UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

SENATE AGENDA

Thursday, January 30, 2014, STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING, ROOMS B&C, 3:15PM

I. ANNOUNCEMENTS Catherine Vincent, Presiding Officer (3:15-3:18)

II. REMARKS
   - Paula Allen-Meares, Chancellor (3:18-3:28)
   - Lon Kaufman, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Provost (3:28-3:38)

III. GUEST
   - Bob Easter, President (3:38-4:03)

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES Catherine Vincent, Presiding Officer
   - Senate Meeting of December 4, 2013 (attached p.2) (4:03-4:05)

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS
   • EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT Philip Patston, Chair
     - Oral Report (4:05-4:15)
     - Update on Health Science Colleges Restructuring
   • EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE REPORT Ilene Harris, Chair
     - For Action: New and Revised Programs (report available at:

VI. OBSERVER, REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS
   - Oral Report: IBHE Faculty Advisory Council, David Bardack (written report p. 5)
     (4:30-4:35)
     (4:35-4:40)

VII. OLD BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS (4:40-4:45)

IX. ADJOURNMENT (4:45pm unless extended by vote)

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- Parking for Senate members is available in the Harrison Street Parking Structure after 2:30 p.m. on Senate meeting days by pre-arrangement with the Parking Office.
- When addressing the Senate, please step to the microphone and identify yourself for recording purposes. Thank you.
- For Regional Sites: Senate teleconference dial-up should be available at 3:05 pm at 888-808-6929 Access Code 6362900

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SENATE MEETING SCHEDULE FOR AY2013-14
Wednesday, March 12; Thursday, April 24
(SSB - Rms B&C, 3:15 – 4:45 PM)
The meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Presiding Officer Catherine Vincent (NURS). Senators from the College of Medicine at Peoria regional site participated by teleconference.

ANNOUNCEMENTS Catherine Vincent, Presiding Officer

Presiding Officer Vincent welcomed everyone to the December 4 Senate meeting. She announced that the UIC Promotion and Tenure Committee membership roster was available online.

CHANCELLOR’S REMARKS Paula Allen-Meares

Chancellor Allen-Meares encouraged Senators to attend the UIC Urban Forum on December 5, 2013 titled “Technology and the Resilience of Metropolitan Regions.” She stated that President Easter took a bold stance opposing the Illinois pension reform bill. She explained that a health science colleges reorganization item was approved at the November Board of Trustees meeting. The Chancellor requested that President Easter include faculty representation on a group meeting in the near future to further discuss the health science colleges reorganization. She explained that the Board of Trustees wants to vote on a final health science colleges reorganization item at its March meeting. There were no questions for the Chancellor.

PROVOST’S REMARKS Lon Kaufman

Provost Kaufman reported that work is being done to resolve the issues related to classroom assignments and additional staff is being hired by the Office of Classroom Scheduling. The Provost will discuss the budget at a future meeting. He reported that the eight Task Forces of the Student Success Plan have filed their reports and there will be a Town Hall meeting in January. Provost Kaufman stated that union negotiations continue and now involve a federal mediator. There were no questions for the Provost.

GUESTS
Martha L. Daviglus, MD, PhD, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research and Professor and Director of the Institute for Minority Health Research, and Kevin Browne, Vice Provost for Academic and Enrollment Services

Martha Daviglus shared a PowerPoint presentation titled “UIC Institute for Minority Health Research: An Overview.”

Kevin Browne provided a PowerPoint presentation on UIC’s adoption of the Common Application.

Senator Hilbert (LAS-Humanities) inquired about the total number of out of state domestic and international student applicants. Vice Provost Browne explained that it will take 18-24 months to see growth in that market.

Senator Pandey (MED) asked about whether UIC graduates are tracked to see where they go after graduation. Provost Kaufman explained that tracking graduating students is an area of growth.
MINUTES

12/4/13-9  Minutes of the Senate meeting held on October 30, 2013 were approved as submitted.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT Philip Patston, Chair

12/4/13-10 Chair Patston provided background on the University Senates Conference Statement on Pensions dated November 21, 2013. On behalf of the Committee, Chair Patston moved that the UIC Senate endorse the University Senates Conference Statement on Pensions dated November 21, 2013. The motion to endorse carried with two opposed.


