

MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: Tuesday, January 14, 2025

PLACE: University of Illinois Chicago College of Pharmacy Building, Room 145
University of Illinois Springfield, Brookens Library, Room 180G
I Hotel & Conference Center, Excellence Room

PRESENT: Campbell, Danziger, De Groot, Erricolo, Fisher, Floros, Hobbs, Jenkins (Chair),
Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Schwinn, Sharma, Tolliver, Wink

In attendance by location:

UIC: Danziger, De Groot, Floros, Hobbs, Wink

UIS: Fisher, Sharma

UIUC: Campbell, Jenkins (Chair), Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Tolliver

Online: Erricolo, Schwinn

ABSENT: Dunning, Hale, Maher, Symes

GUESTS: Timothy Killeen, Nicholas Jones, Jessica Norris

I. Call to Order

Professor Jenkins called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Approval of remote participation

Professor Moorhouse made a motion to allow those attending via Zoom (Dunning, Erricolo, Hobbs, Schwinn) to vote and participate in the meeting. Professor Kalita seconded. No discussion. Motion passed.

Yes: Campbell, Danziger, De Groot, Fisher, Floros, Hobbs, Jenkins (Chair),
Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Sharma, Tolliver, Wink

No: None

Abstain: None

III. Public Comment

None

IV. Approval of the minutes from December 20, 2024

Professor Moorhouse made a motion to approve the minutes from December 20, 2024. Professor Kalita seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Yes: Campbell, Danziger, De Groot, Fisher, Floros, Hobbs,
Jenkins (Chair), Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Tolliver, Wink

Online: Schwinn

No: None

Abstain: Sharma

V. Remarks from USC Chair

Professor Jenkins spoke about the importance of managing the meeting schedule and discussion to allow time for reports. USC will have an occasional afternoon speaker. Professor Jenkins expressed appreciation to USC for their efforts to provide input and their ongoing support of shared governance to move the institution forward.

VI. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Jones

President Killeen joined the meeting by Zoom, EVP Jones and Ms. Norris joined from Urbana.

President Killeen introduced his new Chief of Staff, Ms. Jessica Norris.

Ms. Norris expressed appreciation to USC for being invited to attend. Ms. Norris has 20 years of experience working in higher education at Illinois State University; Michigan State University; and Maryville University. At Illinois State University, Ms. Norris served in the assistant and associate director roles of the Office of Equal Opportunity, Ethics, and Access; at Michigan State, as the AVP for Civil Rights and Title IX Education and Compliance; and most recently at Maryville University as the Chief Administrative Officer.

President Killeen noted that the new federal administration begins next week. Executive Orders are expected on Day 1 that will likely undo some of Executive Orders of the previous administration. A new response analysis team has been assembled to prepare for what is forthcoming. President Killeen, EVP Jones, and VP Nazon met with the Deputy Governor for Education to discuss the state of readiness. The regular meeting with President Killeen, EVP Jones, the Chancellors, VP of External Relations and Communications, has resumed. Currently 1.3 billion dollars of federal support or outside R&D support is being received. It's important to address resiliency and competitiveness. It shall be noted that OMA and FOIA requests are promptly responded to.

President Killeen expressed his appreciation to USC for their partnership and willingness to do so much on behalf of the institution.

The UIUC Senate selected the search advisory committee. They put forward two names for President Killeen to consider as the committee chair. President Killeen selected Jennifer Bernhard, Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering, Grainger College of Engineering, as the committee chair. The search has begun. Greenwood Asher has been selected as the search firm. This is the same search firm that selected Chancellor Robert Jones nine years ago. There will be focus group meetings by invitation, and open meetings to engage with shared governance groups. This will be a confidential search as conducted in the past. The intention will be to have the new Chancellor in place by July 1, which may or may not be feasible.

President Killeen reported that metrics are on an incline. Research, philanthropy and

enrollment are up. There is a modest increase in tuition being requested due to inflation. Applications are up 18% year over year. Budget discussions are taking place. There are some transitions in the University of Illinois Board of Trustees. Chair Donald Edwards term has expired. There will be two or three new board members. A new chair will be selected.

President Killeen, EVP Jones, and others were invited to the Speaker of the House's box at the inauguration that took place last week in Springfield. The University of Illinois is very much appreciated by the state legislator and general assembly.

