

## **Annual Report of the UIC Senate to the Board of Trustees**

**July 6, 2016**

### **Introduction**

The University of Illinois *Statutes*, Article II, Section 1, provide for a senate to be constituted at each campus of the University to exercise legislative functions in matters of educational policy, such as requirements for admission to colleges and schools, requirements for degrees and certificates, and the academic calendar. Each senate shall also recommend candidates for honorary degrees, and may propose amendments to the *Statutes* through the University Senates Conference to the President and the Board of Trustees. The University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Senate membership consists of approximately 200 faculty members, 50 student members and 3 academic professional members. Faculty senators are elected by and from the faculty of the colleges, schools, and the library for three-year terms. Student senators are elected for one-year terms from among the electorates of the three major academic divisions into which student programs are divided: undergraduate, graduate and health professional. Academic Professional senators are elected by the Academic Professional Academic Council.

### **Meetings and Agendas**

The UIC Senate held six regular meetings at which issues of interest to the faculty, students and staff were discussed and acted upon, plus an organizing meeting at which elections for Senate officers and membership on standing committees were held.

The UIC Senate Executive Committee (SEC) held 14 meetings. The SEC acted on items coming from the Senate and Senate Standing Committees, and from University Senates Conference.

The Chancellor, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs (Provost/VCAA), and Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs (VCHA) regularly attended both the Senate and the SEC meetings. In addition, to foster communication between faculty and administration, the SEC Leadership Team (Chair, Vice-Chair, and Presiding Officer) met monthly with the Chancellor or Provost on an alternating basis.

### **Major Topics Covered By the Senate and Committees**

- Impact of State Budget on UIC
- Communication and Shared Governance
- U of I Strategic Plan and UIC Strategic Priorities
- U of I Background Check Policy and UIC Background Check Procedures
- Policy on Open Access to Research Articles at the University of Illinois
- Educational Policy
- Student Support and Success

### **Guests at UIC Senate Meetings**

- October 28, 2016: Emanuel Pollack, Interim Vice Provost for Undergraduate Affairs shared a PowerPoint presentation on the Student Success Initiatives.
- March 17, 2016: Saul Weiner, Vice Provost for Planning and Programs shared details about the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) Reaccreditation of UIC taking place in spring 2017.

### **Senate Action**

- Approved the UIC Senate Criminal Background Check Policy Resolution to postpone implementation of the new criminal background check policy until problems and inconsistencies can be addressed.
- Endorsed the “University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Senate Resolution on the Postponement of the Criminal Background Check Policy” (RS.16.02).
- Endorsed the University of Illinois Nondiscrimination Statement.
- Approved the UIC Senate’s State Employees' Group Insurance Program letter enumerating our concerns and requesting allocation of sufficient funds to provide UIC employees with their promised health care benefits. Sent to: Bruce Rauner, Governor; John Cullerton, Senate President; Christine Radogno, Republican Leader of the Senate; Michael Madigan, Speaker of the House; and Jim Durkin, Republican Leader of the House.
- Endorsed the working document titled University of Illinois Policy on Background Checks (USC OT-324).
- Approved the Resolution of the UIC Senate Honoring the Service and Contributions of Eric A. “Rick” Gislason to the University of Illinois at Chicago Campus.
- Approved the Policy and Procedure for Degree Revocation.
- Approved revisions to the “University of Illinois at Chicago Promotion and Tenure Committee Policies and Procedure” Composition Section.
- Approved five nominees for an honorary degree.
- Approved the Resolution of the UIC Senate Honoring the Service and Contributions of Jerry L. Bauman to the University of Illinois at Chicago and the University of Illinois.
- Approved the Resolution of the UIC Senate responding to the Illinois General Assembly Public Act 99-0358 to Amend the College and Career Success for All Students Act. We expressed our concern about the process of members of State government making academic judgment about the meaning of a score of 3 or higher on an AP exam which is the responsibility of the faculty and the Board of Trustees of each institution.
- Approved the Resolution of the UIC Senate Imploring the Governor and General Assembly to Adopt a Budget for Fiscal Years 2016 and 2017.
- Organized a letter writing campaign in opposition to the Governor’s proposed cuts to funding for the University of Illinois and opposition to the budget impasse.
- Endorsed the Proposed Policy on Open Access to Research Articles at the University of Illinois.

- Endorsed the Resolution of the UIC Senate in Support of Augmented College Criteria and Evaluation for Student Success (ACCESS) Proposal for Augmented Review of Select First Year Illinois Undergraduate Applicants.

### **Guests at UIC SEC Meetings**

- September 16, 2015: Edward McMillan, Chairman of the Board of Trustees Senate discussed his vision for Senate engagement with the Board of Trustees.
- September 16, 2015: President Killeen provided an update on the University of Illinois strategic planning, the status of the Carle-Illinois College of Medicine, and his perspective on the budget situation.
- October 8, 2015: Janet Smith, President of UIC United Faculty, talked with the Committee about ways that UIC United Faculty and the Senate can effectively collaborate and also discussed the current state of bargaining.
- October 21, 2015: Janet Parker, Associate Chancellor and Vice Provost for Budget and Resource Planning, shared activities in her office aimed at making the budget more transparent and understandable to UIC stakeholders and shared an overview of information available on the Office of Budget and Program Analysis (BPA) website.
- October 21, 2015: Saul Weiner, Vice Provost for Planning and Programs, provided an overview of the Policy and Procedure for Degree Revocation.
- November 5, 2015: Michael Ginsburg, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, discussed how Human Resources is going to manage the civil service bumping during this period of budget retrenchment and provided an update on changes on the horizon regarding civil service.
- December 17, 2015: Jerry Bauman, Interim Vice President for Health Affairs, and Avijit Ghosh, Chief Executive Officer of the Hospital, discussed potential collaborations regarding UI Health and changes related to UI Health Plus and what will be the impact on hospital finances and the University budget; and an update on the Medicaid and Medicare reimbursement situation at UI Health.
- April 7, 2016: Timothy Killeen, President, discussed the UI Strategic Plan
- April 7, 2016: Caryn Bills, Associate Chancellor and Director of the Office for Access and Equity; Rebecca Gordon, Title IX Coordinator; and Amy Truelove, Title IX and Equity Compliance Specialist, discussed the expectations of faculty in their role as a responsible employee, as defined under law.
- April 20, 2016: Mary Keehn, Special Assistant to the Vice Provost for Programs and Planning for Interprofessional Education and Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs – AHS, and Abbas Hyderi, Associate Dean for Curriculum in the College of Medicine, were guests at the SEC meeting and discussed Strategic Planning for IPE at UIC.

