TO: UIS Campus Senate
FROM: Senate Executive Committee
DATE: 9/23/2013
RE: Resolution 43-1, Proposed Revisions to the Statutes, Article XIII, Section 8

Attached please find additional materials for consideration of the Campus Senate, regarding Resolution 43-1, Proposed Revisions to the Statutes, Article XIII, Section 8:

1) Revised resolution proposed by the Senate Executive Committee as requested by the Campus Senate at the meeting of September 13, 2013, incorporating an amendment to USC ST-79/OT-296 proposed by Senator Martin and approved by the Senate;
2) Text of the amendment;
3) Excerpt from the University of Illinois Statutes: Article II Section 2, University Senates Conference;
4) USC ST-79/OT-296 with transmittal letters.

Recall that the resolution text and its preamble can be amended. The goal of this revision was to capture the sense of the Senate at the end of our last discussion. Suggestions and comments welcome.
WHEREAS, the University Senates Conference has a statutory function distinct from that of the campus senates, with an important role in coordinating the actions of the campus senates rather than initiating policy changes;

WHEREAS, the UIS Campus Senate questions the need to expand the policy-making scope of the University Senates Conference;

WHEREAS, the Senate recognizes that the Senates Conference may sometimes need to propose for the consideration of the campus senates modifications to Article II, Section 2, of the University of Illinois Statutes, which define the structure and functions of the conference;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Campus Senate of the University of Illinois at Springfield hereby proposes the following amendments to USC ST-79/OT-296, “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):

Revise the first paragraph of the proposed amendments to Article XIII, Section 8b as follows:

b. Initiation by the University Senates Conference. The University Senates Conference by vote of a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting may propose amendments to Article II Section 2 of these Statutes. The secretary of the conference shall notify the secretary of the campus senates and the secretary of the Board of Trustees of the text of a proposed amendment promptly after the meeting at which it is introduced. The proposed amendment shall be transmitted to the senates for action; the conference may append its comments.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Campus Senate of the University of Illinois at Springfield does not approve authorizing the University Senates Conference to initiate revisions to sections of the Statutes other than Article II Section 2.
[Amendment to Resolution 43-1, approved by UIS Campus Senate September 13, 2013:]

Strike lines 5 & 6 in Resolution 43-1 and replace with:

Proposes the following amendments to USC ST-79/OT-296:

1. Revise the first paragraph of Section 8b as follows:

b. Initiation by the University Senates Conference. The University Senates Conference by vote of a majority of all members present and voting at a regular or special meeting may propose amendments to Article II Section 2 of these Statutes. The secretary of the conference shall notify the secretary of the campus senates and the secretary of the Board of Trustees of the text of a proposed amendment promptly after the meeting at which it is introduced. The proposed amendment shall be transmitted to the senates for action; the conference may append its comments.
ARTICLE II. LEGISLATIVE ORGANIZATION

Section 2. University Senates Conference

a. Organization

(1) The University Senates Conference shall be made up of twenty members. The basic representation shall be two members from each senate. Additional members shall be apportioned to each senate, at least one from each senate, in numbers proportional to the number of faculty members on each campus. The apportionment shall be recalculated every five years. Each senate shall elect its own representatives from its membership.

(2) Senators whose senatorial terms expire before their conference terms expire shall complete their conference terms. Any faculty senator or faculty senator-elect shall be eligible for election to the conference except that no member shall serve more than two full terms consecutively. The term of office shall be three years beginning on the first day of the next academic year following the election. Approximately one-third of the conference members from each senate shall be elected annually.

(3) A quorum for conference meetings shall consist of a simple majority of the total membership of the conference. If a quorum cannot be obtained otherwise, the conference members from a senate may designate as many as two alternates from the faculty members of their own senate to serve at a specific meeting.

(4) The conference officers shall be a chair and a vice chair, who shall be elected for one-year terms by and from the conference and shall not be from the same senate. The chair shall not be from the same senate in two consecutive years.

(5) The executive committee of the conference shall consist of two members from each senate: the conference chair, the conference vice chair, and four additional members elected annually by and from the conference. The conference may authorize the executive committee to act on behalf of the conference between scheduled meetings.

b. Functions.

The University Senates Conference shall review all matters acted upon by each senate. The conference shall determine whether senate actions requiring implementation or further consideration by officials or other groups within the University have been referred to the appropriate officials or groups. The conference itself may make any original or additional referral it deems advisable, and may append its comments and recommendations. Should the conference find a matter acted upon by one of the senates to be of concern to another senate, it shall refer the matter and the action to that senate. If two or more senates have acted differently on a subject, the conference shall attempt to promote agreement or consistency. Where
agreement or consistency cannot be effected within a reasonable period of time, the conference shall transmit the related actions of the senates together with its own recommendations to the appropriate officials or groups within the University and shall simultaneously notify the secretary of each senate of its action. Any senate may record and transmit its further comments to the same addressees and to the conference.

The University Senates Conference shall assist the senates to communicate with one another, with University and campus administrative officials, and with the Board of Trustees (through the president), and may develop and implement procedures to enhance such communication.

c. The conference may act and may authorize its executive committee to act as an advisory group to the Board of Trustees (through the president), the president, other administrative officials, and the several senates on matters of university-wide concern. It shall be a special concern of the conference executive committee to aid in maintaining harmonious relations among such officers and the units of the University.