President Killeen provided an update on the change in direction with the DPI Building Project in the 78 due to the decline in real estate values in downtown Chicago after the pandemic. The five-hundred-million-dollar appropriation was reappropriated multiple times for DPI and IIN, as a collective initiative of the University of Illinois System. Many of those dollars have been released, some have gone to partner public universities and some to UIC, UIS, and UIUC. Most of the five-hundred million dollars was for the new DPI location in Chicago. To date, funds have been spent on architectural design, assembly, and other requirements for the new building. With the new development in Quantum Science and Technology and Microelectronics that the Governor has put forward, and another five-hundred million dollars appropriated, it was time to pivot. UIC was asked to lead operations and management of the Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park (IQMP). Besides the state, DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency) wants to be involved. IQMP already has an anchor tenant. Current efforts are focused on the design. There have been many approvals. This change in vision will align with the quantum initiative and utilize the residual capital funds for DPI North and DPI South. DPI North is located at 200 S Wacker Drive and DPI South will be a DPI entity on the Quantum Park.

President Killeen spoke about the partnerships developed through DPI. With the addition of leadership in AI, quantum, and the future of computing changing the outlook, he felt it was time to form a steering committee. The focus of the committee will be to develop a new strategy and a roadmap for the expanded DPI. This will include a set of recommendations of a strategy for organizational structure, governance structure, and schematic structure of the change in real estate landscape for DPI. President Killeen will make a presentation to the BOT in March. There will be an implementation plan.

Humanities and social sciences are central. They could and should be heavily involved in the formation of DPI. Shield T3 was created and very successful. Programs involve a lot of faculties.

President Killeen addressed the narrative that DPI will shift and become an Urbana operation, responding that everything is a System entity. DPI will be operated by one of three University of Illinois campuses. DPI will be driven more by faculty who are showing up because it is a top interest. DPI is one of the hubs of the Illinois Innovation Network. The Illinois Innovation Network is quickly maturing. The job of the System is not to run things, it is meant to enhance efficiency and open doors.

President Killeen started his life as a quantum physicist. There are technological challenges to achieve full blown success. It will be deeply transformational on many fronts. This is of historical importance. There are different technological paths. There needs to be a focus on diversity of customers and approaches.

EVP Jones spoke about the original vision of DPI and embracing the land grant mission in the 21st century to better serve the citizens of the State of Illinois. How can it be done better than before? It is important to be deliberate and thoughtful. The saliva test was a good example of serving others during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is important to preserve the vision and execute the vision.

Quantum is an example of where the vision is especially important. How can building a utility quantum computer in south Chicago, in an effort led by the University of Illinois, benefit the citizens of Illinois? How can the taxpayers reap the benefits they deserve for the investment?

President Killeen mentioned the clear mission to lead the world in the future of computing to lift society; leave no community behind; to provide opportunities for engagement; and to better the human condition.

USC expressed concern over governance issues with DPI. Aside from the next DPI Executive Committee Meeting on Friday, the next three monthly meetings have been cancelled, and it's not clear why. With the working group documents being turned in at the end of January, the question stands as to how the documents will be vetted. The steering committee is planning to submit the documents on February 17. How will USC be involved? President Killeen responded that he believes input is important. Dr. Dutta advised President Killeen that there would be a reduction in meetings. Any institute at the University of Illinois with an Executive Committee has to have faculty. The documents will require careful vetting by many, including the DPI Executive Committee, and USC. The documents will initially be submitted to President Killeen before they are presented to the BOT. President Killeen suggested USC invite the steering committee to a USC Meeting. When the direction changed with DPI, the appropriated dollars were unreleased. Capital funds cannot be used for operating expenses.

Professor De Groote asked about center approval through IBHE. EVP Jones shared that the initial request for DPI's interim institute status for a five-year period was made six years ago. An extension was granted. DPI sent a draft document for the center application. EVP & VPAA is reviewing the document and then will share with USC, for it to be shared with the Senates. Recently the announcement for IQMP was made, and since the document does not reflect the recent change in direction, IBHE was contacted to advise of the transitions that had occurred. Currently this is on hold pending internal outcomes and decisions before moving forward. USC noted the existing agreement is in place until August 2025.

Ms. Norris mentioned that one of her goals is to attend more meetings to connect. Collaboration is a large part of how she sees herself approaching her new Chief of Staff

role, all together extraordinary, working better as a team.

Professor Jenkins expressed appreciation to President Killeen, EVP Jones, and Ms. Norris for joining the meeting.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:49 a.m.

- VII. Committee Meetings (AARC, FBBC, SGC) – 1:50 p.m.
Committee meetings were held from 1:00 p.m. to 1:44 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 1:50 p.m.

