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Senate Meeting, October 22, 2008

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Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, October 22, 2008
(Approved)

Call to Order

Academic Senate Chairperson Dan Holland called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call

In the absence of the Academic Senate Secretary, Susan Kalter, Senate Vice Chairperson and Student Body President Ted Mason called the roll and declared a quorum.

Approval of Minutes of October 8, 2008

The minutes were unavailable for approval as the audiotape of the proceedings was not made available in a timely fashion due to technical difficulties.

Illinois Board of Higher Education Faculty Advisory Council Report (Lane Crothers, IBHE-FAC Representative)

Professor Crothers: We met at Morton College, which is a community college in Cicero, Illinois. It was an interesting experience. It is a 77% Hispanic institution, so there is a very different feel and flavor when you go onto their campus. The one thing about all of these community colleges that is most striking is that they always have lots of accessible, available parking.

It was kind of a mixed meeting in a number of different ways. Most of the early part of the meeting, frankly, was swallowed up in the discussion of things that were very interesting if you had never had the conversations before, but somewhat tedious if you had heard them as many times as most of us have. There were a couple of interesting things. One, the proprietary institutions, which are for-profit institutions, in the State of Illinois, and there are quite a number of them, had made a presentation to the Board of Higher Education about their impact on the higher education system in Illinois. There were a few interesting things to think about. First, they do appear to be much more diverse on average than are the public universities and the rest of the community college system. Indeed, it is worth pointing out that most of them are north of I-80, so, as a consequence, they are serving, in many cases, a more inherently diverse population than the rest of the downstate schools tend to serve.

There are about 48,000 students statewide who attend these kinds of institutions. Of course, they attend for a range of different reasons: from degree programs to certification programs to simple training courses for office needs or other kind of work. They actually quantified the 'value of degrees' for us. As Dr. Rosenthal has quite properly pointed out, we don't encourage people who are going to enter into relatively low-paying professions to rack up a giant college debt to enter a low-paying profession. It was quite striking the increasing dimensions in income by degree (or lack thereof). The life-term earnings without a high school diploma are a million dollars across the course of their lives. For a high school graduate, it is \$1.2 million; with some college, it is \$1.5 million; with an associate's degree, it is \$1.6 million. Bachelor's degrees get you to \$2.1 million; master's degrees get you to \$2.5 million; and professional degrees, lawyers, doctors, get you to \$4.4 million. For those of us with Ph.Ds, that takes you to \$3.4 million, but it is worth pointing out that many of us have a stunning level of job security in the contemporary economy.

After lunch, of the three big issues, at least one and a half were particularly significant for a university like

Illinois State. One is a document that I have discussed with you before, the “Public Agenda”. The Public Agenda has been revised. It is, again, the state’s attempt at a pledge for what the purpose of higher is and, in their defense, the IBHE staff do believe that this is a tool that can be used to garner support with the state legislators. So, they can go out to the state legislature and say, ‘the citizens want this; therefore, you have to give money to higher education.’ I am radically more skeptical. Those of us who have been around for awhile saw the Illinois Commitment, which came out of something called the Citizens’ Agenda. I don’t recall that having garnered us giant amounts of money. I seem to recall that having passed at the exact moment that they sliced us for \$18 million in rescissions, so many of us are much more afraid that this is going to be used as a hammer.

The particular language there has been strengthened, since the last time I spoke to you, on issues like tuition control and affordability. These are obviously important things and I don’t think that any of us want to simply raise tuition out of control. I think that it is also the case that if the state continues to slash its support for public higher education, it is unreasonable to expect that we will not raise tuition. That is simply the way it works. The Public Agenda is supposed to be finalized by December 1, so if this Senate is going to do or say anything about this, it needs to try to act reasonably quickly. I believe that the CIUS (Council of Illinois University Senates) is going to discuss this on Friday. As a consequence, a number of different points of view will be expressed.

When you get into conversations with people in the community, they often apply the business metaphor to universities. ‘Why don’t we run like a business?’ ‘Why aren’t we efficient like a business?’ What they never seem to quite understand is that the business metaphor works both ways. We compete for faculty and staff nationally as well. As one IBHE member apparently said, and I don’t know if this is accurate, but others might be able to confirm it, ‘Any money spent on anything other than instruction is wasted’, meaning that if you keep up the grounds, you have wasted money. If you keep up your buildings, you have wasted money. If that is true, it betrays kind of an underlying sense of how we ought to be operating and seems to me to run counter to logic. For when you recruit faculty and staff and you bring them to a place with eroding facilities, it is very hard to retain them, and all of us know that we have retention issues for faculty and staff, in additions to students. In any case, that’s going on and has the potential, at least, to be used as something of a hammer against the institution.

There are further issues with community colleges going on; one is very interesting. Some students may experience dual credit. This is a situation in which you can take classes on a high school campus, hypothetically, from a local community college, get college credit for them and then transfer that credit to Illinois State University. Some of the community colleges and some of the other institutions are beginning to raise some concerns about this. The particular concern is that, in some cases, the courses are being taught by high school teachers with a high school curriculum rather than a college curriculum. It is not easy to do this. The students who did this had to work harder than average, so they were committed, dedicated students, but there were two students, who entered Illinois State University, who came in as 18-year-old juniors because they had finished their associate’s degrees the day they graduated high school. That at least raises some concerns about where other things might go down the line. We are going to meet at Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon, Illinois next month.

Senator Borg: Would you recommend that the Senate take some sort of position on the question of the Public Agenda?

Professor Crothers: Yes, very strongly.

Senator Borg: Could you offer us some sort of a draft of a statement that we could work with? I think it would be helpful for us to have something to work with by way of the Executive Committee first.

