

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures
(Second Reading; Action)

SP.12.07 Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2 – University Senates
Conference (Campus Rotation of Leadership Positions)

BACKGROUND

It has been a long-standing tradition of the University Senates Conference (USC) to rotate leadership positions of Chair and Vice Chair among the three campuses. This tradition has been superseded in rare instances due to special circumstances. For example, Luther Skelton from UIS was to become Chair in 1999-2000 and when he died, no other representative from UIS was available to serve in his place.

The UIS Senate approved a resolution to codify this tradition in the *Statutes*. Their proposed amendment is attached.

The USC has passed a statement preferring tradition to codification. The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures agrees with the USC. Codifying the tradition in the *Statutes* as proposed by UIS is too inflexible. For example, had this rotation been codified in the *Statutes* in 1999, no one available and willing to serve would have been eligible for election that year.

RECOMMENDATION

The Senate Committee on University Statutes and Senate Procedures recommends that the UIUC Senate vote to concur with the USC's September 21 statement to not support codifying this rotation in the *Statutes*.

UNIVERSITY STATUTES AND SENATE PROCEDURES

William Maher, Chair
Nikita Borisov
H. George Friedman
Piyush Gupta
Melissa Madsen
Anna-Maria Marshall
Jim Maskeri
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Sandy Jones, *Ex officio (designee)*
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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

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October 21, 2011

Professor Philip A. Patston, Chair
UIC Senate Executive Committee
Dept. of Oral Medicine and Diagnostic Sciences
558 DENT MC 838

Professor Matthew B. Wheeler, Chair
UIUC Senate Executive Committee
Dept. of Animal Sciences
368 Animal Sciences Lab MC 630

Re: Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2 (University Senates Conference) –
Campus Rotation of Leadership Positions (USC ST-76)

Dear Colleagues:

The UIS Senate approved a resolution on September 9 which calls for changes to the *Statutes*. The statutory revisions proposed by the UIS Senate, along with the resolution, are enclosed for the consideration of your senates.

The University Senates Conference unanimously approved a statement at its meeting of September 21, which attempted to resolve this issue. The offer was not accepted by the UIS Senate. The USC statement is enclosed.

Please inform us after your senate has taken action on this item. Please be as expeditious as possible.

Sincerely,



Donald A. Chambers, Chair
University Senates Conference

Enclosures

c: Elizabeth Dooley
Michael Hogan
Jenny Roether
Kathy Rutherford
Michele Thompson
Tih-Fen Ting
Members, University Senates Conference

Deletions are ~~strikethrough~~
Additions are ***bolded, underlined, and italicized***

Approved
Campus Senate Meeting
September 9, 2011

**UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT SPRINGFIELD
CAMPUS SENATE 2011/2012
RESOLUTION 41-11**

**Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Section 2 – University Senates Conference
(Campus Rotation of Leadership Positions)**

WHEREAS, the three campuses of the University of Illinois differ in size and orientation, and each has equally valuable educational and social roles to play in Illinois and beyond; and

WHEREAS, the University Senates Conference functions as an advisory, transmitting, and coordinating body on behalf of the University faculty and thus ought to share University-level governance among faculty from the three campuses; and

WHEREAS, the University Senates Conference has had a long tradition of rotating its leadership positions (i.e., chair and vice chair) among members of the three campuses; and

WHEREAS, the rotation was established to maintain harmonious relations within the University, to acknowledge a degree of parity among the campuses, and to exemplify shared governance at the University of Illinois;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the rotation tradition of leadership positions in the University Senates Conference will be upheld with a UIS member assuming the chair position in Fall 2012;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Campus Senate of the University of Illinois at Springfield approves the following revisions to the *Statutes* regarding the organization of the University Senates Conference.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Campus Senate of the University of Illinois at Springfield transmits this resolution to the University Senates Conference, Vice President/Chancellor Susan Koch, President Michael J. Hogan, and to the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois.

1 **Section 2. University Senates Conference**

2 **a. Organization**

- 3 (1) The University Senates Conference shall be made up of twenty members. The basic
4 representation shall be two members from each senate. Additional members shall be
5 apportioned to each senate, at least one from each senate, in numbers proportional to the
6 number of faculty members on each campus. The apportionment shall be recalculated
7 every five years. Each senate shall elect its own representatives from its membership.
- 8 (2) Senators whose senatorial terms expire before their conference terms expire shall
9 complete their conference terms. Any faculty senator or faculty senator-elect shall be
10 eligible for election to the conference. The term of office shall be three years beginning
11 on the first day of the next academic year following the election. Approximately one-
12 third of the conference members from each senate shall be elected annually.
- 13 (3) A quorum for conference meetings shall consist of a simple majority of the total
14 membership of the conference. If a quorum cannot be obtained otherwise, the conference
15 members from a senate may designate as many as two alternates from the faculty
16 members of their own senate to serve at a specific meeting.
- 17 (4) The conference officers shall be a chair and a vice chair, who shall be elected for one-
18 year terms by and from the conference and shall not be from the same senate. **There shall**
19 **be a rotation among the three senates for the chair and vice chair positions. The senate**
20 **that has its member elected as the vice chair by and from the conference shall have its**
21 **member elected as the chair the following year. The senate that has its member elected**
22 **as the chair by and from the conference shall not be eligible for either the chair or the**
23 **vice chair the following year.** The chair shall not be from the same senate in two
24 consecutive years.
- 25 (5) The executive committee of the conference shall consist of two members from each
26 senate: the conference chair, the conference vice chair, and four additional members
27 elected annually by and from the conference. The conference may authorize the executive
28 committee to act on behalf of the conference between scheduled meetings.

University Senates Conference

Approved September 21, 2011

The University Senates Conference affirms its tradition of rotation of leadership positions among the three campuses and supports the principle of re-establishing the rotation as soon as reasonable but does not support codifying this rotation in the *Statutes*.