12/4/13-12 Senator Persky (LAS-Social Science) announced that the We Are One labor coalition is bringing the Illinois pension reform bill to court.

12/4/13-13 Chair Patston reported that he, along with other faculty, will participate in a group meeting with President Easter in the near future to further discuss the health science colleges reorganization.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY COMMITTEE Ilene Harris, Chair

12/4/13-14 On behalf of the Committee, Vice Chair Corte, presented an overview of the following new and revised programs and policies for approval: PR-14.12, Revision of the Master of Science in Computer Science; PR-14.13, Revision of the Public Health Informatics Concentration, Master of Public Health (MPH); PR-14.14, Revision of the Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management; PR-14.15, Establishment of a Bachelor of Arts in Music Business; and CP-14.06, Revisions of the IBHE Post-Baccalaureate Certificate in Health Information Management. There was no discussion and the motion to approve carried with one opposed.

OBSERVER, REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

12/4/13-15 There was no discussion regarding the written report of the IBHE Faculty Advisory Council Reporting Representative, David Bardack.

12/4/13-16 There was no discussion of the Board of Trustees Observer Report, November 14, 2013 written report submitted by Brian Kay.

OLD BUSINESS

12/4/13-17 Presiding Officer Vincent stated that there was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS

12/4/13-18 Presiding Officer Vincent stated that there was no New Business.
ADJOURNMENT

12/4/13-19 The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm.

Prepared for the Senate by:
Elizabeth Dooley, Senate Clerk
REPORT OF THE SENATE REPRESENTATIVE TO THE FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL OF THE IBHE

The FAC met in December with directors of the Illinois Association of School Boards and in January at John A. Logan College in Cartersville. But before reporting on the substance of these sessions there are two items I would like to call to your attention.

First, as I hope you will recall, FAC originated with the support of the IBHE a faculty fellowship in higher ed. It began last year and the two awardees were UIC faculty (Julie Peters, asst. prof. hist. and Allison Doubleday, oral biology). A new round of applications is being solicited and Dr. Patston sent out an announcement of the fellowship. The announcement and application form can be found at: IBHE.org and then clicking on “What’s New” and then on “Faculty Fellowship Program.” There are application dates for next summer, next fall and Spring next year.

Second, at the January meeting our guest was Lieutenant Governor Sheila Simon. We had a very open and hopefully useful discussion on a variety of higher ed. issues which are noted in my full report below.

At the Illinois Assoc. of School Boards we had many of the staff and program directors of the IBHE including Harry Berman, executive director who will be retiring. The new Executive Director has been named, Dr. James Applegate, who will come on board Feb. 17th. He has a long recent history as vice president of the Lumina Foundation. We discussed some of the activities of the Performance Based Funding group which is still hampered by a lack of funding. The IBHE meetings will again receive reports from the various advisory committees as it used to. We are particularly glad to again have this opportunity to share with board members the actions and activities of the FAC. We reviewed recently approved pension legislation, Dual Credit problems with regard to faculty qualifications and quality of teaching and areas of concern of FAC were reviewed. This meeting was also a celebration of the 50th year of the FAC. We considered political involvement in education, structure of higher ed., productivity coordination among the different educational groups and a multitude of past and present issues. Several members noted that in the past the IBHE had a more adversarial interaction with educational institutions but that a greater effort for co-operation on many issues is being developed. Some concern was expressed about the need to develop curricula more related to future needs of graduates.

We also spoke with IBHE staff about many issues especially problems of granting authority for out-of-state institutions to provide programs in Illinois, IAI, the Illinois Articulation Initiative and PARCC assessment of degree recipients. With regard to pensions there are projected savings of $160 billion through 2045 but this is effected by reductions in COLAS and other changes. Current employees will see a 1% reduction in their pension contributions/year. If the state fails to make pension payments it can be sued. While suits are expected against the law (3 are already filed) there is some expectation that the cases will go rapidly to the supreme court. The report on the SURSMAC meeting in January should have more information on the effects of the pension law.

