

MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATES CONFERENCE

DATE: February 6, 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, Dunning (online), Erricolo, Fisher, Floros, Hale, Hobbs, Jenkins (Chair), Leff, Lyons (online), Maher, Moorhouse, Schwinn, Sharma, Symes, Tolliver, Wink

In attendance by location:

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

UIS: Fisher, Sharma

UIUC: Campbell, Hale, Jenkins (Chair), Leff, Maher, Moorhouse, Symes, Tolliver

Online: Dunning, Lyons

ABSENT: Kalita

GUESTS: Timothy Killeen, Nicholas Jones, Jennifer Creasey, Paul Weinberger

I. Call to Order

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

II. Roll Call

Mr. Perryn called the roll. The following members were in attendance:

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

UIS: Fisher, Sharma

UIUC: Campbell, Hale, Jenkins (Chair), Leff, Moorhouse, Tolliver

Online: Dunning, Lyons

III. Approval of remote participation

A motion was made and seconded to allow those attending via Zoom (Dunning, Lyons) to vote and participate in the meeting. Hearing no objections, a roll call vote was taken. Approval was granted.

Yes: Danziger, De Groot, Fisher, Floros, Hale, Hobbs, Jenkins (Chair), Leff, Maher, Moorhouse, Schwinn, Sharma, Symes, Tolliver, Wink

No: None

Abstain: None

IV. Public Comment

None

V. Approval of the minutes January 14, 2025

Professor Hale made a motion to approve the minutes from January 14, 2025. Professor Leff seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Yes: Danziger, De Groot, Erricolo, Fisher, Floros, Hale, Hobbs,
Jenkins (Chair), Leff, Moorhouse, Schwinn, Sharma, Symes, Tolliver,
Wink

Online: Dunning

No: None

Abstain: Maher

VI. Remarks from USC Chair

Professor Jenkins encouraged USC to address the issues and continue to work together as everyone faces the strains on higher education. He encouraged USC to keep putting one foot in front of the other. Professor Jenkins acknowledged that Chancellor Robert Jones will become the next President of the University of Washington. This will be a great opportunity for him.

VII. Meeting with President Killeen and Executive Vice President Jones

President Killeen and EVP Jones joined the meeting from UIC.

EVP Jones was very pleased with the enrollment trend which is ahead of last year during this time double digits. Spring enrollment is up about 4% system wide.

President Killeen encouraged USC to focus on the central mission. For every four graduates that obtain their degree, three of them stay in Illinois. The higher enrollment numbers demonstrate the strong metric of a University of Illinois degree, noting that the student body has grown by 22,000 in the last ten years.

President Killeen spoke highly of Chancellor Jones and his next endeavor as President of the University of Washington. Chancellor Jones has been a wonderful partner, and a great Chancellor of integrity, purpose, and commitment. University of Washington is a great institution with a huge medical enterprise.

President Killeen expressed appreciation to USC for their willingness to put their time and energy into shared governance, which is of the utmost importance and significance, not to mention a major strength of the UI System.

President Killeen returned from Washington D.C. this week where he met with the congressional delegation. He spoke about the changes occurring federally. There are many Executive Orders and likely more on the way. There is a lot of interaction. Currently the focus is on making sure that students, faculty, and staff are safe. With the changes in grants and contracts, impacts are being considered. This is the time to pull together and express the value of higher education. The focus will continue to be on growing bandwidth, new knowledge creation and dissemination, and creation of new partnerships. This is the time to look at best practices, connect with like-minded

institutions and learn from each other.

President Killeen suggested that Professor Jenkins help arrange some small group meetings with individual members of the BOT and a selection of USC Members to talk about shared governance, their experiences, in terms of fiscal oversight and management.

USC inquired about the impact on students receiving federal assistance. President Killeen responded that this has not been an issue. The PELL System moves through the Treasury Department.

USC inquired about the best method to support advocacy efforts. President Killeen spoke about the importance of shared governance. He encouraged everyone to avoid creating tension within the System that bleeds out into the external world in ways that can be of negative impact.

EVP Jones mentioned that specialty groups had been formed to assist in areas and help coordinate with each university: 1) Immigration, Mr. Scott Rice; 2) Research, VP Jay Walsh; 3) HR and Workforce Related Issues, Ms. Jami Painter; 4) Finance, VP Paul Ellinger; 5) DEI, EVP Nicholas Jones; 6) Chief of Staff and Communications, Ms. Jessica Norris and VP Adrienne Nazon; 7) Federal and State Relations; each university has their own government relations person

President Killeen spoke about the annual Town Hall Meeting which had 400 attending through Zoom. This was an increase over last year. He also spoke about a talk he gave at the City Club of Chicago. The topic of DEI was brought up. DEI can mean different things to different people.

