AGENDA
CAMPUS SENATE MEETING
AY 2012/2013
FRIDAY, October 12, 2012
10:00 A.M. – Noon
PAC CONFERENCE ROOM H


Ex-Officio: L. Pardie


The meeting was called to order by Chair Fisher at 10:02 A.M.

Approval of the agenda was postponed until after the Chancellor’s report. Fisher welcomed Chancellor Koch to give opening remarks.

Chancellor’s Report- Chancellor Koch
Chancellor described a recent visit to Emiquon Field Station and the remarkable work that is going on there. She suggested organizing an outing for members of the Campus Senate to Emiquon before winter arrives. She talked about the amazing partnership that the Springfield campus has with the Nature Conservancy, the Illinois State Museum, and other partners. The potential of that facility for environmental research and interdisciplinary activities including the visual arts, anthropology, and others, is unlimited. Hats off to the leadership on our campus that has created this opportunity.

Yesterday was National Coming Out Day and we had great participation in our event. The Chancellor was proud to have an opportunity to express support and acceptance for LGBTQA students, faculty, and staff. Chancellor Koch emphasized the importance of diversity and commended the educational programming that is happening at UIS.

Roger Shimomura, whose work is displayed in our visual arts gallery, gave a lecture last night that was very well attended. There was an overflow crowd for this amazing lecture. Immediately after that was a Lincoln Legacy Lecture with two spectacular scholars who provided this amazing contrast between slavery at the time of the Emancipation Proclamation and slavery today. Brookens auditorium was full with more listening in the overflow room. The events of this past week demonstrate what a University is and it is great to be a part of it. This is really typical of UIS and it is phenomenal what occurs here.

The Chancellor noted that she is still being introduced as the new Chancellor and joked about not knowing when the “newness” would dissipate. She stated that she characterized her first year as a time of listening and learning and plans to continue to learn from students, staff, and faculty about UIS and the
unique offerings. She encouraged Senators to continue to think about ways to share and communicate information, as shared governance is essential to the advancement of our university.

Chancellor Koch commented on the continued leadership transitions. Bob Easter officially became the President of the University of Illinois on July 1. He is working hard to learn more about the two campuses he doesn’t know well, Chicago and Springfield. He knows Urbana, having spent nearly forty years there. President Easter and Chancellor Koch are in constant communication. The Chancellor believes that President Easter recognizes the value that we contribute to the University of Illinois enterprise and is very supportive of our institution. UIS will be hosting a Board of Trustees meeting in November and it will be nice to have President Easter and the Board all with us for a few days.

Dr. Jeff Lorber has been hired as Vice Chancellor for development. His first day will be October 23, the day before the scholarship luncheon. Dr. Lorber comes with a great deal of experience and fundraising success and our expectations are high that he will do very well. The two high priority fundraising efforts right now are the Access Illinois program and fundraising for the student union.

As the Chancellor continued, she spoke of our identity as a premier public university. She argued that we are one of the finest public universities in the country. UIS holds a deep commitment to the Liberal Arts and she emphasized her commitment to that identity. UIS is very relevant when it comes to public affairs. Additionally, UIS is committed to outstanding professional programs that serve our region. Part of our identity is also that we are both a COPLAC institution and an AASCU Institution. We are committed to providing a well-rounded Liberal Arts education and an accessible, affordable education for qualified students regardless of their ability to pay. The newest aspect of our identity is the public face we are presenting to the world – “Leadership Lived.” Chancellor Koch stated that this is resonating very well.

Chancellor Koch discussed the priorities for the upcoming year. Priorities include: relevance, visibility, affordability, engagement, and excellence. She emphasized the importance of increasing our relevance within the community. One way to achieve this goal is to add programs, especially in the health care area. UIS is a young institution and more academic programs are needed.

UIS needs to be more affordable and more accessible. We are trying to make more financial aid available to our students and the Access Illinois program is very important. As for accessibility, one of the ways we are becoming more accessible is through our online programs. Some of our students would not be pursuing bachelor’s degrees if we were not offering online programs.

As a university we have a history of being very engaged in our community. We need to continue and increase community engagement. We also need to get our students to engage with each other, and the (proposed) student union will play a big part in that. We are moving forward with plans and Mike Bass, who is the Vice-President of Facilities, tells us it is conceivable that we could open the doors on the new student union in the Fall of 2015.

Finally, Chancellor Koch discussed the importance of being excellent in everything that we do. She stated that she is proud when she hears students talking about the experience they are having in their classes at this university. Our reputation is based on the experiences that students have here. She is confident that if we can become even more relevant, more visible, more affordable, more engaged, and even more excellent than we are now, then we will grow in both enrollment and reputation.

Enrollment is critical; this is what drives our revenue. We are almost a private institution. Currently, we receive about 15% of our budget from the State of Illinois. We want the State to be our partner because universities are part of the solution for economic development in the State of Illinois.

At this point Chancellor expressed willingness to answer any questions.
Chair Fisher thanked Chancellor Koch and asked for questions or comments from the assembly.

