

CAMPUS SENATE MEETING  
AY 2013/2014  
Friday, September 30, 2013  
10:00 A.M. – Noon  
PAC G

**Senators Present:** A. Agarwal, S. Ahmad, R. Barnett, S. Borland, H. Dell, J. Eastby, J. Ermatinger, T. Helton, J. Hollins, R. Karri, L. Killam, J. Martin, K. McDermott, A. Mulvey, K. Noland, K. Piskin, A. Predmore, D. Ruez, P. Salela, H. Thompson, J. Transue, J. Villegas, D. Weinstein and L. Fisher presiding.

**Senators Absent:** P. Boltuc, K. Jamison, B Kline, X. Li, R. Quinlan, D. Vincent.

**Ex-Officio:** L. Pardie.

**Guests:** D. Ferk, C. Cornell, E. Stanley, V. Cook, M. Green, K. Burton, L. McCown, B. Ferrara, B. Bunch, S. McMinn, L. Morsch, B. Kahn, A. Shures, D. Brown, Hanfu Mi, several unidentified.

L. Fisher called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. and introduced Chancellor Susan Koch.

**Remarks from Chancellor Koch**

The Chancellor said there was not a lot of news on the pension crisis but there is a conference committee from all four caucuses that has been charged with developing a solution. UI does not know what the proposal will be or if it will be ready in time for the veto session, at the end of October and early November. We are planning on and preparing for a scenario where the UI takes on pension responsibilities. UI is committed to providing a compensation and benefit package that will allow us to continue to recruit and retain the most talented faculty and staff possible. We are planning for the increased costs. Dave Merriman, Associate Director of the Institute of Government and Public Affairs, gave an update on the overall economic outlook for Illinois at the most recent BOT meeting. The IGPA website provides economic forecasts and updates, including a flash index that currently indicates a very slow economic recovery in Illinois. Most Illinois citizens are not feeling the recovery, partly because the Illinois unemployment rate is 9.2%, the second highest in the nation. Moody's downgraded the UI bond rating on August 9 to A3, which is the lowest bond rating in the Big Ten. The downgrade was directly related to the pension crisis. We are headed into an election year, and UI will be watching several races very closely. The temporary income tax is scheduled to expire in 2014, and it would be a real disaster for higher education if the tax is not renewed. The elections provide UIS with a unique opportunity because of our position in the state capitol. UIS has an opportunity to serve as a convener, bringing people together for debates and forums, while giving us an opportunity to enhance our reputation.

The big news at the most recent BOT meeting was that enrollment has increased at all three campuses of the University of Illinois. We now have over 78,000 students on our three campuses. UI is the only public university in Illinois that reported increased enrollment this year. The board approved the official operating budget for FY 2014 of 4.45 billion dollars. This was only a 1.2% increase from last year, one of the smallest increases in recent years. State dollars now contribute only 15% of the UI budget. This is equal to about \$8,000 per student. In 1990, the state contributed over \$16,000 per student. There is no question that we are a tuition driven institution. The Chancellor said that UIS's own Jorge Villegas

51 addressed the BOT. Koch said it was a great thing to have a UIS faculty member serving as the chair of  
52 the USC and she appreciated his remarks to the BOT.

53  
54 At the UI level, a recent retreat for the President and the Chancellors featured remarks from Tom Farrell,  
55 President of the University of Illinois Foundation. He has developed what he calls a road map proposal  
56 that is essentially a strategic plan to significantly increase our success in fundraising. A recent  
57 consultant's report on alumni fundraising revealed hundreds of prospective donors who are capable of  
58 providing significant gifts to support our students and faculty. The challenge is, they haven't been asked.  
59 UI will be making a commitment to maintaining contact with our alums and other prospective donors  
60 because we know we can do better with development.

61  
62 UIS will be hosting a BOT meeting in November. There will be a Campus Insights meeting the night  
63 before the meeting, as we did last year. The Chancellor said she will be featuring the Capital Scholars  
64 Honors Program in her opening remarks. This is a great opportunity for us to feature our campus and our  
65 work.

66  
67 At the campus level we have a new Director of Admissions. Fernando Planas brings a tremendous amount  
68 of experience and expertise, as he was a long time employee at the Chicago campus. Addressing  
69 enrollment numbers, we have the largest freshman class ever at UIS, as well as the most diverse. Fifty  
70 percent of our freshman class comes from underrepresented groups. It is also a more highly qualified  
71 freshman class than last year. The average ACT score now is 23.42. Online majors are up 5% and  
72 international enrollment is at an all-time high of 382. UIS is becoming more residential while we continue  
73 to do a wonderful job in serving part-time graduate and adult students. The official head count is 5,137.  
74 We have been able to achieve increased enrollment because of our multi-pronged approach, but it is the  
75 campus visit that really makes an impact, especially the conversations with faculty.