Professor Crothers: I will certainly see if I can try to submit something to you.

Senator Holland: If the draft were done rather quickly, I would like to share it with the CIUS.

Guest Speaker: State Representative Dan Brady

President Bowman: We have invited Representative Dan Brady to be with us tonight and I would like to thank him for joining us. Those of you who have lived in the community for a few years know that no one in the General Assembly works harder than Dan Brady. I know that he hates to have people talk about him, but we are actually very fortunate to have someone like Dan representing us; he is a friend of higher education. He has worked very closely with us during the years that he has served in Springfield. As power has shifted in the state to north of I-80, Representative Brady has maintained a very good relationship with legislators from the Chicago area. I want to publicly thank him for his support of the increase in the appropriation for Illinois State University for this year. We still have our challenges, but we ended up with 2.1% increase this year. In a tight budget year, that is no small amount of change. I think the group tonight is interested in getting your lay of the land in Springfield—how you see us going forward. We know that there is a veto session coming up in November.

Representative Brady: Thank you very much, President Bowman and good evening to the members of the Faculty Senate (Correction: Academic Senate, which has a membership composed of faculty, students, staff and administrators), guests, honorees and chairs. It is nice to be back with you. I don't know that every time that I have been here that I have had to deliver a message of gloom and doom, but certainly one of challenges, to say the least. I do serve on the Appropriations Committee for Higher Education and Higher Education Committee in the Illinois General Assembly. I am also the Republican Caucus Chair on the House side.

President Bowman alluded to a veto session, which would normally be the first week in November. That has been canceled. We now go in on the 19th of November to deal with really a minimal amount of action because we have been in so many special sessions and dealt with what normally would have been dealt with in the fall in a veto session. I am not sure that there is a great deal left to do. We do have a budget, in most respects. President Bowman alluded to a little silver lining in the dark clouds when it comes to higher education, but certainly the problems will continue in the future because of our structural financial problems in the state. The issues of affordability for higher education, tuition reciprocity, grants...the list goes on...will all be struggles in that upcoming General Assembly session.

If I might shift a little bit from higher education just briefly, many of you are probably aware of the fact that we have had some action in the last several weeks to month to try to keep things afloat in the State of Illinois when it comes to funding such things as historic preservation sites, state parks, funding for DASA (Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse) within the Illinois Department of Human Services for the many services that they provide for substance abuse and the many other areas that they work in. We were in the position this time around in these special sessions to respond to the constituency and the constituency wanted those particular areas to remain open and the dollars appropriated. So the General Assembly took a rather unique approach and did what we call a "fund sweep". A fund sweep is taking money appropriated for a dedicated line item and spending it for something else.

Once you open Pandora's Box to do this, you then start down a slippery slope of trying to take care of certain

areas and taking away the dollars from others. That was done by the General Assembly. In fact, I voted 'yes' on that proposal. It was a very difficult position, but, as displeasurable as it was, you are trying to respond to your constituency. I say that because I hold before you tonight a list of funds that were reappropriated, and some of those do touch higher education, to the tune of about \$266 million. We swept those funds and appropriated those funds to go to some of the areas I just talked about to keep those areas open. You have all read about the threats of closure from the Governor and the administration in a number of different areas and we are coming very close to that.

The Governor did sign into law the aspect of the legislation that deals with the fund sweeps for the \$266 million from line items. What he has not acted upon yet is the distribution of those funds. He has until December 6th in which to do so. In other words, where will the dollars go? Will they be appropriated for what the General Assembly has asked? Will the Governor do something different with the funds or not sign the bill and wait for it to become law? Will he amend or veto sections of it, which we have been told is a possibility, and direct the funds elsewhere? We simply don't know. Not a day, or even an hour, goes by in which I am not dealing with people asking that question. I just don't know. It is a very turbulent time in Illinois with the economy overall. When we are faced with situations where you are making decisions to divert funds from one line item to another, instead of general revenue to support things such as higher education, it sets up for a difficult time in the future and we have been through some difficult times in the past.

With that being said, I am here to answer your questions to the best of my ability. We will be going back, as I said, in Springfield for minimal action in the veto session, because we have already dealt with a number of those issues. Then we will be starting a new spring session in January once we are done with the election on November 4th. I am sure that I don't have to remind this group to vote, if you haven't done so already. I certainly would be happy to answer any questions that I can. Thank you again for the opportunity to appear before you.

President Bowman: The pending retirement of the Senate President, Emil Jones, will potentially change the dynamics of the leadership. Is it possible that some of the log jam may ease up a bit with a different individual in that role?

Representative Brady: I think so, yes. For those of you who don't know, what President Bowman is alluding to is that the President of the Senate, Emil Jones, has announced his retirement. Of course there will be a move then for a new President of the Senate, obviously. There has been a stalemate in Springfield, to put it nicely, between the administration, the Governor, the Speaker of the House, Speaker Madigan, and President Jones. I think that it will be a step in the right direction no matter who that is. I happened to have the pleasure Monday evening to be in Chicago with Senator Cullerton. He is certainly vying for that position to represent the democratic majority in the Senate. We will just have to wait and see, but I believe that it will certainly be something that has the potential of undoing the 'log jam', as you put it, and to be at least a step in the right direction because it is a very real and serious problem when it comes to the infighting politically in Springfield.

Senator Borg: Since I am sitting right next to you, I see this list, but can't clearly read it, of funds that were 'swept'. Do any of these funding sources directly affect higher education and/or do you fear that we will see some sort of midyear rescission of the sort that we have suffered in the last eight or ten years? I do know that our colleagues are very concerned about just making it through this school year without facing these sorts of things. Can you comment, to whatever extent you can, about funding for higher education?