Dell stated it was wonderful to have Kate Bornstein on campus. Bornstein remarked to Dell that UIS welcomed her in a way that most other universities do not. Representatives from both student affairs and academic affairs met with her, which is uncommon. One of the issues that emerged from the conversation had to do with bathroom access for transgendered students. Also the possibility of having i-cards reflect the chosen name of students in gender transition. Koch responded that there may be other universities that have dealt with these issues and we could perhaps explore what best practices are in these situations.

Salela asked what it costs us to be a public institution. Koch responded that this is a provocative question. Part of the cost is complying with the tremendous amount of regulation which translates into expenditure of human resources and financial resources. Private institutions are not subject to many of those kinds of restraints.

Williams voiced concern about how the increased diversity of our student body interacts with law enforcement on campus. Koch said she is very appreciative of our police force, but there is no diversity, which is not acceptable. She continued by saying that when you have a diverse campus but you don’t have a diverse police force, there is a potential for problems. We also need more diversity in faculty and staff as well. Creating a more effective infrastructure is necessary. Collaboration with the civil service members who control the hiring process to make this better will be important.

Li asked if we have specific goals for increasing enrollment. Koch responded that in 2006 UIS set a goal of 6,000, but the original plan when the University was conceived was 10,000 students. Koch said she would like us to be about 10% of the total University of Illinois student body, around 7,000. This would give us a robust student life and a budget base that would allow us to be more effective. Of course we would need to add more faculty but Koch expressed confidence that we can grow and maintain the same level of relationship. It may be difficult for us to reach that level of enrollment in five years but adding three or four new academic programs that are relevant and continuing to grow student life will allow us to retain our identity and serve more students.

Bussell asked how online programs play into these numbers and how we will deal with the tension between online and on campus programs. Koch said the online learning environment is ever shifting, and she would like us to be at the forefront of discovery in this area rather than trying to play catch-up like many other universities. This is a very important part of our profile.

Kline asked whether we are doing anything to increase our ties to our traditional transfer schools. Koch said she thought we should strengthen those ties, especially to our top three feeder schools. We used to be completely dependent on transfer students and we may need to strengthen some of our efforts in that regard.

Barnett said we had 40 representatives from 23 community colleges for the first transfer conference we have had in four or five years. The evaluations have been positive, with participants being especially appreciative of Chancellor Koch’s invitation to advise us on ways we can improve.

Chair Fisher thanked Chancellor Koch for her remarks and everyone present for a good discussion.

Approval of the Agenda
Motion to approve the agenda by Li; Villegas seconded. All were in favor of the motion.

Approval of Minutes
Motion to approve minutes from September 28 meeting by McCaughan; second by Atkinson; approved unanimously with no corrections.

Reports

Chair – L. Fisher

Fisher announced that there is a vacancy on the Senate as Gloria Simo has gone on leave for the semester and has resigned her seat. Fisher thanked Simo for her service. Because having full representation important, Fisher asked Senators to start talking to colleagues (especially those in PAA ) about who might fill this vacancy.

There is a proposed amendment to the Illinois constitution on the upcoming ballot that has to do with pensions, and Chair urged all present as voters to take a look at this amendment. There is a UIC retirement matters blog that has much information, Chair is willing to share link with interested parties.

Announcements

Bussell gave kudos to the UIS volunteer Civic Engagement Center and the Leadership for Life service wingthat provided volunteers to Ball Charter School for their fall festival happening over the weekend.

Borland announced that the Pre-law Center will be taking a trip to UIUC’s law fair where there will be 125 admissions counselors from different law schools across the country. This is a great event and it is free for students.

Pardie recognized Lily Chen, an English Master’s student, who won a University of Illinois President’s Diversity travel award to present a paper at the 27th annual interdisciplinary conference of Humanities at the University of West Georgia. She also said that the search for an Associate Vice Chancellor for Graduate Education and Research is open. This is an internal search open to UIS faculty members.

Salela reminded Senators that the Library has resources for faculty and students. She noted that they Library has proprietary resources such as databases that can greatly improve student’s research outcomes.

Barnett thanked those who presented at the recent transfer conference.

Thompson encouraged Senators to join the WUIS fundraiser.

Fisher reminded Senators to attend the Chancellor’s reception for Senators and guests later that day.

Provost – L. Pardie

In response to a question from a previous meeting, Provost reported that grants and contracts are down this year from last and back at the level of 2008. She said that we are looking for additional information to see where the decrease occurred, but the decrease is most likely associated with lower levels of availableState funding.

Concerning Faculty tenure positions from fall 2011 to fall 2012, it looks as if we are down by two tenure system faculty, but that is a bit misleading. Fall-to-fall changes have been tracked in recent years by counting people rather than positions. This year, we had a number of unexpected summer retirements that occurred too late in the academic year for replacement tenure-system searches. The Provost’s office has created a position database to help track where we are at in terms of tenure system faculty positions and instructional support faculty positions. Tracking these positions is a complex challenge. Overall we are up in total number of faculty from fall of 2011 by six. There is an increase in instructorship positions and we have also added some new tenure system positions. We have also always relied on adjunct faculty. When
we have three or four adjuncts consistently needed to teach a particular area of the curriculum, it may indicate that we need to stabilize staffing in that area by adding full-time instructional support faculty. Sometimes we have tenure track hires who have not completed their dissertation by the time their faculty appointment begins and their position must then be categorized as a non-tenure track position until after the doctoral degree is awarded.