76  
77 The Springfield Chamber of Commerce has hired a consultant to study the feasibility of downtown  
78 housing for UIS students. At any given time UIS has 200 – 250 graduate students who are not living on  
79 campus and working full-time somewhere in state government. UIS has had conversations with SIU  
80 School of Medicine who has a similar need, as they have about 300 medical students and another 300  
81 residents in any given year. The consultant's report may give a developer data that indicates a real  
82 demand for this type of housing. UIS would like to collaborate or at least have input if the idea becomes a  
83 reality. We do not know where this will go, but if it does occur UIS would like to have a strong visible  
84 presence downtown. The key to all of this is that a developer will have to become convinced that the  
85 project will be profitable.

86  
87 UIS has dropped from second last year, to fourth in the most recent US News and World Report rankings.  
88 The top five institutions in our category are clustered very tightly. Truman State continues as number one,  
89 with the University of Northern Iowa second and University of Wisconsin Lacrosse third. Following UIS  
90 is UW Eau Claire in fifth place. The Chancellor said if we do things well the rankings will follow. UIS is  
91 still number one in Illinois.

92  
93 The Chancellor provided an update on the student union. We are on schedule, with a complete conceptual  
94 design including drawings and floor plans. The Chancellor showed two views of the planned student  
95 union and outlined the various components of the building.

96  
97 UIS now has about 35,000 alums, including over 10,000 in Sangamon County. We will be doing a  
98 number of things to increase alumni engagement. On November 1 we will hold our alumni awards event  
99 at the Governor's Mansion, and we are also going to reinstate our alumni in government breakfast. We  
100 are starting a Chicago alumni group, as that is our next largest concentration of alums. We are going to

101 focus on Springfield, Chicago, and Washington D.C. because we also have a significant number of alums  
102 in Washington.

103  
104 The Chancellor said that Janice Marvel had won the annual Chancellor's Award to Recognize Excellence  
105 in Civil Service. Janice was unable to attend the ceremony on September 18 and the Chancellor presented  
106 her award this morning.

107  
108 Transue asked if the Union would have laundry facilities, an idea that had come from UIS student Nathan  
109 Tarr. The Chancellor said she had not heard that suggestion, but the addition of at least a partial basement  
110 for the building was being considered due to a need for additional storm shelter space on that end of  
111 campus. As for food service, the food outlets in the Union will be run and staffed by UIS employees.  
112 There are plans to have a Starbucks in the Union. Students on meal plans will be going to the Union for  
113 meals. The plans on what to do with the current food facilities location in the basement of the PAC have  
114 not been finalized. There was some additional Q&A with the Chancellor on topics including alumni  
115 engagement and vehicle access to the new union.

116  
117 The Chancellor closed by saying UIS remains focused on our strategic priorities. We are working hard on  
118 growing our campus in both size and reputation. We will continue to focus on recruiting and retaining the  
119 most talented faculty and staff we can, and we will do everything we can to provide the facilities that our  
120 students need and deserve. The Chancellor said she will be continuing her outreach to the campus in  
121 every way possible, including lunch meetings with faculty and regular meetings with senate and student  
122 government leadership. A campus letter will be completed by the end of next month and there will be a  
123 campus forum in November.

124  
125 **Approval of Agenda**

126 Dell moved to approve the agenda: Villegas seconded. The agenda was approved unanimously.

127  
128 **Approval of Minutes**

129 Agarwal moved to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 13: Hollins seconded. Borland  
130 offered two minor corrections that were made without debate. The amendments being made, the minutes  
131 were approved unanimously.

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133 **Announcement**

134 Barnett said there will be a transfer counselor conference next week that includes a meet and greet before  
135 the conference. He invited anyone interested to drop by PAC C/D Oct 4 from 9:00 – 9:30 am to meet with  
136 counselors.

137  
138 Villegas said there was a meeting this past week of the campus alliance and he was very impressed by the  
139 number of minority hires both faculty and staff in the past year.

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141 Helton said Matt Rasmussen, a fantastic poet from Minnesota, will be in the LRH great room at 7pm Oct  
142 3, 2013.

143  
144 Dell announced that Katherine Boo, author of *Behind the Beautiful Forevers*, is coming to campus. Boo  
145 won the national book award for this publication. She will be at Sangamon Auditorium Oct 7, 2013.

146  
147 Karri said he is organizing a research development workshop on family enterprise research. The event  
148 will take place October 11. The workshop will explore the family constructs and how that impacts the  
149 business.

150

151 Killam said following-up on the recent Center for Disease Control's zombie apocalypse movement; the  
152 epidemiology class will meet on Monday in room 141B at 6pm for a viewing of World War Z. All are  
153 welcome to attend. The class will most likely be restating the CDC proclamation that they are unaware of  
154 any virus or process that can reanimate the dead.

155  
156 **Chair Report – L. Fisher**

157 The major item of business for the SEC so far this year has been to offer the Provost advice on some  
158 plans to reorganize several academic units into a Center for Academic Success. This would be organized  
159 under the Provost's office and would include the Center for Teaching and Learning, the Advising Center,  
160 Global Studies, English as a Second Language and the Experiential and Service Learning Program. SEC  
161 was asked for advice on the proposal. Overall the SEC believes the plan is great and will improve  
162 services, but ESX-L would be better off remaining as an academic program so that it would remain as  
163 part of the academic governance system rather than as part of an administrative unit. The Chair said she  
164 would provide additional information and documents relating to the proposal upon request.

