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Senate Meeting, September 28, 2016

Academic Senate
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Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, September 28, 2016
(Approved)

Call to Order

Senator Kalter called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Senator Gizzi called the roll and declared a quorum.

Senator Kalter: Good evening. They've given me a new microphone, which is kind of dangerous, actually. Apparently I did damage with the last one. All right. We start out tonight with a presentation. Apparently, the cold season is going around enough that Charles Harris, who is ISU's State Annuitants Association President, was unable to come at the last minute. But we do have Larry Alferink (former Senator Alferink), who is the Annuitants President statewide, here to give us an update on Annuitants Association legislative issues going on or not going on at our state level.

Annuitants Association Legislative Issues (Larry Alferink, Annuitants President- Statewide, Charlie Harris, ISUAA President)

Dr. Alferink: Thank you, Susan. Sorry that Charlie couldn't be here. He said he had the sniffles and didn't want to pass them along, and you can all be grateful to him for that. As Susan indicated, I'm president of SUAA statewide. SUAA has appropriately 16,000 members on all the public university campuses and all the community college campuses. I didn't come last year because, as you may recall, nothing was happening. It is my pleasure to report that that's true this year as well. Not much has changed. But the difference this year is that there's an election on November 8th, and that could produce some changes. The governor has put in a ton of money trying to change the composition of the legislature, and he will probably gain at most four seats in the House. That's the most expensive four seats that the state has ever seen. And he's clearly not looking at this year's election because this year's election is a presidential election and the presidential candidate on the Republican side is not very popular in the State of Illinois, depending upon which part of the state you're in, certainly very popular in Southern Illinois, not very popular in the collar counties, but that will have an effect on the down-ballot elections as well. So he's clearly looking forward to 2018 and so there is some concern that what we've seen for the last year or two may continue for several years. So we have some things to look forward to.

I'm always the bearer of good tidings. As those of you who've been here a while know, we've been involved in several lawsuits that helped protect your pensions and also were involved in the Kanerva Lawsuit dealing with healthcare benefits that actually just benefited those that retired, in terms of our participation, and I testified in that lawsuit and I'm happy to say that that was good. I'm not so happy to say that the bad news is not necessarily over. The state clearly is interested in trying to reduce the cost of healthcare, and you are aware that the governor is in negotiations with AFSCME that is not going very well and it's not moving very much and clearly wants to increase the cost of employee healthcare across the state. Whether that will happen or not, nobody knows. So we'll have to wait and see. What I can say is that there are several solutions to a constitutional issue, and one is that it could happen as the result of collective bargaining agreements. A collective bargaining agreement means that there's a contract that's been entered into and that both parties have negotiated in that contract and have come to an agreement about the terms of that contract. So, under some circumstances, at least, your healthcare costs could increase as a result of those contract negotiations. However, we, on the advice of our attorney, took a stance that protects your legal interests, and we are not bound by the terms of that contract. We can sue even if the contract is agreed to by the Union and by the governor, and the Central Management Services is aware of that. They know the position that we took that protected our ability to sue, and they're being very careful and walking carefully about how they proceed with respect to the cost of healthcare. What that will result, I don't know. No one does as far as I know. But they can only increase the cost of healthcare within a limited range. They can pass along, if their costs go up, your costs can go up as well,

but it can only go up roughly proportionately. So your proportional share of the state healthcare costs have to stay approximately the same. They cannot massively increase relative to the state's costs, and that's a good thing. It's reasonable if your costs go up if overall healthcare costs go up, as they do, but the state can't suddenly say you now have to pay 75% of the healthcare costs, and we've protected our ability to protect you in that interest.

Number two, there are lots of discussions going on even though nothing is happening between the leadership in the legislature and the governor's office. There's lots of stuff going on and conversations among members of the legislature in both the Senate and the House among members of both parties, and there are some agreements that they're getting tentatively close to. There is one agreement that was reached this past summer that had to do with the bailout of the Chicago Public Schools and that required that there would be pension reform that was done. In order to meet the side of the agreement from the legislature, Chicago had to support a pension reform provision. The good news is that, as I understand it based on those conversations, that probably won't affect any person individually, either from among those that are currently employed or among those that are retired. The agreement is that they're going to work this out through some bookkeeping tricks so that... For example, TRS recently changed their funding rules with respect to the cost of pensions, which drastically increased the cost to the state to fund the pension system. They basically reduced the expected rate of return and, oddly enough, that increases state costs. And they're going to handle those kinds of issues by smoothing them out over a longer period of time rather than handling them as a single instance in one year, and that means that they'll handle it through bookkeeping magic rather than through bills that will have potentially very devastating effects on any of you.

