing the salary levels and professorial staffing levels of the university up to the higher levels within our group of peer institutions was one goal mentioned.
- Budget. President Stukel spoke of the excellent budget that resulted for FY01 and expressed hope for an even better result for FY02.
- Major Searches. President Stukel mentioned the appointment of Sylvia Manning as Chancellor at UIC. He was optimistic for the searches at the other campuses.
- Benefits for same sex partners. President Stukel was pessimistic that such benefits would be approved in the near future.
- Faculty Base. President Stukel discussed the history of the decline in funding and numbers of the faculty base and mentioned several strategies for improving both.

After a brief general discussion, Gardner and the members of USC were treated to lunch on the East Patio of the President's House with President Stukel as host.

## 2 Business Meeting

The members of USC gathered again at about 1:00 pm to begin the afternoon business.

### 2.1 Minutes

The minutes of the USC July 18, 2000 meeting were approved.

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<sup>1</sup>ERP automates the tasks of the major functional areas of a company or university—finance, HR, sales and distribution, student records and grades for example—and stores all the data from those different areas in a single database, accessible by **all**.

## 2.2 Classification

Classification of actions from UIC were approved.

## 2.3 UIUC Campus Updates

Senate Council Chair Robert Rich reported on recent activities of the Senate Council and Senate at UIUC. The main topic was the election of the search committee for a Chancellor.

## 2.4 Old Business

### 2.4.1 ST-30

Robert Fossum reported on the resolution of the UIUC Senate regarding ST-30 (commonly known as “Sanctions short of dismissal”). It was decided that the Conference committee on Statutes would try to work closely with Professor Matt Finkin to find common language for presentation to the senates.

### 2.4.2 ST-45

Commonly known as Tenure Code Rollback, this item was removed from the agenda since it was approved by the Board of Trustees on June 7, 2000.

Other similar items were removed from the agenda because action had been completed or discussed with no action taken. Reports were heard about recent Board of Trustees meetings.

## 2.5 New Business

The Conference Chair Frank Kopecky (UIS) recommended appointment to committees.

- Statutes. Fossum (UIUC), Schacht (UIUC), Strom (UIC), Jones (UIC), Kopecky (UIS) and Langley (UIS) will form the Conference’s committee on Statutes, with Fossum as chair. Items in committee are ST-30 (Terms of faculty appointment), ST-51 (Faculty advisory committee), OT-89 (Fitness to work), and OT-141 (Faculty review).
- Budget and Benefits. New appointments were made. A list of the committee will be made available in the next report.

## 3 Retreat

The Conference members attended a retreat at Jumer’s Chateau in Bloomington, IL on September 15-16, 2000. There was a general discussion on Friday evening. This was followed by a more focused discussion on Saturday morning. The discussion was aimed mostly at improving communication among members and with other faculty and, most importantly, with administration.

Submitted by Robert M. Fossum

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