USC inquired about internal communication and ways to reassure faculty colleagues and staff that the university is committed to DEI efforts. Students can hear the national narrative from the White House. President Killeen responded that efforts have been focused through mass mails. Changes are occurring rapidly. The focus will continue to be on the mission, and to continue all issues for human experience doing the best job possible. He suggested addressing issues locally as much as possible.

USC inquired about immigration and deportation. The Justice Department filed a lawsuit today toward the State of Illinois, City of Chicago, and Cook County for the TRUST Act and impeding immigration efforts. President Killeen acknowledged that there will be lawsuits. A question arose about an appropriate response should I.C.E. appear. If there is a warrant for a crime that has been committed, the law will be followed. Protocols are in place. To date, President Killeen has not heard of immigration visiting a classroom. He noted that the Justice Department will focus on states with sanctuary cities. A link for UIC to an article titled "Campus protocol on external law enforcement" was shared: <https://today.uic.edu/campus-protocol-on-external-law-enforcement/>

USC inquired about the impact of federal funding on grants. EVP Jones acknowledged that some grants are not renewed. Since there are not unlimited resources, some

personnel could be impacted. These are the times it's harder to get through, especially when the funding ends. President Killeen is grateful there is not a large budget deficit. A link on federal policy updates was shared: https://publish.illinois.edu/federal-updates/?utm_source=massmail&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=launch

Professor Jenkins spoke about the efforts by the System to do everything they can to protect the mission and social good. He suggested that engaging with the BOT to build stronger ties is important. While being faced with challenges, it is possible to find common ground. USC will work with the Office of the President to determine the best approach. Professor Jenkins spoke about the importance of sharing examples of the efforts that the System and University Leadership have undertaken during this time of uncertainty.

USC expressed interest in providing input on the forthcoming proposal for Discovery Partners Institute (DPI).

There is a planned purchase of a 6-story building off Randolph for DPI North that will be owned by the University of Illinois System. DPI South is moving fast. President Killeen mentioned that the implementation plan will be available after March.

President Killeen spoke about the ongoing search for the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Chancellor. The Senate approved the search committee. A kickoff meeting has been held. President Killeen attended almost all the focus groups held over the two-day period that were managed by Professor Jennifer Bernhard, Search Committee Chair. Input will also be taken from outside groups, donors, and other stakeholders.

Professor Jenkins expressed appreciation to President Killeen and EVP Jones for attending.

The meeting recessed for lunch at 11:55 a.m. and resumed at 1:00 p.m.

VIII. Meeting with Paul Weinberger and Jennifer Creasey

Professor Jenkins welcomed Ms. Creasey joining from UIS, and Mr. Weinberger via Zoom from Washington, D.C.

Mr. Weinberger mentioned key areas to work with the federal administration in:

- 1) NIL (Name, Image, and Likeness)
- 2) Investments in Quantum and AI
- 3) other national security priorities

The areas of impact currently are:

1) Federal Awards/Information: Federal R&D in Clean Energy or items sponsored by the Inflation Reduction Act; anything with DEI or Environmental Justice Work; anything that falls under foreign aid such as funds received from the State Department from USAID are currently on hold.

2) DEI and Gender: The Executive Order instructs agencies to ensure that any grant

recipients are compliant with anti-discrimination laws.

3) Immigration:

Language in some of the Executive Orders are making sure that NGO (non-government organization) are not allowed to provide services to removable aliens. There is also an effort to target sanctuary cities if they are not compliant with immigration laws. For the students, a slowdown is expected in Visa processing.

3) Promoting gender ideology: OMD (Office of Management and Budget) put out a memo last week to freeze Federal R&D funding. This was paused by a judge. There are two temporary restraining orders in effect prohibiting funding from being held. It's important to note that while Executive Orders are not binding on individual people, they are for agencies. This has created confusion among grantees and program offices. The government can cancel a grant and contract unless a just convinces administration to pause.

Ms. Creasey reported that the state legislature is back in session as of January. The state budget is the most important item, and the System will advocate for an increase. The Governor's Office has warned that this will be a challenging budget year. The goal would be not to experience budget cuts. As a public university in the State of Illinois, having legislation that supports connecting industries and businesses that can relocate to Illinois is important. This could help the university employ students and build the economy.

There is an effort with legislation to exempt the faculty from the time reporting requirement. Reform is also being considered for the Civil Service Act to allow out-of-state recruitment. There are several bills that would provide procurement reform and capital project management reform.