165  
166 **Provost Report – L. Pardie**

167 The Provost said there is a web site for the New Academic Programs Task Force under Academic Affairs  
168 that users can access for current information on NAPTF activities. One of our main priorities is to  
169 increase enrollment, and we are very lean in academic programs relative to similar institutions. We  
170 believe that by increasing academic offerings we can increase enrollment. The Task Force was charged  
171 last year with making some recommendations about what our strategic priorities should be in terms of  
172 devoting new resources to particular program endeavors. The Provost described the make-up of the Task  
173 Force, which includes faculty, administrators and a student member, as well as support staff.

174  
175 The Task Force began by asking for suggestions, specifically from faculty and academic professionals,  
176 for their best ideas on the programs they thought we should be considering. There were over 80  
177 submissions, some of which were redundant or similar to others, but each submission was identified with  
178 a number which has been retained. The Task Force, after very dedicated work by all of the members,  
179 created a short, tier one list with four areas of focus. These are not specific degree titles, but ideas include  
180 digital or new or interactive mass media, finance as a concentration within the BBA, something in the  
181 area of exercise science and/or athletic training, and health services administration. There is a second tier  
182 which includes actuarial science, agricultural business, environmental public health, and something in the  
183 field of nursing. The next step in the process is to pass the first tier of ideas back to the Deans to work  
184 with their colleges and departments to refine and move forward with those proposals. If the proposals are  
185 viable they will then move through the established governance process. Part of that process will include a  
186 pro forma that has to do with the business side of those programs.

187  
188 The Provost said the Task Force considered occupational outlooks, competitor programs in Illinois, and a  
189 wide range of other variables. The list went through a number of iterations in determining the first tiers to  
190 be considered. The Provost said she did not anticipate the Task Force's work would continue beyond this  
191 academic year. There have been three meetings so far this year, and the Task Force has decided to once  
192 again solicit new program ideas from faculty and academic professionals. The NAPTF also had  
193 substantive discussions on whether they should deviate from their initial charge and consider graduate  
194 level programs, but ultimately decided for very pragmatic reasons to keep the focus on the initial charge.

195  
196 Responding to a question from Helton, the Provost said that some of the ideas for new programs came  
197 through inquiries and demand from prospective students. Karri said that as the new programs move  
198 through the governance process it may be useful to view them through a new lens, especially since they  
199 may be innovative and require an interdisciplinary or collaborative approach. Undergraduate and  
200 Graduate councils may question the viability of a new program if there is no existing expertise or

201 resources, and Karri made the suggestion that UIS leadership might meet with various governance actors  
202 to discuss what might be viewed as an entrepreneurial process in adding new programs. The Provost said  
203 some of the new programs on the Task Force list were already being developed and did not require new  
204 resources for start-up. The Task Force is taking the approach that programs that do not need substantial  
205 new resources at the beginning should move through the Deans and regular governance process.  
206 Departments that have proposals for new programs that do not require substantial new resources at the  
207 outset should send those forward. The Provost offered as an example a recent proposal from ENS for an  
208 undergraduate degree that came about entirely outside of the NAPTF process. UIS must allocate funding  
209 to new initiatives very strategically. We may have to have a new approach, but we have been successful  
210 with innovations at this institution in the past. We have had success with on-line because we balanced our  
211 values with an openness to try new things. In some cases, for very new areas where we don't have  
212 personnel in place, we are going to have to seek external consultants to help us develop those proposals.  
213

214 Chair Fisher said campus wide conversations about how we balance our values with a particular kind of  
215 innovation would be most useful. As we move forward with new and innovative programs it is important  
216 to discuss the business model that might be used, particularly concerning the use of faculty. Responding  
217 to Fisher, the Provost said that there is nothing to suggest that there is a movement away from tenured  
218 faculty at UIS. We should not over-emphasize the newness of what we are trying to do, as it is not all that  
219 different from what we have done in the past. Karri said he was not suggesting a shift in our values with  
220 respect to the composition of our faculty, rather a shift in our view concerning our strategic flexibility.  
221 Agarwal said some universities, particularly private universities, have managed to balance the cost and  
222 risk factors of new program offerings by using multi-university partnerships, and UIS should be open-  
223 minded when considering how to balance the start-up costs of new programs. Responding to Helton, the  
224 Provost said UIS will maintain its commitment to Liberal Arts.  
225

226 Aaron Shures, UIS Associate Provost & Director of Budget & Financial Analysis, gave a power point  
227 presentation outlining how a pro forma for a new program might look. Shures discussed the budget model  
228 used to project a new proposal's resource allocation and financial viability.  
229

### 230 **Adjournment**

231 Martin moved to adjourn; Helton seconded; the meeting adjourned at 12:18 P.M.