However, there is a bill, Senate Bill 2404, that was passed in the Senate in 2013. It is supported by Senator Cullerton, who is the President of the Senate, the Democratic leader of the Senate, and supported by the governor. It has rather draconian features, and to summarize those for you, it basically is based on an analysis of the State Constitution and Article XIII, Section 5, which includes a provision that says that your pension is basically a contract. And there's a legal scholar who argues that a contract can be renegotiated. That you can change the terms of a contract if you provide consideration and exchange. If you give up something, you get something else in return. The consideration here is not something anybody's going to like, but he argues that it's still legally a consideration under contract law. They would give you a choice, and that's the key feature, he argues, a choice between two different scenarios. Currently, all retirees get an annual automatic increase of 3% to their pension. Those are individuals who were hired prior to January 1, 2011. Individuals after that are in tier 2. This is for tier 1. Tier 2 has provisions that aren't as generous, and we'll talk briefly about that as well because this next year could be critical for those individuals. The choice would be, instead of having compounded 3% interest, you would get 3% simple interest or one-half of the cost of living as the annual increase and you would not get that increase for the first five years after retirement unless you've reached age 67. Those are currently the provisions for tier 2 individuals. If you decided not to take advantage of that offer, you then would have the ability to have your salary frozen as your pensionable salary and your pension would be based on your salary at that particular moment and any future pay raises would not increase your pension. You also wouldn't pay for that higher salary cost. You'd only pay for the cost that the salary that was frozen, so you'd pay 8% of your frozen salary, not 8% of your salary as it increased over the years. But that would be the deal. Both of those are bad, and both of those would diminish your pension. Both of those, I believe, would lead to migration of faculty to other states and other individuals as well. So it is not a way to hire and retain good people.

So, that's what's there. It has not been introduced this year, and therefore it does not have a new bill number. Whether it could be re-introduced or not, I don't know. And no one knows whether it will be re-introduced. Senator Cullerton is sitting on it, and I've talked to legislators in the Senate and they don't know where it's at. They don't know if it'll be introduced after the November 8th election and whether it's being held for political reasons or whether it's being held because there have been some people who have criticized it as being unconstitutional and that Senator Cullerton may have been persuaded that perhaps it's not constitutional after all and introducing it would simply involve the state in another expensive lawsuit, which I personally am not in

favor of because the last one was very expensive. So, there's things on the horizon. It may be okay and it may be that we'll be back in court and we'll have to wait and see.

Those individuals who are in tier 2, your pension will not be as good as mine is. I'm sorry to say that that's true. But the state must meet the requirements of Social Security. Social Security has a Safe Harbor Provision that allows the universities in Illinois and the community colleges in Illinois and the public school systems in Illinois not to have teachers and many other employees in school districts - some of the office staff are in a different system - but the teachers in public schools and university employees do not pay into Social Security. Instead, they have a pension system that's supposed to be a substitute, or replacement, for Social Security. But Social Security requires the state, in exchange for allowing it to have its own pension system, that that pension system meet provisions that are called Safe Harbor Provisions. And if they don't, if they run afoul with Safe Harbor, that's not good news. There are many people who think that tier 2 may run afoul of Safe Harbor this next year. Nobody knows for sure because the IRS will not issue an opinion until there's an actual case of somebody who's retired who falls short of what Safe Harbor requires. And so we won't know whether it violates Safe Harbor or not until somebody retires in 2017. That's the first year in which that could come into play. I'm not an expert on what this would do, but my understanding from the Teachers Retirement System is that that is not good news for the university nor for tier 2 participants because it would mean that they would have to pay 6.2% into Social Security in addition to the 8% they're paying (or whatever it is that tier 2 requires) into SURS and that the university also would have to pay 6.2% for those individuals in tier 2. So in addition to all the other budget problems the university has, it could have a 6.2% cut in its budget as a surprise if discovered that, in fact, tier 2 violates Safe Harbor Provisions. And the legislature is so busy, occupied with other issues like having a budget, which would be nice - I'm sure the president would appreciate having a budget - and they're not dealing with this at all. So we'll just have to wait and see what happens.

