

**Annual Report of the UIC Senate to the Board of Trustees
July 24, 2014**

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 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 determined by elections held 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 twelve meetings. The SEC acted on items coming from the Senate and Senate sub-committees, and from University Senates Conference. Chancellor Paula Allen-Meares and Provost Lon Kaufman regularly attended both the Senate and the SEC meetings. A special SEC meeting to discuss the restructuring of the health colleges was held on January 29, 2014.

The major topics covered by the Senate and its various committees this year were:

- Reorganization of the Health Colleges. This has been the major topic of the Senate this year. As a result of the proposals from the Board and the Health College Deans group a Senate committee was formed, along with a committee formed by the Chancellor, and a small group convened by President Easter. The situation remains unresolved and unstable.
- Chancellor five-year review. The Senate conducted a five-year review of the Chancellor as part of the review being carried out by President Easter.
- Chancellor yearly review. The Senate carried out a smaller yearly review to advise the President.
- Chancellor search committee. The Senate selected faculty to serve on the search committee and act as chair.
- President search committee. The Senate identified faculty to serve on this committee.
- Response to Tripp Umbach report. The Senate formed an ad hoc committee to respond to this report.
- Response to Research Directions document. The senate research committee worked closely with the Vice Chancellor for Research to respond quickly to this document.

In addition to Chancellor Allen-Meares and Provost Kaufman, guests of the SEC this year included:

-Dr. Stephen Portch, former chancellor of the University System of Georgia who was responsible for compiling the results of the Chancellor review and reporting them to President Easter.

-President Easter at the October 9, 2013 SEC meeting, along with Jerry Bauman, Interim Vice President for Health Affairs, and Avijit Ghosh, Senior Advisor to the President. The guests discussed the restructuring of the health profession colleges.

-At its March 5, 2014 meeting SEC met with Karen Colley, Dean of the Graduate College, and Astrida Tantillo, Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, to discuss the Report of the Health Science Reorganization Task Force.

-Jeff Nearhoof, Vice Chancellor for Development, to talk about the goals and best practices he has for the UIC Office of Development.

Items covered by the SEC this year included:

-The SEC discussed with Provost Kaufman how he was implementing the recommendations included in the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee's document "Regular and Transparent Review of Unit Executive Officers."

-The SEC discussed with Provost Kaufman the status of the decision about how the furlough money should be used.

-Working with Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, Renee Taylor, on improving the promotion and tenure forms.

-SEC assisted with implementing SB 1900, the Open Access to Research Articles Act. A University-wide task force was established in January 2014 to develop a report about implementation of the bill.

-SEC conducted a Five Year Review of Chancellor Allen-Meares by implementing a survey of Senators.

- SEC members participated in an interview to explore UIC's identity at the request of Michael Redding, Executive Associate Chancellor of Public and Government Affairs.

-SEC requested that the following statement be added to the Board of Trustees March 6, 2014 item titled "Approve Plan for Reorganization of the Academic Health Center:"-

"To preserve transparency a standing health sciences oversight committee comprised of faculty and campus leaders be appointed."-SEC requested that E. Dooley transmit a letter regarding the statement to both President Easter and Chancellor Allen-Meares prior to the start of the March 6, 2014 Board of Trustees meeting.

-In March 2014, the Board requested that the UIC Senate submit to the Board of Trustees the names of six faculty nominees to serve on the U of I President Search Committee and the Board selected the three they wish to represent UIC. This was carried out and names submitted.

-SEC wrote an open message of commendation to recognize the residents of Commons South who intervened and assisted in the apprehension of the suspect in the March 31, 2014 sexual assault on campus. SEC also sent a card to the survivor of the March 31,

2014 sexual assault on campus expressing sincere statements of regret and a pledge to make UIC a safer environment in the future.

-SEC wrote a statement asking the union and UIC administration negotiating team to consider calling a binding arbitrator to end the dispute regarding faculty union negotiations as soon as possible in the best interest of the students and faculty.

-SEC referred the proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 – Academic Freedom (USC ST-72) to the Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure at the end of the academic year.

-SEC endorsed the University Senates Conference Executive Committee Resolution on Supplemental Retirement Plan (USC OT-288).

-SEC wrote a report regarding the Reorganization of the Health Sciences Colleges Administrative Structure.

Guests at the UIC Senate meetings this year were:

-President Easter was a guest at the January 30 Senate meeting.

-David Merriman, Professor, Institute of Government and Public Affairs and Professor, Department of Public Administration, shared a PowerPoint presentation titled “Update on Illinois’ Economic and Fiscal Challenges and Responses” at the October 30, 2013 Senate meeting.

- Martha L. Daviglius, MD, PhD, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Professor and Director of the Institute for Minority Health Research, was a guest at the December 4, 2013 Senate meeting and presented “UIC Institute for Minority Health Research: An Overview.”

- Kevin Browne, Vice Provost for Academic and Enrollment Services, discussed UIC’s adoption of the Common Application at the December 4, 2013 Senate meeting.

-At the March 12 Senate meeting, Karen Colley, Dean of the Graduate College, provided an overview of the Report of the Health Science Reorganization Task Force.

-At the March 12 Senate meeting, Mitra Dutta, Vice Chancellor for Research, provided an update on research at UIC with a PowerPoint presentation.

-At the March 12 Senate meeting, Senator De Groote discussed open access initiatives being introduced at the federal and state level.

