University Senates Conference (USC) Tuesday, February 21. 2012

(Final; Information)

PLACE: Student Center West, University of Illinois at Chicago

PRESENT: Andersen (via phone), Boltuc, Burbules (Vice-chair), Campbell, Chambers (Chair),

Erricolo, Fadavi, Fisher, Francis, Graber, Leff, Mallory, Mohammadian (via phone),

O'Brien, Patston, Shanahan, Struble, Villegas, Wheeler

GUESTS: Mike Hogan, Chris Kennedy, Avijit Ghosh, Christophe Pierre, Tom Hardy

Chambers convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed three new members of the Springfield campus to the conference. They will replace Martin, Ting, and Switzer who all resigned. He indicated that Trustee Kennedy and President Hogan would meet with the conference later in the afternoon and that President Hogan requested some time to meet in Executive Session.

Chambers spent some time describing the operating procedures to new members of the committee. He requested that the business of the committee be communicated to the president and press only through him. Some of the problems from earlier this year were related to committee members independently communicating with the president.

Discussion about the open meetings act ensued. Campbell suggested that we take advantage of the open meetings act to make the business of the University Senates Conference more transparent to others, particularly to the individual campus senates. Chambers agreed and suggested that aspects of meetings could potentially be taped to make transcribing minutes easier. In relation to "draft" reports, those documents would not be distributed outside of the conference, but anyone would be able to sit in on discussions where draft documents are being discussed. There was considerable discussion in relation to the ethics of being a committee member. Mallory suggested that committee members take the training on the open meetings act because it is an opportunity to gain greater awareness of the law.

New Business: The minutes of the meeting from January 13, 2012 were approved. Peter Boltuc and Lynn Fisher were elected as the Springfield members to serve on the Executive Committee. Leff agreed to be the designated observer at the Board of Trustees meeting on March 15. The Conference accepted OT-283 Endorsement and Support of University Senates Conference Chair Donald Chamber's Statement on the Ethical Dimension of Leadership to the Board of Trustees. The conference endorsed OT-284 Urbana-Champaign Senate Statement on Ethical Leadership and Shared Governance. The conference accepted OT-286 UIS Campus Senate resolution of no confidence in the UIS Senate Chair.

Old Business: Discussion ensued about the Enrollment Management (EM) report. Conference members had been told that the report was the result of outside consultants hired by the university, however, as more information becomes available, it is evident that the report is a combined effort between the Office of the President and the external consulting group. President Hogan was given 30 days to respond to the concerns outlined by members of USC. Discussion of his response was undertaken. Burbules emphasized that we should not be forced into a corner to quickly accept his response but will need time to discuss our response among ourselves and with our senates. Campbell stated that we need to know the cost of the recommendations.

At 1:00 p.m. Trustee Kennedy, President Hogan, Vice-President Pierre, and Special Assistant Avijit Ghosh joined the group. Hogan thanked USC members for inviting him back to address the EM Report. He is working with the Chancellors and Board to begin implementing some of the recommendations because

they were generally supported. Ghosh said the written response from Hogan tries to be sensitive to many of the concerns raised by the conference. Ghosh stated that there were some areas where everyone agreed like communicating about financial aid and being helpful to students.

The draft report was discussed, and several and agreements were reached. The Office of the President will incorporate those agreements into a new version of the report that will be distributed to all members of USC for their response. Discussion points are highlighted below.

- 1. Several recommendations (e.g., Common Application, Student Information System integration) require further study before decisions can be made. Those decisions should be data driven.
- 2. Campuses will remain in control of admissions and financial aid decisions.
- 3. Campuses will remain in control of enrollment goals.
- 4. Diversity goals would be embedded into the process of setting enrollment goals, and additional money for scholarships would be available.
- 5. The proposed title of Executive Director of Enrollment Management will now be Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. This individual will be a support person to facilitate the work of the Enrollment Management Policy Council (EMPC).
- 6. The EMPC will consist of the three Provosts and the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs. This group will make recommendations to Hogan. The USC will serve as another type of policy council, and a faculty advisory committee may also be formed if there are no faculty representatives on the EMPC.
- 7. The original report stated that campus enrollment staff would report to the Executive Director of Enrollment Management. It was agreed during the meeting, however, that reporting lines would remain at the campus level.
- 8. Approval of articulations agreements will remain a department/college responsibility and will focus primarily on lower division general education courses.
- 9. Articulation agreements would not guarantee students the right to transfer between campuses.
- 10. Branding will <u>not</u> be pursued at this time. Any future discussions will be about *whether* to pursue branding instead of *how* it will be pursued.

Overall, the tone of the meeting was significantly different than previous USC meetings related EM. The meeting was collegial and conversational. All four guests were responsive to faculty concerns, and there was a strong sense that the Board wanted to address faculty input. In particular, Chairman Kennedy appeared interested in faculty viewpoints. Our Senate report was heard and formed the basis for many of the responses. Prior to the end of the meeting USC members met with Chairman Kennedy and President Hogan to discuss a personnel matter in Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted, Kim C. Graber