In attendance by location:

UIC: Danziger, De Groote, Floros, Wink

UIS: Fisher

UIUC: Campbell, Jenkins (Chair), Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Tolliver

Online: Erricolo

- VIII. Classification of Senate Minutes – 2:25 p.m.
None

- IX. Today's Business – Discussion

- a. USC response to guest presentations
Professor Jenkins asked for input on the morning presentations.

USC recognized the change in direction for DPI, but was hoping for more reassurance that the overall direction had been established. Professor Jenkins thought President Killeen had opened the door to get more involved.

USC expressed interest in speaking with members of the steering committee. Professor Jenkins suggested that it would be helpful to hear from VP of External Relations and Communications, Adrienne Nazon.

- b. ST-83
Professor Jenkins inquired if there were questions on the next steps for ST-83. There were none.

- c. AARC: Mini-conferences
Professor Kalita mentioned the recent meetings to discuss the mini-conferences and the question about who would coordinate came up. AARC believes EVP & VPAA would be the best office to coordinate, and then they can coordinate with the provost at UIC, UIS, and UIUC. It was suggested to inquire with EVP Jones at the next meeting. When this was conducted in the past, the funding came from VPAA. The University of Illinois System issued a call for proposals from faculty members at each university.

Professor Jenkins requested a proposal from AARC that could be given to EVP & VPAA with the request to fund the mini-conferences.

X. Today's Business – Action Items

- a. Determine USC Presenters and Observers for Board of Trustees Meetings
Professor Jenkins inquired about a presenter for the May 22, 2025, BOT Meeting and will ask at the next meeting.

Date	Location	Presenter	Observer	From
01/23/2025	Chicago	Hobbs	Wink	Chicago
03/20/2025	Springfield	Moorhouse	Dunning	Springfield
05/22/2025	Urbana		Hale	Urbana
07/24/2025	Chicago	Jenkins	De Groote	Chicago

XI. Old Business – Information and Discussion Items

- a. ST-83: Revisions to the *Statutes* – newly proposed revisions. Sent to Executive Vice President Wilson 05/01/2020. Proposed revisions to the *Statutes* (USC ST-83 following ST- 77) transmitted to UIS, UIC, and UIUC Senates 09/02/2021. UIC responded with Collated Comments 01/12/2022. USC sent a request for bifurcation and clarification to UIC on 02/08/2022. UIC Senate Request for Modifications 12/01/2022. The proposed statutory revisions have been transmitted to UIS, UIC, and UIUC Senates. UIC, UIS, and UIUC Senates have sent their response. USC has referred ST-83 to SGC. ST-83 was transmitted to the Senates (UIC, UIS, UIUC) and President Killeen 08/28/2024. Addendum to ST-83 sent to the Senates (UIC, UIS, UIUC) and President Killeen 10/18/2024. ST-83 returned from President Killeen 12/02/2024. Letter to the Senates on the next steps for ST-83 sent 01/07/2025.
- b. ST-87: Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article I, Section 5 – Chancellors and Vice Presidents, Article II, Section 3a (1) – Faculty Role in Governance, and Article III, Section 1g – The University. Passed UIUC Senate 11/15/2021. Transmitted to UIC and UIS Senates on 03/02/2022.
- c. ST-89: Proposed Revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IV, Section 1 – The Department, Section 2 – Department Organized with a Chair (Section 2b – Department Organized with a Chair), Section 3 – Department Organized with a Head (Section 3b – Department Organized with a Head), and Section 4 – Change of Department Administrative Organization. Passed UIUC Senate 04/24/2023. Transmitted to UIC and UIS 06/21/2023.
- d. ST-90: Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article IX, Section 7a – Sabbatical Leaves and Unpaid Leaves of Absence for Members of the Faculty. Passed UIC Senate 03/14/2024. USC referred ST-90 to SGC. Letter transmitted to UIC Senate with the request to resubmit after ST-83 has been resolved 08/06/2024.

- e. ST-91: Proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article II, Sections 3a (1) and 3a (2) – Faculty Role in Governance. Passed UIC Senate 03/14/2024. USC referred ST-91 to SGC. Letter transmitted to UIC Senate with the request to resubmit after ST-83 has been resolved 08/06/2024.

- f. OT-387. University of Illinois System Values and Principles. Transmitted to the Senates on 03/27/2023 with advice requested to USC by 05/15/2023. 06/26/2023 requested an extension to provide input through Fall 2023. Revised version sent to Senates with feedback requested by 01/17/2024. The UIC and UIUC Senates have sent their response. A status update letter has been sent to EVP Jones. UIS Senate has sent their response. Letter with USC response transmitted to EVP Jones 08/12/2024. Response received from EVP Jones 10/14/2024 incorporating USC input. Letter expressing USC’s appreciation for incorporating input to EVP Jones sent on 12/06/2024.