Committee on Committees – Fisher on behalf of Jamison
No report.

Student Government Association – Bouray
SGA has a new campaign to receive student questions, concerns, and problems. A portal on the SGA website has been created so that students can submit questions or comments. The slogan is “99 problems and you can fix one.” Bouray stated that the response so far has been good. SGA officers are attending a conference in Chicago next weekend and are excited at the opportunity to meet with members of other student governments to exchange ideas. Lastly, SGA is sponsoring “Chimichangas with the Chancellor” this upcoming Tuesday.

Williams asked SGA members if they were aware of the origins of the slogan, 99 problems. Bouray said that it is a play off of a song. Williams stated the title, “99 problems and the bitch ain’t one” and encouraged SGA to be aware of implications.

Old Business
None.

New Business

Resolution 42-5 Modification of Procedures for Determining Class Size [1st reading]
Chair Fisher asked for a motion to consider resolution 42-5. Bussell moved; Li seconded. Fisher stated that the resolution was a modification of procedures for determining class size. The senate dealt with this last year and attempted to make the policy more flexible. Mike Miller was present representing personnel policies. Miller said this resolution arose out of a desire to get some clarity on how to resolve issues of overloads and course caps. The intent is to give a clear decision maker and recourse if the decision is viewed as unfair by faculty member or department chair.

Kline asked for clarification as to whether an instructor would have to get permission to over-ride the course cap. Miller said that the intent is to address an overload situation. Kline suggested that the language be changed to reflect the intent. Thompson stated that the policy is to provide clarification around others placing students in a course without consulting the instructor of record.

Borland noted the possible confusion around the use of the terms department and chair, and asked if a meeting would need to occur every time a course cap was over-ridden. On behalf of Transue, who could not be present, Fisher asked if the policy makes course caps meaningless. Miller stated that is not the intent of the policy. Williams stated that UIS faculty are all willing to have discussions around over-riding a course cap to help a student graduate. However, he asserted that it is important for the consultation to take place.
Bussell asked if the policy also applies to freshman seminars, as the Vice Chancellor might be making those decisions. Miller said the main objective is to give recourse and appeal levels when disagreements emerge.

LaFollette talked about the importance of chairs to advocate for the addition of sections when courses are overloaded. Switzer, speaking to Williams’ point, raised the issue of non-tenured faculty who are continually asked to teach over course caps, which creates a work-load issue. Kline suggested adding a different “exceptions” section in the policy. Moranski supported Kline’s suggestion. She then, referring to Bussell’s question, stated that the language as presented does not address all possible scenarios.

Fisher stated that course caps should be constructed and respected with the student experience in mind, as well as faculty workload. The resolution will go back to committee for some language modifications and restructuring, and will come back for a second reading. Miller thanked the Senators for their suggestions.

Resolution 42-6 Clarification of Personnel Operating Procedures [1st reading]

Fisher asked for a motion to consider resolution 42-6. Villegas moved; Mulvey seconded. Miller said this resolution came from some confusion about whether non-tenure track faculty were permitted to serve on college personnel committees. There is language in the University of Illinois Statutes that specify certain roles for tenure-track faculty. If non-tenure stream faculty are to be part of personnel committees, it must be clearly stated in the bylaws. Villegas asked whether or not non-tenure stream people are currently serving on committees. Fisher stated that her department bylaws allow for specific exceptions when expertise is needed.

Some senators voiced concern that there is a potential for abuse with this resolution. Salela stated that language may be needed to put limits on non-tenure track faculty participation on these committees. She also referred to the unique situation in the Library. Kline suggested reading the respective college bylaws. Fisher encouraged Senators to take a look at their various college by-laws before the second reading of this resolution. Miller asked if there was a recommendation that there needed to be some revision of the language; chair said that some questions had been raised but no consensus about a revision.

Resolution 42-7 Doctoral Closure Guidelines [1st reading]

Chair asked for a motion to consider resolution 42-7, Doctoral Closure Guidelines. Bussell moved; Kline seconded. Fisher welcomed LaFollette and Miller, DPA Chair. Sharron LaFollette, Graduate Council Chair, said the guidelines paralleled those for Masters programs. The Graduate Council also browsed best practices nationwide and asked for feedback on the language from the DPA Program.

Bussell asked if there was a discussion about including an external committee member. Lafollette asserted that the external member was written into the policy. Ruez corrected a title in the proposal. He also asked about the final procedures that happen in the Vice Chancellor for Graduate Education’s office. McCaughan asked if a student might go to defense without the manuscript being in the specified writing style. Lafollette said that this should not happen.

Adjournment

Barnett moved to adjourn; Mulvey second; passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned 11:59 a.m.