### **Items/Topics Covered by SEC**

#### ***Communication and Shared Governance***

- Three SEC members recommended to serve on the Budget Advisory Committee which Janet Parker, Associate Chancellor Budget and Resource Planning, developed
- SEC provided advice to the President as part of an annual evaluation of the UIC Chancellor

### ***Faculty Appointment to Illinois Board of Higher Education***

- On behalf of the UIC Senate, SEC sent a letter to Governor Rauner and the members of the Illinois Senate Executive Appointments Committee through Chair Munoz opposing the appointment of John Bambenek from Champaign to serve as the Faculty Representative on the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE).

SEC also organized a letter writing campaign opposing the appointment.

### ***Collaboration***

- UIC United Faculty is concerned about potential rising health insurance. A letter was sent by UIC United Faculty, UIC Senate, and the Academic Professional Advisory Committee to President Killeen to ask for a meeting with him on this subject.

### ***Other Items/Topics***

- Approved the Chancellor Review Process
- Developed and implemented the Senate Executive Committee Strategic Priorities
- Approved a motion to not recommend a stay of the requirement for all students to use iThenticate to screen their theses for potential plagiarism in response to a letter from the members of the Graduate Studies Committee in the Department of Medical Education.
- Reviewed the Policy on (non-educational) Policy submitted to the Committee by Saul Weiner, Vice Provost for Planning and Programs, for information. The recommendation of the Committee was that no further action was needed by the UIC Senate regarding the policy.

### **Activities of the Senate Standing Committees**

**Senate Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee** developed proposed revisions to the “University of Illinois at Chicago Promotion and Tenure Committee Policies and Procedure” Composition Section.

**Senate Academic Services Committee** reviewed the Proposed Policy on Open Access to Research Articles at the University of Illinois and reviewed procedures for implementing the Policy. The Committee also began to review the open textbook proposal from Undergraduate Student Government (USG) and the Creating an Open Educational Resource Portal for UIC Undergraduate Courses Resolution from USG.

**Senate Committee on Educational Policy** reviewed 66 New and Revised Programs, 8 Certificate Programs, 3 Educational Policies, and 22 General Education Courses. The Committee also began to review the Undergraduate Student Government Resolution regarding “Dead Week” Designation.

**Senate External Relations and Public Service Committee** reviewed nominations for honorary degrees and improved process for soliciting honorary degree nominations.

**Senate Faculty Affairs Committee** worked with the Office of the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs to examine and explain how digital classroom student evaluations are implemented in the various colleges and departments. This initiative will help to ensure consistency, clarity and usefulness in how these important evaluations are included in faculty teaching assessment, promotion and tenure. The Committee also reviewed an informational item from Vice Provost Taylor regarding a revision to the existing campus policy on Modified Teaching Duties.

**Senate Research Committee** reviewed **CI-16.01**, Proposal to Rename the Center for Pharmaceutical Biotechnology as the Center for Biomolecular Sciences and **CI-16.02**, Proposal to Eliminate the Integrated Systems Laboratory, College of Engineering. The Senate Research Committee approved a motion to have the Committee involved in the internal review process for IBHE permanently approved centers and institutes.

**Senate Student Affairs Committee** reviewed the Policy and Procedure for Degree Revocation and the Interim UIC Policy on Sex Discrimination, Sexual Harassment and Sexual Misconduct. The Committee discussed with Linda Deanna, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs/Dean of Students and an ex officio member of the Committee, issues related to the Clery crime reporting and revisions to the student conduct code required in order to comply with federal and state legislation as it relates to sexual misconduct. The Committee met with DuJuan Smith, Assistant Dean of Students, to discuss possible modification of some aspects of student discipline, mainly as it relates to the senate committee.

**Senate Student Recruitment, Retention and Admissions Committee** developed the Resolution of the UIC Senate in Support of Augmented College Criteria and Evaluation for Student Success (ACCESS) Proposal for Augmented Review of Select First Year Illinois Undergraduate Applicants. The Committee also developed a report about Dismissal/Prior Record Questions on the Graduate Application. The Committee reviewed the policy, EP-16.01, Revision of the Policy on Acceptance of Transfer Credit for Undergraduate Admission Purposes.

**Senate Support Services Committee** discussed topics related to: prioritization of projects given the budget situation; safety; adequacy of the current severe weather policy; cross campus transportation; classroom modernization; enforcement of the campus Non-Smoking Policy; and key changes in Human resources. The Senate Subcommittee on Buildings and Grounds discussed concerns about directional signage in buildings, standards for campus signage and painting, bike safety and pedestrian safety.

This concludes the report of the UIC Senate for 2015-2016.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Catherine Vincent, RN, PhD  
Chair, UIC Senate Executive Committee.