Ms. Creasey reported an interest in supporting legislation that pertains to the development of the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equality that was created using federal funds that have dried up. The new approach will be to support a state-wide strategy to help educate early childhood educators. Additional support will be for students in mental health and early action.

The Tier 2 Pension Program is a current topic that continues to be discussed. The System is publicly supporting reforms to it as Tier 2 makes recruiting difficult given the downfalls of the program when compared to Tier 1.

SB3965 Equitable Funding Formula currently in the Legislator, would not be helpful to all three universities. The University of Illinois has 53% of the undergraduate students in Illinois and supports investment in higher education as a whole.

USC inquired about the state law that placed a 7-year service requirement before faculty and staff could have their children attend with a tuition discount. Ms. Creasey will speak

with HR to see if this is an area that should be pursued.

SB1378 was introduced by Senator Chapin Rose to amend the Academic Degree Act providing only the Board of Trustees can award an honorary degree. This would remove the role the university's faculty had previously held. This bill was introduced after an honorary degree request brought forward was not approved through the UIUC Senate.

USC inquired with Ms. Creasey about how they could individually support the advocacy efforts. Ms. Creasey mentioned the opportunity to attend the state lobby day on February 26 and to join the Illinois Connection: <https://www.uillinois.edu/erc/advocacy>

Professor Jenkins expressed appreciation to Ms. Creasey and Mr. Weinberger for attending.

- IX. Committee Meetings (AARC, FBBC, SGC) – 1:50 p.m.
Committee meetings were held from 1:54 p.m. to 2:28 p.m.

The regular meeting resumed at 2:36 p.m.

In attendance by location:

UIC: Danziger, De Groote, Erricolo, Floros, Hobbs, Schwinn, Wink

UIS: Fisher

UIUC: Campbell, Hale, Jenkins (Chair), Leff, Moorhouse, Tolliver

Online: Dunning, Lyons

- X. Classification of Senate Minutes – 2:25 p.m.
- a. UIC: January 30, 2025
 - b. UIS: January 24, 2025
 - c. UIUC: None

Class I:	Matters of policy affecting one campus only. Item is sent to the President and Board of Trustees for action.
Class II:	Matters affecting more than one campus. Item is sent to Senate(s) for action, then to President and Board of Trustees. At the time of this classification, the Conference member will file with the recording secretary an accurate final copy of the Senate action.
Class III:	Amendments to the University of Illinois Statutes. The procedure is the same as with Class II items. At the time of reporting this classification, the Conference member will file with the recording secretary an accurate final copy of the Senate action.
Class N:	This designation requires no USC action but alerts one or more Senates to an item of interest from the originating Senate. The "N" is preceded by and followed by a lower-case letter(s); c = Chicago; s = Springfield; u = Urbana-

Champaign; usc = University Senates Conference. Example: "cNs,u" means that a matter has come up in the Chicago Senate, which may be of interest to Springfield and Urbana-Champaign.

A. The following items were classified I by the University Senates Conference:

1. University of Illinois Chicago, January 30, 2025

PR-25.19, Proposal to Establish the Dentistry - Integrated Topics (DIT) Course Subject

PR-25.20, Proposal to Establish the Department of Population Oral Health in the College of Dentistry

PR-25.21, Proposal to Revise the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Core Courses in the Doctor of Nursing Practice

PR-25.22, Proposal to Revise the Concentration in Business Law in the Juris Doctor

PR-25.23, Proposal to Establish the Master of Science in Analytics and Artificial Intelligence in Business

PR-25.24, Proposal to Rename and Revise the Minor in Disability and Human Development

PR-25.25, Proposal to Eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Economics

PR-25.26, Proposal to Establish the Minor in Sports Management

PR-25.27, Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Science Degrees in the College of Business Administration (Part 1)

PR-25.28, Proposal to Revise the Bachelor of Science Degrees in the College of Business Administration (Part 2)

PR-25.29, Proposal to Revise the Advanced Quantitative Skills Requirement in the Undergraduate Business Core and Revise the Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship, Bachelor of Science in Human Resource Management, and Bachelor of Science in Management

CP-25.03, Proposal to Rename the Undergraduate Campus Certificate in Medical Humanities

2. University of Illinois Springfield, January 24, 2025

Resolution 54-20: Eliminate the Graduate Certificate in Public Sector Labor Relations

Resolution 54-22: Establish an Accelerated Joint Degree Program Between the B.A. in Communication and the M.A. in Public Affairs Reporting

Resolution 54-24: Posthumous Award of a Master of Business Administration Degree

B. The following items were classified III by the University Senates Conference:

1. University of Illinois Chicago, January 30, 2025

Approved the proposed amendments to **USC ST-91/UIC ST-24.02:** Faculty Role in Governance

C. The following items were classified N by the University Senates Conference:

1. University of Illinois Chicago, January 30, 2025

Class cNs,u.