Representative Brady: I am an eternal optimist; you have to be, but you can tie some of these funds in to things that would directly or indirectly affect higher education. There are numerous programs. You could look at some change in pension because of the dollars that were taken from the pension funds. That is something that directly affects education and I am sure that there is some interest about that in this room. There are other line items and I would be happy to leave this list with you to go over. Certainly a number of different programs (from which funds were swept) involved licensure dollars that go into funds that you pay in to. So I suppose that you would have to look through the list to see the greatest impact on higher education. The bigger question I think you were posing is, 'what happens down the road?' to restore this \$266 million with the questionable revenue growth that we have in the state. I don't have that crystal ball; I can only say we were able to have a slight increase in the state budget for higher ed. You don't know, because of these types of band-aid approaches, what is down the road.

As President Bowman knows, because he has been through it before, don't spend the last amount of your appropriated budget because who knows what may come up. The bigger picture down the road is a sustainable funding source in this state and, depending on whose figures you believe, how many billions of dollars we are in the hole. The fact of the matter is that these things will only compound the hard choices that will face the next Governor of the State of Illinois. These repeated types of actions, robbing Peter to pay Paul, if you will, will only create a bigger problem without a sustainable revenue source within the state.

Professor Crothers: Is there any awareness in the legislature of this thing going on at the IBHE, the Citizen's Agenda? Does anybody even know anything about it?

Representative Brady: There have discussions on it; however, I don't know the specifics. It is kind of a challenge keeping up on these types of things without looking at somebody else's master plan. I certainly know about a thumbprint of it. There have been discussions, but I think that it is a long way from a finished product.

Senator Wang: Thank you for your continuing support of Illinois State University. My question is related to what you just alluded to and that is the state's economic situation. I would appreciate it if you could comment on that based on the information that you have. What is the General Assembly's projection of the economy of Illinois and to what extent will that affect the funding sources that you just mentioned? Would you elaborate a little on that?

Representative Brady: The general revenue operating fund of the state, combined with everything else, was about a \$54 billion budget this cycle around. I guess the best analogy would be that in order to fill a hole, you have to stop digging first. We have not stopped digging in the State of Illinois. So that means that we are hardly touching the interest on the credit card. These types of actions only compound it, so you really either have a situation in which you have someone from the administration, Bureau of the Budget, General Assembly, what have you, to go in and be very unpopular with more "nos" toward funding, more "nos" towards programs, more focus on priority of needed services in the state and you address that to the best of your ability. Then, in my line of work, which is very politically unpopular, you have someone to say, 'I've tried every avenue I possibly can in reduction, in consolidation, in cuts and everything, and there is no other recourse other than to talk about a tax increase for general support of state aid throughout the State of Illinois.'

There have been discussion that after this election, with the democratic control of the House, Senate and administration, that that may be something that is proposed. I don't know; I will just simply tell you that these types of jumping from one crisis to another, band-aid approaches of trying to fund things simply cannot

continue to go on. We will continue to watch our bond rating slip in the state; we will continue to watch other problems in the state and we will just get further in the hole. Without some type of turn around, and obviously the economy is not going to help us right now, or in the foreseeable future, for natural revenue growth, it is probably going to have to be a consideration of a balance of both of those types of approaches.

Senator Wang: Is there a tax proposal on the table or proposals being circulated?

Representative Brady: There have been a number of different proposals, such as Senate Bill 2283, which is another tax credit proposal for funding education. There was another bill, House Bill 750; it was talked about for a number of years. What that did was not an even swap, but a reduction of property taxes and a potential increase in your personal income tax. Part of that bill did not go anywhere because it was more directed towards dollars for secondary and elementary education that would come in. Then there was a slice that was created for higher education to get more legislators to be more interested in supporting a concept like that. But that did not move out of committee and was not allowed for a vote, on the House floor at least. Those are the types of things that are not advanced because of the stalemate and the political environment surrounding some of the leaders and the administration. This time around, with the compounding financial problems, will that be enough to force people into some type of position like that? We will have to wait and see. Until we can at least have better communication between some of the leaders in Springfield, it's going to continue to be extremely difficult. We can't simply keep going on in this direction and pitting legislators to have to make these types of decisions, sweeping funds from dedicated things that people are counting on. We are compounding and spreading the pain.

Senator Borg: We are going to be facing on the ballot the question of a constitutional convention. During the last convention, higher education was been reorganized with the creation of independent boards for the universities. I will say that I think that that was a good action 15 years ago. If a constitutional convention is approved, are there issues that higher education ought to be attentive to?

Representative Brady: From a structural position in higher education, I do not. I do not see the constitutional convention lending much direction in that process. I was asked this morning a couple of different times at a couple different events about where I stand on the constitutional convention. My answer was that I am not in support of a constitutional convention. There may be a time and place; I don't believe that it is right now. I can't believe that you would want anyone in Springfield writing anymore ideas about what should be done about higher education or anything else in the state right now. The price tag on something like that is estimated at \$70-plus million. I have no idea where we are going to get that. Consider also the fact that we can't even get the ballot question written correctly for the people across Illinois to make their decision. So to go much further and ask for those throughout Springfield to write a change to the constitution at a convention, I just don't see this as the time. We have too many other pressing problems in my opinion.

Senator Borg: I appreciate your opinion on that. That is not exactly what I was asking, though. Perhaps more directly, what do we have to fear? I think you alluded to that.

Representative Brady: What do we have to fear? I sure would rather see an increase in higher education than spending over \$70 million on a constitutional convention rewrite.

