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

Professor Joyce L. Tolliver, Chair
UIUC Senate Executive Committee
Dept. of Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese
4080 Foreign Languages Building MC 176

Professor Tih-Fen Ting, Chair
UIS Campus Senate
Dept. of Environmental Studies
PAC 308

Re: Proposed Revision to the Statutes, Article I, Section 2 – Term used to clarify the role of the President (USC ST-74)

Dear Colleagues:

The previous recommendation (USC ST-74, GR-42, Letter of October 28, 2009) to revise the Statutes and The General Rules has been withdrawn. The Board of Trustees now recommends one change to the Statutes, for reasons described in the attached letter from Dr. Stanley Ikenberry, Interim President Designate.

The proposed statutory revision is being sent to each senate for consideration and advice. Please respond by December 15 since Dr. Ikenberry would like to bring this item to the Board at its meeting of January 21.

Sincerely,

Kathryn E. Eisenhart, Chair
University Senates Conference

Enclosures

cc: Robert C. Damrau
    Elizabeth A. Dooley
    Stanley O. Ikenberry
    Mrinalini C. Rao
    Kathy L. Rutherford
    Michele M. Thompson
    Members, University Senates Conference
November 18, 2009

Professor Kathryn E. Eisenhart  
Chair, University Senates Conference  
377 Henry Administration Building, MC-348  

Dear Professor Eisenhart:

I write to follow up on an earlier recommendation conveyed to you by President White on behalf of the Chair of the Board of Trustees concerning changes to the University of Illinois Statutes and in The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure intended to clarify the roles of the president of the University and the campus chancellors. President White has asked me to assume responsibility for coordinating this recommendation with the Chair of the Board of Trustees and the faculty governance groups. Following consideration of the comments of the University Senates Conference and the campus senates, the Chair of the Board, President White and I all agree that we should withdraw the earlier recommendation.

After discussion with Chairman Kennedy, it now seems preferable that the Board would recommend one change only. This would be to the Statutes, Article I, Section 2. In line one of this section, it is recommended that the word "executive" be inserted after the fifth word (chief). This would make that sentence read: The president is the chief executive officer of the University and a member of the faculty of each college, school, institute, division, and academic unit therein.

The reason for this recommended amendment is to dispel any implication that the president’s role is anything less than the chief executive officer of the University. As chief executive officer, the president is responsible and accountable to the Board of Trustees for the faithful execution of the policies of the Board. The chancellors in turn perform such duties as may be delegated and assigned by the president, consistent with the Statutes and The General Rules.

Thank you for your consideration of this recommendation. I would like to submit this recommendation, along with your advice, to the Board for consideration at its January 21, 2010 meeting.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Stanley O. Ikenberry  
Interim President Designate
Proposed Revisions to the University of Illinois Statutes

(Text to be added is in underline.)

Statutes

ARTICLE I., Section 2. (The President of the University)

The president is the chief executive officer of the University and a member of the faculty of each college, school, institute, division, and academic unit therein. The president shall be elected by the Board of Trustees, and the president's term of office shall be at the pleasure of the board. The president shall attend the meetings of the board and participate in its deliberations; may act with freedom within the lines of general policy approved by the board; shall prepare the annual budgets for presentation to the board; and shall recommend to the board suitable persons for positions in the University, including appointments to appropriate administrative positions, other than academic, which are not provided for in the Statutes. In case of exigencies, it is within the proper jurisdiction of the president to make appointments so that the work of the University shall not be interrupted, but such appointments shall be subject to confirmation by the board. The president is responsible for the enforcement of the rules and regulations of the University; shall make such recommendations to the board and to the senates as the president may deem desirable for the proper conduct and development of the University; and shall issue diplomas conferring degrees, but only on the recommendation of the appropriate senate and by authority of the Board of Trustees. The president may designate the administrative officer(s) who shall exercise the functions of the president during the absence of the president from duty, which designation(s) shall be subject to change by the Board of Trustees.