Some possible good news is that, and this question has come up periodically in the past, concerning the Windfall Elimination Provision of Social Security. Those of you that are familiar with this, if you have employment with an employer that does not participate in Social Security but you have earned Social Security credits through other employment, either before you worked for that employer or after or during, and you have your 40 quarters in (making you eligible for Social Security), your Social Security benefit will be reduced by up to 50%. It's called the Windfall Elimination Provision and it's by many people considered quite unfair. There have been bills in the past introduced in the Congress, and as many as 300 members of Congress have signed supporting those bills, but it was clear that it would never be drawn for a vote because Social Security is in financial difficulty and eliminating the Windfall Elimination Provision, increasing Social Security benefits for all of us, would simply make that situation worse. There is a new provision, and there are several bills that are happening right now. There has been a hearing on one of those bills. It has a number of 711, so it's a gamble. But the House Ways and Means Committee has held hearings on this. It's been introduced by the chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, so it has support on the Republican side and the House. It also has support from the administration on the Democratic side. It wouldn't eliminate the Windfall Elimination Provision, but it would significantly change how it is computed and for many people it would mean that their Windfall Elimination Provision deduction would be cut roughly in half. So instead of being cut by 50%, they might be cut by maybe 25% or so.

Now, the downside is that there are some people that will lose. If you have 30 years of significant employment covered by Social Security, you are exempt from the Windfall Elimination Provision so it doesn't apply to you. If this bill passes, it will apply to them and they will see a reduction in their benefits. In addition, there are people who should be subject to Windfall Elimination Provisions that are not. It's not clear that the Social Security Administration has the enforcement provisions to go after people, and I think these are people who start collecting Social Security before they retire and draw their state pension and Social Security never finds out about the fact that they have a state pension and are now drawing Social Security. I'm not sure where this is, but there will be an enforcement provision at least in one version of this bill and between those provisions, even though my Social Security benefits would increase and some of yours would increase, Social Security would gain 3.5 billion dollars over ten years. That's why there's a possibility this bill might pass. It's on hold

right now because they've gotten feedback from various organizations. They're organizations that want to hold to the original thing, which is simply do away with it all, and that means that it probably will never be called for a vote and nothing will happen. So we'll just have to wait and see. Obviously Congress isn't in session right now. They're busy doing other things like campaigning for re-election, in most cases, particularly in the House because all of those people are up for election. But there's at least hope in this case that your Social Security benefits might increase if you have other covered employment.

I've talked about more things this year than I usually do, but things are just getting more complicated. If you want to ask any questions, I will be happy to try to answer them.

Senator Kalter: Are there any questions for, we're going to call him, Senator Alferink?

Dr. Alferink: Senator Emeritus.

Senator Kalter: Senator Emeritus Alferink.

Senator Dawson: In the ideas that are being floated, was there any consideration given to fixing the GPO, the Government Pension Offset?

Dr. Alferink: No.

Senator Dawson: That's wicked.

Dr. Alferink: Yes, it is. That one's even harder to understand, but that's not part of this at all.

Senator Kalter: Are you optimistic or pessimistic?

Dr. Alferink: In the long run, I'm optimistic, but in the short run I think we have to watch things. I am here to tell you that we've got your back.

Senator Kalter: Other questions?

Senator McHale: Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Senator Emeritus Alferink would say I'm amiss if I don't remind everybody that you can help contribute to him having your back by joining the State University Annuitants Association.

Dr. Alferink: Joining the people in here that are already members and supporting us.

Senator Kalter: All right. If there are no questions... It looks like something is being passed around. Is that information about how to join?

Dr. Alferink: Yes.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Thank you very much for your time and thanks for the questions.

Dr. Alferink: One other thing. I would mention that we are a unit of the University Foundation. We have a memorandum of understanding and we have office space in the Alumni Center. We're part of the university.

Senator Kalter: And the person who isn't here, Charlie Harris, is the former chair of the Department of English, and he can also be contacted probably through his continuing ULID. Wonderful. Thank you very much.