Senator Van der Laan: My question is only mildly flippant. It is about the ethics training we do every year. I am wondering if we are making any progress in the legislature to eliminate that and save I don't know how much money and time on something that, to me, is a fairly pointless exercise.

Representative Brady: The progress is all in how you measure progress, I guess. I would say that I don't see that we are making progress on eliminating that. Unfortunately, it is something that is here and probably eliminating it is going to be more of a challenge in the present environment with the present administration. I would just say that when we had some degrees of difficulty, we worked with a number of individuals from Illinois State, and there may be some of you in the room, SIU and other universities. I got the dubious task of working with the Inspector General and his office to try and cipher through all of this. While I think we made some headway, I don't see anything on the horizon eliminating it. It is more waste and bureaucracy. Quite frankly, I was against an Inspector General Division solely for higher education because there are just too many other places where there are priorities right now. I will continue to advocate on that, but that is going to be an uphill battle in the present environment.

President Bowman: After this year, the training will be managed by public universities, so presumably the training package will be more relevant.

Senator Holland: I can offer you the highest praise that can come from me in that in 38 years of elections, you are the one republican that I have always supported. You have done such a fabulous job for ISU.

Representative Brady: Thank you very much. We have had great working relationships I might say, not just with President Bowman in the administration, but with all of you and so many others, because we have a common goal and that is to do everything we can, not only for Illinois State, but for public higher education.

Senator Holland: My observation is that the \$266 million could do a lot for ISU.

Representative Brady: The only problem is the many line items for individuals who will say, 'that's my money and hands off.'

Senator Holland: Is there any possibility at all for a capital budget, since we haven't had one in so long?

Representative Brady: That's a very good question. It is one that many of us have been working on for quite some time. In fact, it put me in a position to vote for something for which I normally would not have voted for, quite frankly, and that is gaming in the State of Illinois. I did make that vote in the hopes that it would undo some of the log jam.

We have, for years now, been trying to get a capital bill. It has been over nine years. I thought that we were a little bit closer with former Governor Poshard and Speaker Dennis Hastert in a bipartisan approach in working with the Governor, but the complete log jam, quite frankly, is between Governor Blagojevich and Speaker Madigan. I don't know how we are going to get past that in the very near future. There may be a smaller capital bill; we are continuing to work on it. It's just that it has eluded us so many times and we have numerous projects on the list, for not only Illinois State, but for our universities across the state. We will continue working on it, but I don't see anything happening very quickly.

As we know, as things continue to deteriorate and as the costs increase for materials, we have less ability to do things capital-wise. We are not any closer than we were a few months ago. We will continue to advocate on behalf of universities and so many others. We can call it a capital bill, but I refer to it as a 'jobs bill' because of the jobs we will create when we put people back to work to get some of these things done across the state. So, it is going to continue to be a work in progress.

The Senate expressed its appreciation to Representative Brady for his comments to the Senate and for the work he has done on behalf of public higher education. In closing, Representative Brady thanked each and every one of us for what we do.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Holland: I would like to congratulate everybody on a fabulous Homecoming. All kinds of wonderful things happened there, except for winning the football game. As has been mentioned already, there is an election coming up. I think that it is in 13 days now. Whoever you want to vote for, just vote. I would like to point out something you may not have heard yet, but we now have the champion pumpkin chunking team in the entire state. We have a trebuchet, which threw a 10-pound pumpkin 953 feet.

Student Body President's Remarks

Student Body President Mason: This past Monday, October 20th, we had a mock presidential debate. We did that in collaboration with the "Trust Me, I'm a Voter" Campaign and the ISU Debate Team. That was a great experience for all of the students that came. The format was such that they did not tell you which candidate was arguing each issue. You would write down what they stood for and then after they explained the issues, you would figure out which candidate it was. So, you would figure out which issues you stood for and then which candidate you wanted to vote for. That was really successful.

Coming up this Saturday, October 25th, during tailgating, our off-campus senators are going to be talking to students about how to recycle if you live off campus and handing out surveys to them. They will be out there from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m.

Lastly, coming up on Tuesday, October 28th, will be our "Pack the House" for *Dracula*, which is our plug to move some school spirit into the fine arts. We have purchased 250 tickets, so students can stop by our office to get free vouchers for that. Please tell your students to get them.

Administrators' Remarks:

· President Al Bowman

President Bowman: I have just a couple of comments about Homecoming. A number of people in this room and around campus put in a lot of time. It was very successful. We had the largest attendance in our history. We had 85 department guests at our Homecoming luncheon on Friday. Many of those people are very successful and major supporters of the institution. We had literally hundreds of major donors on campus this weekend, so it could not have gone any better. We unveiled the Alumni Center on Saturday night and had close to 600 people there. It was a very distinguished event that I think went a long way in building those important relationships with our supporters.

I have been out of town a fair amount lately and I can't recall if I have mentioned to this group that our graduation rate is now at an all-time high. Provost Everts may have mentioned that. It is at 69.9%. That is a phenomenal number. The national average is 56% and I think that it is very likely that we will be in the 70s. Our retention rate for this year is 84%. Both the graduation and retention rates are the second highest among public universities in the state.

The fall 09 application process is underway and, of course, this is a busy time of the year for the admissions staff with open houses. You see groups of perspective students around campus on visits. The open houses that we have hosted so far have seen larger attendances than last year and last year was a record. The application numbers are already up over where they were last year, although it is still fairly early in the process. I want to

publicly compliment, which I did in the State of the University Address, but I also wanted to do it in front of this group, Dr. Custer in the healthy increase in our external grant numbers for the year that ended June 30th. There was a 23% increase over last year. That is nearly \$23 million in external grants. I have to believe that Dr. Custer's work and Dr. Sakaluk's work has really made a tremendous difference, so thank you for your efforts.