Endorsed 502-Remote Work Arrangements for Faculty Policy

2. University of Illinois Springfield, January 24, 2025

Class sNc,u

Add Online Modality to the Existing Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in MLS via the Medical Laboratory Technician (MLT) to Medical Laboratory Scientist (MLS) Articulation

A motion was made by Professor Hale and seconded by Professor Moorhouse to approve the Classification of Senate Minutes. No discussion. The Classification of Senate Minutes were approved by a roll call vote.

Yes: Campbell, Danziger, De Groote, Dunning, Erricolo, Fisher, Floros, Hale, Hobbs, Jenkins (Chair), Leff, , Maher, Moorhouse, Schwinn, , Symes, Tolliver, Wink

Online: Dunning, Lyons

No: None

Abstain: None

I. Today's Business – Discussion

- a. USC response to guest presentations
Professor Jenkins requested input on the presentations.

USC discussed the potential for a small meeting with two members of USC and BOT. USC is excited about this possibility and believes it will be beneficial for both.

A discussion was held on potential directives to remove DEI Language outside of

places that is legally required. There are implications to consider such as funding.

USC discussed the honorary degree situation that occurred in the UIUC Senate. It could be helpful to have further discussion on what the *Statutes* say about honorary degrees. Although appropriate procedures were followed, it was not an ideal outcome.

b. AARC: Mini-conferences

Professor Jenkins provided the bullet point list from AARC to President Killeen and EVP Jones for consideration.

II. 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. Professor Tolliver expressed interest. Professor Jenkins and Professor Tolliver will develop a title.

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

III. 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. SI-1. Updates from each University
 - i. University of Illinois Chicago
Professor Wink shared that UIC is undergoing a reevaluation of the Learning Management System (LMS).
 - ii. University of Illinois Springfield
Professor Fisher spoke about the academic portfolio program review process. The report will be made available to the UIS campus community for comment.
 - iii. University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Professor Hale reported that the UIUC Senate will meet on Monday. There are concerns about DEI and federal grants.
- g. SI-2. Updates from Standing Committees
 - i. Academic Affairs and Research (AARC).
No update.
 - ii. Finance, Budget, and Benefits (FBBC)
Professor Campbell reported the committee discussion on the funding received by the university and how it is distributed. The committee plans to clarify any issues that exist and intends to keep in contact with the budget offices at each university.
 - iii. Statutes and Governance (SGC)
Professor De Groot mentioned that the committee received a request from a Senate for information about proposed changes on ST-83 that came out three years ago. With the committee changes and the length of time that has passed, the committee is unable to provide this.

SGC will draft a letter to be shared with the USC Executive Committee.
- h. SI-3. Updates from External Groups with USC Representation
 - i. Data Strategy System-wide Task Force
Professor Campbell reported that the committee has a clear perspective on

the necessary policies. The task force will consult with others to confirm they are appropriate.

- ii. Digital Risk Council
Professor Campbell conveyed there had not been a recent meeting.
- iii. Discovery Partners Institute Executive Committee
Professor Wink mentioned that the DPI Executive Committee is waiting to have a meeting to review the guidelines. Professor Jenkins expects input to be provided by the middle of February.
- iv. Enrollment Management Policy Council
Professor Leff reported there has not been a recent meeting.
- v. President's Executive Leadership Program
Professor Jenkins noted that PELP will meet in Springfield on March 3-4.
- vi. System Research Integrity Policy Committee
Professor Danziger mentioned that the committee is working on new language to meet federal policy. The next meeting is in two weeks.
- vii. System Task Force on Online Strategy
Professor Lyons reported that there had not been an update or communication.
- viii. System-wide Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Council
Professor Moorhouse mentioned that the culture sub-committee met today. She was unable to attend due to the USC Meeting.
- ix. University of Illinois System President's Advisory Council
Professor Lyons reported that the council only meets once or twice a year. There has not been a recent meeting.
- x. Workplace Behavior Policy
Professor Jenkins communicated with Ms. Jami Painter about the Workplace Behavior Policy. The committee has not met for some time. The committee will be restarting soon.

- IV. Adjournment – Next meeting: Thursday, March 6, 2025, at UIS
The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

David Perryn
USC Administration