We also looked at the governor’s three year budget projection for general funds through FY 17. Significant deficits appear in the last two years. As of Nov. 30, the state is $700M behind in its payments. In the last 15 yrs there has been a $554M decline in higher ed funding.
The meeting at John A. Logan College began as usual with several administrators discussing various activities at the college. The president, Mike Dreith, spoke about decreasing spring enrollments and attributes it largely to increased costs rather than an undervaluing of higher education. The VP for instruction, Dr. Deb Payne stressed the need for better preparation of elementary and secondary school students especially on college readiness and the need for a stronger math background. She noted very high numbers of students requiring remediation; 75% or higher for math and 50% for reading. Jake Rendelman, chair of the Logan board of trustees and former president of the ICCB noted the comparability of these numbers with students entering other community colleges and some universities.

We’ve reported before on problems with the Monetary Assistance Program, particularly the numbers of late applicants who would otherwise be eligible. There is an effort to require institutions to provide a minimal and timely advisement for students. More details on this essential program are at www.isac.org.

Dr. Valerie Barko, dean of academic affairs at Logan, spoke about the 2025 goal of 60% of adults with a collegiate degree or certificate. She stressed the need for more adults to hold a college credential based in large part on the growing needs for stronger educational backgrounds for specific jobs. Some of us were concerned about reaching adults in their 30s who are unprepared for college courses but need skills for coming jobs.

At lunch and after we were joined by Lt. Gov. Sheila Simon. She has recently visited all community colleges and four year public institutions in the state. She stressed the need for our campuses to work better with and learn from each other.

One of our members asked: “What is wrong with the Illinois political system?” She spoke about term limits for political leaders but not individual legislators and urged better long range thinking on the part of politicos. The public too needs a better understanding of how the state spends its money. Another of our members spoke about the many levels of government in Illinois. She said there is some growing effort for coordination and focus on diverse governmental units but people are “invested” in their local units. Lt. Gov. Simon said that there is a good understanding in the state of the need for higher education but there are also constraints as to what we can pay. She said a graduated income tax proposal will probably be introduced soon.

One of our members noted legislation which would require students who get at least a 3 on AP exams get academic credit and stressed that this is not an appropriate area for a legislative action. She agreed that external mandates are not appropriate. Another member criticized the large number of school districts in Illinois but Simon said this is not as much of a waste as it may appear on first glance.

I asked what can be done to increase the public’s understanding of the benefits of higher education? She stressed the need for explaining how higher education provides opportunities and upward mobility but had no specific suggestions. With regard to the pension law she suggested that it may help the long run economy of the state. When we raised the problem of legal limitations on the IBHE to constrain the entrance to Illinois of all kinds of private institutions offering college level courses, she urged that we send her some suggestions as to how to do this. She stressed that education is a continuum and that we must all work together.

While there may not be any specific changes affecting higher ed institutions from this session with the Lt. Gov it is important that leaders have a chance to learn of problems and understandings of important educational issues from those directly involved.
Later we held caucus meetings of the three FAC groups: community colleges, state universities and private colleges and universities. The state group discussed some declining enrollments, and financial issues but stressed the importance of thinking about how we may change our programs and mission statements to reflect the needs of the future and changing ideas about higher ed.

Respectfully submitted:
David Bardack,
Representative to the IBHE
General Assembly members returned for a one-day session on Tuesday, December 3 to vote on SB 1, a compromise pension reform bill hashed-out by legislative leaders late last week. On Thursday, December 5, Governor Quinn signed the bill into law (Public Act 98-599).

There are several ambiguities, conflicts, and portions of the law that are unclear. SURS will need to work with the Legislature to either resolve these issues through regulation or further legislation.

There are several court challenges to the law. At this time there is no clarity or certainty if and when or how these court cases will be settled.

The main elements of the reform package include:

- Reduction of the Automatic Annual Increase (AAI) for retirees
- AAI deferments for future Tier 1 retirees
- Capping pensionable earnings for Tier 1 participants
- The option for 5% of present Tier 1 participants to join a new defined contribution plan
- Delaying the retirement age for current state workers under age 45
- Changes to the Effective Rate of Interest
- Eliminating the use of sick and vacation days for service credit or pensionable earnings for future participants
- Reduction of employee contributions (1%) for Tier 1 participants
- Funding guarantees


Click here to read SURS synopsis of the legislation.

Click here to view SURS Power Point presentation.