At the next meeting, I think that I will come in with a list of federal legislative matters that affect higher education. One I will mention tonight because it will have a major impact on this campus. As you know, congress and the President have signed a new GI bill. That GI bill expands benefits by a wide margin over what they are today. It will cost \$62 billion over the next ten years. The bill was passed without a revenue stream, so, unfortunately, that \$62 billion will go into the deficit going forward, but what it covers is the full cost of attendance to any public university. Veterans will also receive \$1,000 a year for books and a monthly stipend for living expenses that will vary by zip code, but that will average about \$1,100 a month. It is a major increase.

We have had issues with the County Clerk, Peggy Milton, as you know. I have had complaints from students about voter registration issues. I am planning to meet with her tomorrow afternoon. We had a long conversation about these issues four years ago and I want to express to her our expectations as a campus about how that process should be run. I have been encouraged by some of the things I am hearing her say, but I am still very concerned about the large number of registrations that simply have not been processed by that office. A number of people have worked with her and her office, but I plan to weigh in tomorrow.

Senator Stewart: At the Homecoming lunch on Thursday, you talked about some kind of national survey of students on their knowledge of government and the rankings of Harvard, Yale and ISU. Would you repeat that?

President Bowman: Sure. It was a national survey of 14,000 students, I believe, and they were administered a test on civics and history. The bottom three institutions were Duke, Stanford and Columbia. We were ranked number 8. I haven't talked about it a lot because the scores for all of the institutions were not that great, but I felt good about our relative rank.

Senator Gudding: President Bowman, you mentioned 14,000 students. How many institutions were involved?

President Bowman: There were 50 institutions.

· **Provost Sheri Everts**

Provost Everts: I just want to give an update of two ongoing dean searches. I also want to thank those of you who welcomed the CAST dean candidates who were on campus. The final candidate for the CAST dean search left campus yesterday and if you have not already forwarded your input and feedback to the search committee, I would welcome that. I would also say that in talking with each and every one of those candidates, they were very appreciative of how welcoming the campus was and were very excited about the opportunity to be on campus. Also, the College of Business dean search is progressing. We anticipate inviting three to four candidates to on-campus interviews before the end of the calendar year. Thank you also to the committee members who have worked very hard to get us to this point already.

Also, I would just add just a couple of additional details associated with that freshman application pool that

the President mentioned. 433 applications have been received from students with a 28 or higher ACT and of this group, we have already admitted 261 of those students. Also, in response to a question Senator Mason asked me this afternoon, we are seeing an increase of 33% in Hispanic applications over last year at this time and an increase of 31% in Black-Non-Hispanic applications over this same time last year. We have a couple of additional communications associated with national searches, but I believe that is on the agenda for later in the meeting.

· *Vice President of Student Affairs Steve Adams*

Vice President Adams: Homecoming week has been mentioned, but I just want to say that I give a lot of credit to the students. I have been here a long time and I don't think that I have seen as much school spirit that has been coordinated so very well by a number of organizations. All of you deserve a tremendous amount of credit. There are so many different groups to recognize for their contributions to Homecoming, but, in particular, tonight, I would like to single out the University Program Board for all of the events that took place all week long. They were very well organized and very well carried out. I would like to express my appreciation to Red Alert, especially as far as the record number of members in Red Alert, to the Student Government Association and to the Association of Residence Halls. You always run the risk of leaving someone out, but those four organizations, in particular, stand out in my mind.

President Bowman mentioned the unveiling of the new Alumni Center on Saturday night. Indeed, it was a wonderful event, but I was struck by the amount of student involvement in that event. There were 600 people there, and Student Affairs, alone, sponsored 35 students who attended. I know for a fact that other departments, colleges, etc., also sponsored students. The students were dressed very nicely and their attitude toward the event was very, very appropriate. They had a chance to rub elbows with people from Illinois State University, from Bloomington-Normal and certainly from across the country, because there were alums there from other parts of the country.

The third item I want to talk about is the event that was held last Thursday afternoon, which was the groundbreaking ceremony for the new student fitness, kinesiology and recreation building. It was a historic moment for Illinois State University. That \$50 million project, which is the largest project that the university has undertaken for a single facility, will be a major draw for this campus. The classrooms, the majors, and all of the things that we have that are so important to this institution will only be enhanced with that building and how the students will react to that. I will remind everybody that it is scheduled to open in early 2011, so that that is the time table that we have.

A final item that I will mention is an update on the east campus renovation project. Believe it or not, after two months into the academic year, we are finally putting the finishing touches on Hewitt Hall. You would think that the finishing touches would have been put on Hewitt Hall prior to the time that this academic year began, but that was not the case for a variety of reasons. The students living in Hewitt have responded very favorably, however, and I think that when it is all said and done, there will not be any question that they are in a quality facility. I will tell you that Manchester is offline this year, but it is on schedule at this time for the fall of 2009 opening and I will remind everybody that that will increase, and I think that I have said this before, the number of residence hall spaces somewhere in the neighborhood of 700 for the fall of 09.

Vrooman, which used to be a dining center, of course, has been closed down during this renovation. It is being remodeled into a combination Student Affairs/Academic Affairs building. We will have classrooms and other support offices for academics. It is set for a January 2009 opening as a check-in point for Hewitt Hall. I think that you are going to be pleasantly surprised at the stunning transformation that Vrooman has taken.

Senator Thompson: Where will the students in Hewitt eat?

