

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

**UC.16.01** Report on the 2015-16 Meetings of the University Senates Conference (USC)

**University Senates Conference  
August 26, 2015**

The University Senates Conference (USC) met in Urbana at the President's House.

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

- Strategic Planning Process
- Enrollment Management
- Budget
- Plans to Review the University Administration Officers

USC met with Maureen Parks and Jami Painter from UA HR to discuss the proposed background check policy for new hires. USC provided suggestions and voiced concerns.

The minutes were approved.

The USC business agenda included the following items:

- Planning for the USC retreat, including retreat topics.
- Follow-up discussion on background checks that resulted in a statement to be transmitted to the President.

**University Senates Conference  
September 21, 2015**

The University Senates Conference (USC) met in Champaign at the I Hotel Conference Center.

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

- Budget impasse and an update on the University's response
- Plans for more cooperation between the Alumni Association and UI Foundation
- Strategic Planning Process
- Implementation of the University Administration Review
- Background Check Policy

The minutes were approved.

The USC business agenda included the following items:

- Update on the status of the overall revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules*.
- Update on Background Check Policy.
- Report from members participating in the President's Executive Leadership Program.
- Update from campuses on proposed policy language for classified research.
- Salary planning, with a focus on campus latitude.

**University Senates Conference  
November 6, 2015**

The University Senates Conference (USC) met in Springfield at the Public Affairs Center.

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

- Efforts to advocate for a higher education budget in Springfield
- Budget impact study
- Moving of funds from UA to student programs
- State budget and the University's budget rating
- Creating a faculty advisory group to Vice President Knorr
- Vice President Pierre's working group to address concerns with the Background Check Policy

The minutes and the classification of senate minutes were approved.

The USC business agenda included the following items:

- Committee of the Whole discussion on the Changing Land-Grant Mission.
- Cross-campus collaborations.
- Planning of the USC presentations to the Board of Trustees

**University Senates Conference  
December 10, 2015**

The University Senates Conference (USC) met in Chicago at Student Center West.

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

- Update on the Strategic Planning Process
- Increasing efforts to encourage state government to solve the budget impasse
- Update on implementation of University Administration review and budget study recommendations
- Report on the VPAA working group on the Background Check Policy

USC met with UIC Chancellor Amiridis and discussed the following issues:

- Transition from having a Vice President for Health Affairs to having a Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs
- Cross-campus collaborations
- The changing campus environment

The minutes and the classification of senate minutes were approved.

The USC business agenda included the following items:

- Appointment of USC members to external groups.
- Updates from the campuses on the proposed revisions to the Nondiscrimination Statement.
- Process for moving forward on the Open Access to Research Articles policy.
- Discussion of the revised version of the Background Check Policy and the decision to move the document forward along with a list of points to the President.
- Discussion of recommendations regarding the strategic planning document that USC plans to send to the strategic planning steering committee.

### **University Senates Conference January 25, 2016**

The University Senates Conference (USC) met by videoconference from the three campuses.

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

- Update on the budget and the impact the impasse is having on other public universities
- Discussion of the U of I 2021 Initiative, which would create a compact with the state where the University would guarantee progress in certain areas and cost containment, and the state would guarantee a predictable budget and offer some regulatory relief
- Update on the Strategic Plan
- Vice President Pierre's intentions to create a committee to review the academic program approval process
- Plans for a comprehensive look at enrollment management for the next five years (VP Pierre's Enrollment Management Policy Council)
- Update on the hospital and medical enterprise

The minutes and the classification of senate minutes were approved.

The USC business agenda included the following items:

- Discussion of the USC recommendations regarding the Strategic Planning document.
- Discussion of future topics for the USC presentations to the Board of Trustees.
- Update on the status of moving forward on the overall revisions to the *Statutes* and *General Rules*.
- Updates from the campuses on the proposed revisions to the Nondiscrimination Statement.

**University Senates Conference  
February 22, 2016**

The University Senates Conference (USC) met in Chicago at Student Center West.

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

- Update on the budget and the U of I 2021 Initiative
- Enrollment Management
- Efforts for procurement relief; both internal and from the state
- Update on the Strategic Planning Process
- Difficulties of hiring in a timely manner

USC met with Vice President Schook and discussed the following issues:

- Cross-campus collaborations
- Attaining resources for research funding; competing for grants
- Increase of multi-investigator and cross-discipline projects (large collaboratives)
- Concerns with the university-wide policy on classified research
- UI Labs and digital manufacturing
- Ways to manage alumni relations and development

The minutes and the classification of senate minutes were approved.

The USC business agenda included the following items:

- Discussion of the USC recommendations regarding the Strategic Planning document.
- Faculty involvement in metric decisions of the U of I 2021 Initiative.
- Discussion of topics for the USC presentations to the Board of Trustees.
- Approval of a statement regarding the Policy on Open Access to Research Articles.

**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>

Respectfully submitted,

Matthew B. Wheeler  
USC Representative to the Senate Executive Committee