A motion was made by Professor Tolliver to remove OT-387 from the agenda. Professor Moorhouse seconded. No discussion. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Yes: Campbell, Danziger, De Groote, Fisher, Floros, Jenkins (Chair), Kalita, Leff, Lyons, Moorhouse, Tolliver, Wink
Online: Erricolo, Hobbs

No: None
Abstain: None

- g. SI-1. Updates from each University
 - i. University of Illinois Chicago
No update.

 - ii. University of Illinois Springfield
Professor Fisher spoke about the taskforce that began in January which was charged with developing criteria for the academic portfolio review process for the campus. The taskforce is scheduled to submit its report at the end of January. During the spring semester, an administrative group will apply the criteria developed by the taskforce to a process that they anticipate would divide academic programs on campus (including majors and minors) into three groups. The top group would be enhanced and grown; the middle group would be sustained; and the group achieving the lowest scores will be selected for a closer look and possibly asked to change their degree program or potentially be sunsetted. This will draw a lot of attention on campus. This three-tier system is an approach many mid-sized universities are conducting to be sure there is intentionality to the overall shape of the academic programs and sustainability.

 - iii. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Professor Lyons mentioned that the chancellor search is underway. UIUC

Senate is committed and ready to work with USC on ST-83. Professor Lyons also mentioned that the Senate and SEC have concerns about the recent honorary degree situation that occurred. This will be a topic at the end of January, with hopes of arriving at a resolution for the situation.

h. SI-2. Updates from Standing Committees

i. Academic Affairs and Research (AARC)

No update.

ii. Finance, Budget, and Benefits (FBBC)

Professor Leff mentioned that the committee is keeping an eye on the Tier II issue. Legislation was submitted last year in an effort to correct inequities with the way it matches up with Social Security Safe Harbor. Professor Lyons provided more insight. According to SURS, there is one employee calculation that will fail this year, but this person is not part of our system. It's important for the legislature to resolve this to avoid impact to others.

iii. Statutes and Governance (SGC)

No update.

i. SI-3. Updates from External Groups with USC Representation

i. Data Strategy System-wide Task Force

Professor Campbell said the committee put together a framework and the administration added funding to that so the management of data can be looked at in the future. The idea is that data from the university would have a standardized format that would be accessible. It will be helpful for applying AI and predictions. Overall the taskforce will have management, privacy, and security for the data values to prevent misuse. On one hand it is an expense, on the other hand it is a powerful resource if to make an inquiry about students or a program with this data.

ii. Digital Risk Council

Professor Campbell reported there has not been a recent meeting. The council will consider the risk management plan. AI is still a huge risk and there are still questions for how to manage the risk. There are many risks that are concerning to the Digital Risk Council.

iii. Discovery Partners Institute Executive Committee

No update.

iv. Enrollment Management Policy Council

Professor Leff mentioned the council met last semester and the next meeting has not been scheduled.

- v. President's Executive Leadership Program
Professor Jenkins has attended PELP events in Chicago and Urbana. The next event will be held in Springfield in March. The final event of this academic year is in D.C. in April or May. PELP has been an amazing opportunity to get to know leadership across the System and former PELP fellows.
- vi. System Research Integrity Policy Committee
Professor Danziger mentioned the committee has met twice. The federal government has changed the research integrity policy. While the committee is working on one policy, each campus will have their own procedures.
- vii. System Task Force on Online Strategy
No update.
- viii. System-wide Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Council
Professor Moorhouse reported the council met and has been divided into three subcommittees:
 - 1. The Standard Definitions Subcommittee met on January 6, and Professor Moorhouse is a member.
 - 2. The Culture Change Subcommittee met on January 8, and Professor Moorhouse is a member.
 - 3. The Training & Prevention Subcommittee will meet on January 28.
- ix. University of Illinois System President's Advisory Council
Professor Lyons will reach out to Ms. Norris about this since there has not been any recent communication.
- x. Workplace Behavior Policy
Professor Tolliver mentioned that this committee has not been active. Professor Jenkins will reach out to Ms. Jami Painter, Senior Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer to inquire.

XII. Adjournment – Next meeting: Thursday, February 6, 2025, at UIC, UIS, and UIUC
The meeting adjourned at 3:11 p.m.

David Perryn
USC Administration