Vice President Adams: There is no dining center in Hewitt or Manchester. The amount of participation in the dining center when Vrooman was a dining center was declining rapidly. We made the decision that we would close Vrooman down and that they would walk one block to the Watterson commons and have their meals there. There will be, however, a grab and go station in the Vrooman area for breakfast, lunch and dinner, offering food such as pastries, bagels, sandwiches, orange juice, coffee and those sorts of things. They will have food available to them, but for their meal plan, they will be required to go to Watterson or to any other dining center on campus.

Senator Lund: With that being said, what about the Subway in Manchester? Will that remain in Manchester?

Vice President Adams: The combination restaurant will likely be a Subway restaurant. The management of Subway has agreed to serve a variety of food and so it will be moved to a more central location for both halls.

· *Vice President of Finance and Planning Steve Bragg - Absent*

Committee Reports:

· *Academic Affairs Committee*

Senator Stewart: The committee has been charged with drafting a policy concerning dress codes at ISU and to that end, we have formed a subcommittee. We hope to have some kind of document ready to give over to Rules and as soon as we do, they will be getting that.

Senator Lonbom: I just want to get a clarification. Did you say a dress code for the university?

Senator Stewart: We are not writing a dress code for the university, but a policy statement concerning dress codes at the university.

· *Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee*

Senator Preston: As Dr. Holland announced at the beginning of the meeting, Senator Kalter is out tonight with a ruptured appendix. Obviously, she is in our thoughts tonight for a speedy recovery and, as a matter of protocol, I will be giving our committee report to the Senate tonight. Dr. Holland and Provost Everts presented on the circumstances surrounding the Mennonite College of Nursing Dean Search Committee. There will be a more detailed presentation to the Senate later on tonight, but I will briefly discuss, in part, of what was brought before our committee. There was a request for an additional non-tenure track faculty member from College of Nursing to serve with a second non-tenure-track and four tenured/tenure-track faculty on the college dean search committee. There was also a request for the obligation to have a chairperson from the college serve on the committee be withdrawn, as there is no chairperson in the college. Both of those requests were approved by the committee and, again, will be presented later tonight to the Senate.

Another thing that we discussed was the Academic Dean Responsibilities, Appointment, Compensation, Terms and Evaluations Policy, which was presented to the Senate on September 24th. You do not have that document tonight, but one recommendation made by the Senate to the committee was that the dean's responsibilities include, but are not limited to, "leading the processes of college administrator selection and overseeing faculty and staff selection and retention processes." That minor addition of "and retention" was

accepted by the committee tonight.

· *Faculty Affairs Committee*

Senator Borg: We continued our discussion this evening of what we are charged to do for the year. We are very happy that the establishment of a childcare center has been taken off of our agenda with the announcement by the President at his State of the University Address. We did receive a report from the University Ombudsperson and we are crafting a suggestion for continuing the process of his reporting, as it now stands, in response to a suggestion that we develop some sort of evaluation of the position. When that is introduced to the Senate, we can discuss the various ramifications of what evaluation actually means in that case. We continue the discussion of faculty retention and recruitment that was charged to the committee some six years ago and has gotten virtually no where in terms in just what exactly we are supposed to be dealing with. We will bring those issues to you when we get them in a format that we can present to the Senate.

· *Planning and Finance Committee*

Senator Fazel: Tonight, we had Dr. Mardell Wilson, the Director of Summer School, as our guest. We had an excellent discussion of summer models, enrollment, resources, allocation of funds across colleges and also the merits and challenges of offering winter courses and additional summer courses.

· *Rules Committee*

Senator Solberg: We will bring as an Action Item to you this evening the Council for Teacher Education Bylaws. In addition to that, we have received and will be discussing at our next meeting, the change in the bylaws of the Milner Library Faculty Council, at least one change that I am aware of, anyway. I think that we are approaching some kind of closure on the Mennonite College of Nursing representation on the Council on General Education. I think we are getting close to resolving that.

Action Item:

07.24.08.01 Council for Teacher Education Bylaws – Revised By CTE (Rules Committee)

Senator Holland: We saw the Council for Teacher Education Bylaws two weeks ago as an Information Item.

Senator Solberg: The bylaws were distributed to the Senate Executive Committee on August 18, 2008. The Rules Committee unanimously approved the revisions to the bylaws. They were discussed last week.

Motion XXXX-24: By Senator Solberg to approve the Council for Teacher Education Bylaws as revised by the council without additional revision by the Rules Committee.

Senator Borg: I do notice under Article III, C1, the Council Chairperson is selected by the Provost in consultation with the deans and I would like to observe, if my memory serves correctly, that the Council Chairperson has always been the Dean of the College of Education. I think my concern is that if that is indeed the case, why are we not changing the statement here, or do we really intend in these bylaws to allow the flexibility that apparently has never been exercised? I do apologize for not being at the meeting two weeks ago to ask the question.

Senator Solberg: That was not a proposed changed. It was not something that we addressed in our committee.

Senator Holland: I am assuming that these bylaws were brought to you by the Council itself.

Senator Solberg: That's correct.

Senator Borg: I am assuming that there is no issue; it's just that I am wondering about the language. It could be that this dates all the way back to the first approval, which was in 1989.

Senator Solberg: I am unaware of any issue and I don't know if that is something that you suggest we look at.

Senator Borg: No, I have no objection at this point.

The Council for Teacher Education Bylaws, as revised by CTE, were unanimously approved with no additional revisions.

ADDENDUM: Information Item:

10.22.08.01 Mennonite College of Nursing Dean Search Committee Composition

Senator Holland: Officially, there are no information items on our agenda, but I would like to make a motion as the Chair (on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Senate) to add an Information Item to the agenda. The document that I just passed around to you is about the makeup of the Mennonite College of Nursing Dean Search Committee. I believe that it takes two-thirds of the Senate voting in favor of changing the agenda for the motion to pass.

