

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE**

November 13, 2017

Minutes

A regular meeting of the University of Illinois Senate of the Urbana-Champaign Campus was called to order at 3:10 pm in the Illini Union Ballroom with Interim Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost John Wilkin presiding and Professor Emeritus H. George Friedman, Jr. serving as Parliamentarian.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

11/13/17-01 The minutes from October 23, 2017, were approved as distributed.

SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Bettina Francis (LAS), a faculty senator and Chair of the Senate Executive Committee (SEC), reported on the two faculty governance meetings that she attended; The BTAA (Big Ten Academic Alliance) Faculty Governance Leadership Conference hosted by Penn State and the Council of Illinois Senates (CIUS) meeting hosted virtually.

Budgets were a topic of interest at both meetings. There is less and less money provided from public sources to fund higher education. Education is seen more and more as a private good instead of being part of a value to the state. Another topic at both meetings was unionization and its effect on shared governance. The BTAA institutions all have similar issues, but each institution has a unique approach.

The relationship between institutions and their respective Board of Trustees/Regents was also an interesting topic of discussion. Penn State has a faculty member on the Board of Trustees. The faculty member also chairs the Board of Trustees' Governance Committee and sits on the Board's Executive Committee. Penn State is not a state university, but rather a state-affiliated university. This means less regulation from the state government. The Sandusky scandal brought forward much of the changes in Penn State's shared governance practices.

One full session was spent discussing free speech while still maintaining a feeling of safety. Many students consider their university home and they need to feel safe in their home. Some legal background on free speech was also discussed.

Purdue recently purchased Kaplan online university. Faculty members are strongly opposed to the purchasing of Kaplan. The faculty were not consulted and had no input on this decision.

Francis also noted that a bill under consideration in the Illinois House and the Senate would give greater IBHE (Illinois Board of Higher Education) governance over admissions. This could mean a uniform admissions policy across all state universities.

The Senate sends an observer to each Board of Trustees meeting. If anyone is interested in serving as the observer at the November 16 meeting, please contact Clerk Roether in the Senate Office.

CHANCELLOR'S REMARKS

Interim Provost Wilkin gave remarks in the absence of Chancellor Jones. Wilkin announced the Gies Family donation of \$150 million to the College of Business. This is a great beginning to the new fundraising campaign.

The Chancellor gave a state of the university address last week. Jones plans to give this address every fall. A video of the address is available on the Illinois homepage.

The strategic planning is going well. The previous strategic plan is being built onto instead of starting from scratch. A task force is being formed to identify gaps and new opportunities. The focus is on building up from a smaller focus to broader campus-based opportunities. The

current timeline is to have the strategic plan completed by next fall. More information can be found on the strategic plan website: strategicplan.illinois.edu.

The administration will continue to meet with the Graduate Employees' Organization (GEO) and federal mediator on contract negotiations. The administration and the GEO have reached an agreement on 12 of 19 items. A website has been created to provide more information on the negotiations: go.illinois.edu/geonegotiations.

The State University Civil Service System (SUCSS) periodically reviews the exemption that is in place to allow academic professional positions. This is a needed and appropriate exemption. Human resource employees are working with other universities to protect this exemption.

Wilkin announced the formation of a free speech task force. The task force will address free speech rights and how to safely host speakers from outside the University.

The Chancellor plans to move forward with his Critical Conversations series holding the first conversation later this semester. The first conversation topic planned is on Native American imagery.

QUESTIONS/DISCUSSION

None.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

- 11/13/17-02 EP.18.12* Proposal to Add Philosophy to the List of Majors Available for the BSLAS in Computer Science and an LAS Discipline (CS + X), from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 11/13/17-03 EP.18.13* Proposal to Add Economics to the list of Majors Available for the LAS Major in Computer Science and an LAS Discipline (CS + X) from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 11/13/17-04 EP.18.15* Proposal to Relocate the M.S. and the Ph.D. in Biology with a Concentration in Ecology, Ethology, and Evolution from the School of Integrative Biology to the Department of Animal Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 11/13/17-05 EP.18.16* Proposal to Establish a Master of Science in Actuarial Science and Eliminate the Actuarial Science Concentration within the Master of Science in Applied Mathematics, one year after the Master of Science in Actuarial Science is established, College of LAS
- 11/13/17-06 EP.18.18* Proposal to Establish the Master of Animal Sciences in Animal Sciences as a Self-Supporting Program from the College of ACES
- 11/13/17-07 EP.18.19* Proposal to Establish a Master of Science in Molecular & Cellular Biology (M.S. in MCB) from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- 11/13/17-08 EP.18.22* Proposal to Rename and Revise the Undergraduate Minor in Religious Studies, College of LAS

PROPOSALS

- 11/13/17-09 EP.18.27: Request for the Senate's advice to seek Board of Trustees' approval for the naming of the Gies College of Business to recognize donor contribution

On behalf of the Senate Committee on Educational Policy (EPC), Chair Miller introduced and moved approval of proposal EP.18.27.