-Cynthia Herrera Lindstrom, Chief Information Officer and Executive Director of the Academic Computing and Communications Center, provided an overview of a set of IT Security Policies that were adopted to address IT Security issues such as HIPAA and FERPA at the April 24 Senate meeting.

Topics covered at Senate meetings included:

-Vice Chair Kay presented about the structure of the Senate and future issues for the Senate to consider at the September 26, 2013 Senate meeting.

-The Senate approved the proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the *Statutes* (USC ST-79/OT-296).

-The Senate approved the proposed revisions to the UIC Senate *Bylaws*, Article I,

Section 1 (a and b) to include lecturers as faculty members, remove contract codes and adjust percent time for faculty members.

-The Senate approved a motion that the Senate Executive Committee provide advice to President Easter regarding the Five Year Review of Chancellor Allen-Meares in accordance with Article I, Section 5 of the *Statutes*. And Chair Patston sent a letter to President Easter expressing the content of the motion.

-Senator Persky (SPH) chaired the Ad hoc committee on campus reorganization, which wrote a report endorsed by the Senate on October 30, 2013.

-The Senate approved the Statement on Hospital Debt on October 30, 2013

-The Senate approved a motion on October 30, 2013 that read: “We welcome the administration of the Health Science Center returning to the UIC campus, but we request we refrain from deciding any administrative structure until the details have been presented and discussed by the faculty and students.”

-The Senate endorsed the University Senates Conference Statement on Pensions dated November 21, 2013.

-The Senate selected nominees for the Committee to advise the President on the selection of a Chancellor at UIC.

-The Senate worked with Chancellor Allen-Meares to create a committee of faculty to assist in the transition to the Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs, both in regards to current management of the health system, as well as the search for the Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs and developing the details of the job responsibilities.

-The Senate appointed an ad Hoc committee to study the report and write a response about the impact on UIC of establishing a four-year medical education program at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

-The Senate approved the Resolution about CARLI Consortium.

-The Senate approved the proposed revisions from UIUC Senate to the Statutes, Article XIII, Section 8 – to authorize the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to the Statutes (USC ST-79/OT-296).

-The Senate approved four proposals reviewed by the Senate Research Committee (see below)

-The Senate approved one honorary degree candidate.

The UIC Senate also has subcommittees which worked throughout the year on a variety of issues, and their hard work deserves mention. Some of the highlights of their activities are listed:

Academic Freedom and Tenure Committee. The Committee provided feedback to Renee Taylor, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs, on if a policy to extend tenure should be written and also on the 2011 unit norms for promotion from assistant to associate professor with tenure issue. The UIC Senate Executive Committee referred the proposed revisions to the *Statutes*, Article X, Section 2 – Academic Freedom (USC ST-72) to the UIC Senate Committee on Academic Freedom and Tenure, which the Committee will review in the fall.

Academic Services Committee. In February 2013, the Senate Academic Services Committee was charged by the Senate Executive Committee to produce a report outlining

the budget, infrastructure, subject areas, goals, and purpose of UIC providing MOOCs. In addition, the committee was asked to engage the Senate in a discussion on the topic of MOOCs.

Other topics considered by this committee were student evaluations of faculty, possible campus support to establish a Writing Center targeted to graduate students, and problems with gmail at UIC.

Educational Policy Committee. This year the Senate Committee on Educational Policy reviewed and approved 50 New and Revised Programs, 11 Certificate Programs, 1 Educational Policy, and 10 General Education Courses.

External Relations & Public Service Committee. The primary focus of the committee was on honorary degree candidates. Two candidates were sent to the SEC for consideration, one of which was approved. This name has been sent to the Board.

Faculty Affairs Committee. The proposal, Unit Executive Officer Review, which was developed by the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee, was presented to Dean's Council by Jessica Williams in the fall. The Committee tracked the proper implementation of the item.

Research Committee. The research committee approved the following: Elimination of the Temporomandibular Joint and Facial Pain Research Center; Transfer of the Child and Family Development Center from the College of Education to the Institute of Disability and Human Development, College of Applied Health Sciences; Transfer of the Center for Public Safety and Justice from the Institute of Government and Public Affairs, University Administration to the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, UIC; and Proposal to Reorganize and Rename the Center for Human Resource Management as the Institute for Leadership Excellence and Development (iLEAD).

In addition the committee worked with the Vice Chancellor for Research on a number of critical issues including responding to the hitherto unheard of "U of I Research Priorities" document.

Student Affairs Committee. Issues discussed included safety of students particularly at night, use of standardized syllabi and electronics in the classroom, and evaluation of the policies of the University of Illinois and UIC regarding implementation of FERPA to ensure compliance.

Student Recruitment, Retention and Admissions Committee. The Student Recruitment, Admissions, and Retention Committee met several times during the recently completed academic year. The Committee learned much from Kevin Browne, Vice Provost for Academic and Enrollment Services, and his staff regarding recruitment and admission of students. The Committee reviewed the admission requirements for the undergraduate colleges.

Support Services Committee. The committee strongly believes that the weight of bureaucracy is impeding UIC from thriving. The committee also supports efforts for improved customer service and business processes. Included in this are suggestions to improve HR processes. The committee has also discussed at length the quality of life at UIC, the infrastructure such as buildings and grounds, classroom management and other issues affecting faculty, students and staff. A particularly important topic was that of thefts on campus in various buildings and their security.

This concludes the report of the UIC Senate for 2013-2014.

Respectfully Submitted,
Philip Patston, Ph.D.,
Chair, UIC Senate Executive Committee.