Senator Borg: This is in lieu of the Executive Committee proposing it as part of the Senate's agenda, so it is being added after the agenda has been established.

Senator Holland: The reason for this is that we are in prime dean searching time right now and we would like to get this committee formed as fast as possible.

Motion XXXX-25: By Senator Holland to add an Information Item to the Senate's agenda. There was no debate and the motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Holland: The Mennonite College of Nursing is somewhat of a special case among our colleges in that it is college with one department. So, there is no department chair; there is only a dean. If you look at the administrator selection policy, and I printed the relevant section on Information Item I just distributed, it specifically states, "one current or former department chair or school director from that college." Since there is no chair or director, I am proposing that that just be a position that is waived. The situation is that the college has 12 tenured/tenure-track faculty, 12 full-time non-tenure-track faculty and 18 part-time non-tenure-track faculty. Since whoever is selected as dean will have to work very effectively with tenured/tenure-track faculty as well as non-tenure-track faculty, the college has requested that there be an additional non-tenure-track faculty member on the search committee.

Senator Borg: Essentially, what we are being asked to do is to replace the department chair requirement with an additional non-tenure-track rather than a tenure track, in terms of absolute numbers. Is that not correct?

Senator Mallory: If you want to look at it that way, you may, but we don't see it that way from the college's perspective. We don't have a chair, so that is not an issue for us, but we do have a large number of non-tenure-track faculty and felt that a more proportionate representation of those folks would be fair.

Senator Borg: I agree wholeheartedly with this. I am just looking at it from my understanding of when

Mennonite was brought on board to the university and there were no tenured professors, other than the dean. There has always been a kind of an agreement of an exception because of that. I applaud the thoughtfulness of the college for coming up with a solution, but I am looking to the fact that other colleges may also try appealing in various senses of this. I want to assure them that you are not getting either an advantage or a disadvantage because of this. If from another college perspective, you view it as saying the absolute number of the committee remains the same and the representation is simply exchanging one for another, that might be more acceptable to people who might not understand your situation.

Senator Holland: I did type this up very quickly.

Senator Borg: Yes, I do see that it says, “temporary changes for this search only”, but we need to make sure that those caveats are actually paid attention to.

Senator Holland: And this is something that the Rules Committee may want to consider making some kind of permanent adjustment for, but I am not sure.

Senator Van der Laan: Is there any provision that the additional NTT faculty will be either full-time or part-time?

Senator Mallory: I think from our college’s perspective, we were thinking that this would be a full-time non-tenure-track faculty member.

Senator Van der Laan: Shouldn’t that be spelled out?

Senator Holland: If you would like that addition, I would certainly take that as a Friendly Amendment.

Senator Mallory: I think that we could specify that there will be one additional full-time non-tenure-track faculty member. I am sure that the faculty would be in agreement with that.

Senator Borg: We would need to accept a Friendly Amendment during the action stage.

Senator Holland: Are there any further questions? Typically, I don’t like to take something straight from an Information Item to an Action Item on the same night. It is generally a good idea to think about it. I don’t think that there is a lot of controversy about this. They want to get the dean search going as fast as possible, because they have to form the committee, meet, write a job description, get that through ODAA and any other number steps that you can think of.

Motion XXXX-26: For the expediency of the dean search, Senator Long made a motion to move the item to action. The motion was seconded by Senator Stewart. It takes a two-thirds majority to move an Information Item to an Action Item. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion XXXX-27: Since the item was not brought before the Senate by an Internal Committee, Senator Holland made a motion to approve the exemptions requested for the Mennonite College of Nursing Dean Search Committee with the item moving forward under the assumption that it was put forth by the Executive Committee. As Chair of the Executive Committee, Senator Holland’s motion needed no second, per the Senate Parliamentarian, Senator Borg.

Senator Mallory: I propose that we amend item number 1 to say that there will be one additional full-time

non-tenure-track faculty member added to the committee.

Senator Holland: I agree to that and accept it as a Friendly Amendment.

Senator Borg: I would like to speak in favor of the proposal. I think that it is a very good suggestion and in the spirit of the entire agreement that brought Mennonite College of Nursing to the Illinois State University campus almost ten years ago.

Senator Ellerton: Do we need to pass a motion concerning the total number on the search committee?

Senator Holland: No, these are two specific changes. The total number makes no difference at this point. We are just considering two specific waivers.

Question Moved: Senator Long moved the previous question, in essence, calling for a vote on the motion to approve or not approve the Action Item. There were no objections to proceeding to a vote.

Vote on Action Item: The waivers requested for the Mennonite College of Nursing Dean Search Committee, with the revision that the additional non-tenure-track faculty member of the committee would be a full-time non-tenure-track faculty member, were unanimously approved.

Communications:

10.03.08.01 Chief Information Officer Search Notification (Provost Everts)

Senator Holland: Our first communication is the Chief Information Officer search notification coming from Provost Everts.

Provost Everts: I would just mention that following consultation with President Bowman, all of the Vice Presidents and Senator Holland, and looking back at the university's information technology strategic plan, this was a step forward that makes sense in regard to an institution the size of Illinois State University. Just in some of the research that we have done, of the six institutions in our benchmark group, Illinois State is the only campus without a Chief Information Officer.

Senator Wang: How does this position fit into the overall university structure?

Provost Everts: What we anticipate is that this will be a position that will probably report to the Provost. Again, given the communication spelled out in the letter, the locus of responsibility for a single individual is the key piece.

Senator Wang: And the responsibilities?