Wilkin spoke as a proposal sponsor. Chancellor Jones and Wilkin met with EPC last week to discuss the proposal seeking the advice of the Senate on the renaming of the College of Business to the Gies College of Business. This is the largest gift Illinois has ever received. The Gies family wants to be able to ensure access and affordability for all students.

Gilmore (LAS) expressed concern that the naming of the College of Business did not follow the process outlined in Article VIII, Section 3 of the *Statutes*. Article VIII, Section 1.a, Section 3.c, and Section 4 of the *Statutes* were displayed on the screen.

Gilmore made a motion to add the following statement at the end of the proposal:

“EP.18.27 should not be considered as setting precedent for the process to be followed in the naming or renaming of campus units, per University *Statutes*, Article VIII.”

The amendment was seconded and discussion followed. Additional concerns were expressed by senators about the process surrounding the naming of the College of Business. The gift itself was welcomed and appreciated.

Somerville (LAS) inquired if there are any formal guidelines or guiding principles that are followed when accepting gifts from donors. Wilkin noted that he does not believe the guiding principles have been articulated, but Wilkin assured attendees that the university will always engage substantively and ethically.

11/13/17-10 By a show of hands, the amendment to add the statement: “EP.18.27 should not be considered as setting precedent for the process to be followed in the naming or renaming of campus units, per University *Statutes*, Article VIII.” to the end of the proposal was approved.

11/13/17-11 By a show of hands, the amended EP.18.27 proposal was approved.

11/13/17-12 CC.18.08: Nominations to the Joint Committee on Investment, Licensing, and Naming Rights
On behalf of the Senate Committee on Committees, Chair O’Brien introduced and moved approval of proposal CC.18.08. There were no nominations from the floor.

11/13/17-13 By a show of hands, proposal CC.18.08 was approved.

11/13/17-14 SP.14.06: Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes*

On behalf of the Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures (USSP), Chair Gilmore introduced proposal SP.14.06 for a first reading. And noted this item would be on the next Senate agenda as an action item.

In response to a request for historical background, Chair Gilmore turned the floor over to Burbules (EDUC). Burbules noted that this proposal would allow four entities the ability to propose changes to the *Statutes*: Board of Trustees, President, University Senates Conference (USC), or one of the senates. In the past, if the President wanted to propose a change to the *Statutes*, he would make the request through the Board. This method makes the proposed change a Board initiated change. Allowing the President to initiate changes shows who is really initiating the proposed change.

11/13/17-15 SP.17.07: Proposed Revision to *Standing Rule 13* – Formation, Termination, Separation, Transfer, Merger, Change in Status, or Renaming of Units

On behalf of the USSP, Chair Gilmore introduced and moved approval of proposal SP.17.07.

DeBrock (BUS) expressed his opinion that *Standing Rule 13* could impinge on a college’s autonomy and cited Article III, section 2.c of the *Statutes*. Friedman replied that the section cited was never intended to allow colleges to decide on the creation or closure of a program. Tolliver (LAS) added that the section cited also includes the phrase “subject to the jurisdiction of the Senate”.

11/13/17-16 By a show of hands, proposal SP.17.07 was approved.

11/13/17-17 SP.17.15: Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.10 – Senate Committee on Equal Opportunity and Inclusion

On behalf of the USSP, Chair Gilmore introduced and moved approval of proposal SP.17.15.

Burbules (EDUC) expressed concern about the possibility of adding members to a committee that are outside of the university community. A short discussion continued on the merits of adding members to a committee that are outside the university community.

Burbules (EDUC) then made a motion to remove the following phrase from line 16: “not necessarily members of the Senate electorate”. The motion was seconded and a short discussion followed.

11/13/17-18 By a show of hands, the amendment to strike the phrase “not necessarily members of the Senate electorate” from line 16 was approved.

11/13/17-19 By a show of hands, the amended SP.17.15 proposal was approved.

11/13/17-20 SP.18.03: Revisions to the *Bylaws*, Part D.7 – Conference on Conduct Governance

On behalf of the USSP, Chair Gilmore introduced and moved approval of proposal SP.18.03.

11/13/17-21 By a show of hands, proposal SP.18.03 was approved.

11/13/17-22 SP.18.06: Revision to the *Bylaws*, Part D.14 – Committee on Information Technology

On behalf of the USSP, Chair Gilmore introduced and moved approval of proposal SP.18.06.

Burbules (EDUC) inquired about the inclusion of the Information Technology Chair as a standing member of the SEC. Burbules’ question as ruled out of order.

11/13/17-23 By a show of hands, proposal SP.18.06 was approved.

REPORTS FOR INFORMATION

11/13/17-24 EP.18.26* EPC Report of Administrative Approvals through November 6, 2017

NEW BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 pm.

Jenny Roether, Senate Clerk

*Filed with the Senate Clerk and incorporated by reference in these minutes.
A video recording of these proceedings can be found at <https://go.illinois.edu/senate>