Provost Everts: For all of the aspects of IT on the campus.

Senator Holland: Right now, there are the academic and the administrative sides of computing.

Senator Borg: I was on a committee ten years ago to appoint a vice president in charge of information technology. The search failed and there was considerable discussion both during the process of the search as well as during the aftermath. The concern was the competition between information technology that reports to the office having to do with recordkeeping and salaries, essentially, to the Office of the Vice President of Finance and Planning, and the academic side of the issue. Has that been resolved to the administration's

satisfaction and will this indeed be a person who has the ultimate responsibility? I think that this is one of the things that Senator Wang was referring to. Will it be a responsible position that will be supported on all levels?

Provost Everts: Yes, and that is also the reason that you see the two vice presidents it is from. So that has been addressed.

Senator Borg: Well I was slightly concerned when you say it is “intended to be” or it is “planned to be”.

Provost Everts: Absolutely not. The conversation has occurred, I believe since I arrived on campus, in the President’s leadership group to ensure that what happened ten years ago does not happen this time.

Senator Lonbom: What is the timeline for the search?

Provost Everts: We are attempting to move ahead rapidly with this search. I would also underscore that we are working with Gartner. As we have started those conversations with Gartner, they are informally getting the word out that Illinois State is looking for a Chief Information Officer. They also assured us that we can anticipate an excellent pool, again, because we are Illinois State. I am new here, so I can brag about the fact that we are Illinois State. I think that everyone here is too humble about the fact that this is Illinois State, so they are anticipating a really impressive pool of candidates.

Senator Borg: Senator Lonbom has inspired me to ask the inevitable question. Will there be direct participation on this committee from Milner Library?

Provost Everts: Yes, absolutely. That is a key connection that we have addressed many times in conversations.

10.07.08.01 *Textbook Costs Memo (From Richard Durbin, U.S. Senator) (Excerpt of Senate Minutes of 11/13/00 Included)*

Senator Holland: Our next communication is a memo from Senator Durbin concerning textbooks. The primary thing that he is noting is that textbooks have become a very, very expensive item. The average cost of books for a full-time freshman is nearly \$900. He is looking for some relief to that. What they are asking for is to try to get, to the maximum extent practicable, book information, including ISBN numbers and prices in the course schedules. At least that way, you could go online and perhaps get it for a lower price, but I would hate to think that students would start choosing their courses based on the price of a book.

Senator Mallory: As a parent of a university student, I think if they are having to chose between Gen Ed courses and it is all the same to them, I would rather they choose a course that is more affordable.

Senator Borg: As a teacher of Gen Ed courses and a coauthor of a text that we use on occasion, published as inexpensively as we possibly could, I at times resent this insistence that the universities take responsibilities for cost cuttings that ought to belong to publishers. I also am increasingly concerned that students, in their eagerness to obtain used copies of books, might be deceived into getting earlier editions that are not part of the curriculum.

Senator Holland: Hopefully, that would be addressed with an actual ISBN number. I was shocked when I discovered the book for my class costs \$210. I was also perfectly happy for them to use an earlier edition because analytical mechanics hasn’t changed much in 200 years.

10.18.08.01 Mennonite College of Nursing Dean Search Notification (Provost Everts)

Senator Holland: We next have, what we are all now well acquainted with because of our Information Item this evening, a notification from Provost Everts about an impending dean search.

Provost Everts: I would like to thank you for addressing the faculty concerns so quickly and promptly.

Additional Communications**Fine Arts Events**

Senator Borg: I would like to invite you to a number of events in the College of Fine Arts. You have heard the Student Government's mention of the play, *Dracula*, which is the big main stage production in the Center for Performing Arts Theatre starting this coming Friday. There is a new show in the Universities Galleries.

A number of concerts are on tap, including the large scale fall production of the Civic Chorale, Concert Choir and University Symphony performing the Durufle *Requiem* and symphony of songs by Stravinsky, an absolutely stellar work from 1930. In addition, there will be a reflection on that composed by a faculty colleague of ours. He just abandoned us this fall for a different university, but he will be returning for the performance on Sunday at 3:00 p.m. I also will personally invite you to an event on Tuesday evening, November 4th, at which I will be performing with my new faculty colleague pianist. We are doing the *Bartók Sonata* for two pianos and percussion, as well as the four-hand version of Stravinsky's *Petrushka*.

Book Event

Senator Lonbom: Tomorrow evening, Milner Library and Wesleyan's Ames Library is hosting the author, Tim O'Brien, here in the Old Main Room at 7:00 p.m.

Halloween Event

Senator Lund: For Halloween, during the upcoming weekend, we will have a haunted house called "Reggie's House of Horror" here in the Bone Student Center on the third floor. The proceeds of the event will be going toward the support of scholarships in the School of Music.

Alexander Hamilton Exhibit

Senator Solberg: The Alexander Hamilton exhibit is going on in Milner Library on the second floor. It is very well done, including life-size statues of Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr.

Board of Trustees Meeting

Senator Bagnuolo: On Friday at 9:00 a.m., the Board of Trustees will be meeting here in the Old Main Room. If you have any interest in the agenda, it is located just down the hall where the Board of Trustees' pictures are. It would be nice to see some of you come out to attend that meeting.

Physics Demonstration

On Friday, October 31st, at 3:00 p.m., the Physics Club will be dropping pumpkins from the climbing tower to demonstrate the effects of gravity...that a large pumpkin and a small pumpkin fall at the same rate. The one that I am truly hoping to see, if we are able to have it, is the competition of Mac versus PC.

Adjournment

Motion XXXX-28: By Senator Klitzing, second by Senator Stewart, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.