Dr. Alferink: And if you want mine, it's my last name: A-l-f-e-r-i-n-k. I was obviously one of the early adopters.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Kalter: Thank you, Larry. All right. Good evening, everyone. Just a very brief chair's comment, we have a relatively straightforward agenda from here on out tonight. Following administrator remarks, we'll discuss the advisory item about the Educational Advisory Board's informational meetings with chairs, directors, and deans this summer and also about three weeks ago this September. We also have an information item that combines the work of the Planning and Finance Committee and the Rules Committee in making some changes to our Bluebook for Planning and Finance and the Faculty Affairs Committees. Then, after the Senate adjourns, the Faculty Caucus will meet very briefly to hold elections for a few Senate external committees and an administrative committee. So if anybody has any questions for the chair at this time I'd be happy to answer them. All right. Seeing none, we'll move on to Student Body President Remarks.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Walsh: Hello, everyone. Recently the Student Government Association has formed our ad hoc committee called the "It's on Us Committee." The committee will be chaired by Senator Picciola. It will look to raise awareness for sexual assaults on campus and inform the campus community on every student's responsibility and role in preventing sexual assault. On Monday night, the Student Government Association partnered with the American Democracy Project to host a presidential debate watch party in Schroeder Hall. There was a great turnout. I heard it was the best turnout they've ever had. We'll continue to partner with ADP in the future. We'll also be partnering with the University Programming Board to host an election night event for students to attend as well. Throughout this week, the association has been holding voter registration drives in all the residence halls and in the Bone Student Center and Milner Library. Furthermore, the association will be holding a panel discussion on freedom of speech and having civil discourse on October 11. I encourage you to encourage students to attend and participate. This is going to be in Capen Auditorium, I believe. You may be excited to hear that our very own Senator Winger will be on the panel providing his insight on productive civic engagement. Finally, I have a few on-campus Senator positions vacant as well as the Center of College of Fine Arts/The College of Nursing. If you know of any students who fit this position and would thrive within it, please go ahead and send them my way. Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Do we have any questions for Senator Walsh? All right. Seeing none, we will move on to Administrator Remarks and Senator Dietz.

Administrators' Remarks

• President Larry Dietz

President Dietz: Thank you, Senator Kalter. A few information items. First of all, there was an article that appeared in the newspaper today, the local Pantagraph, that reported our fundraising efforts for the last fiscal year and delighted to say that the last three years in a row have been some of the best fundraising years in the history of the institution. To give you a little cap of all of that, in the fiscal year 2013, we raised a total of 14.5 million dollars. At the end of fiscal year 2014, that figure went to 19.5. In 2015, it went to 36.8, which included the only eight-figure gift in the history of the institution. We'd love to have an eight-figure gift every year, but those are hard to come by. We didn't find one in FY16, but nevertheless, the Advancement Team set a goal of raising 21 million dollars, which is up from FY13 and FY14 years, and they raised a total of 21.6 million. They have a goal for FY17 of 23 million. So this is, indeed, successful and is an important part of our silent phase of our comprehensive campaign and is helping us get to the point where hopefully about this time next year we will announce the formal campaign and get out of the silent phase, we hope. But thanks to everyone who contributed. I know there are people in this room who've done that, and we appreciate that. At the end of last week, Marlene and I were in Houston, Texas having an alumni gathering there, and then there was a private dinner that was held by two alums, a husband and wife team, who graduated from here many, many years ago. But nevertheless, we secured a half million dollar gift from this couple last week. They hosted a private dinner with some other high-end donors and prospective donors in their home, and one of the things

they talked about, right after they graduated from here, every time the Advancement Office or the telethon folks called that even though they couldn't give a lot, they always gave something. They said sometimes it was 20 bucks, but they always gave something. So, instilling that culture of giving back at a very early age is an important aspect and cultivating that behavior in some of our younger alums is a very important aspect of that. But, we're moving on very well in that area, and congratulations to the Advancement Team in their success and thanks to all the contributors that made that possible.

A few staffing issues that I'll talk about just briefly. I think everyone read that Dr. Troy Johnson has accepted a position at the University of Texas in Arlington. He's done a fantastic job working with the Enrollment Management Team getting us to where we are with our enrollment. We wish Troy well. He's from Texas, his wife is from Texas, and he's going home. So we wish him well. I spoke today with Provost Krejci and I know that Jan Murphy has also been involved in some conversations and we will have a plan announced relatively soon about an interim appointment and some other staffing issues that we'll provide a plan for the future for that Enrollment Management position. Today we had the second of three candidates on campus for the position in the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access, and we'll have the third one here tomorrow and hopefully I'll receive recommendations next week from the screening committee on that and others that have been involved in that process, and we hope to move on that position relatively quickly.

I returned today from Chicago and there was an Illinois Board of Higher Education meeting there yesterday and I met with the chairman of the Board of Trustees this morning and briefed him on some of the proceedings at the Illinois Board of Higher Education. There was a lot of conversation about the lack of budget and I couldn't agree more with Larry Alferink about the importance of watching the pension issue. There was information that was shared with the IBHE members that came from the IBHE that showed a chart of pension expenditures and operating budget coming from the state since 2000. In the current year and in the last year, for the first time the pension payments have exceeded the operating dollars that are coming from the state. So I am grateful for everyone who worked here for a long time, retired, deserved their pension, and grateful for the service of everyone else. But all this gets really lumped into the Higher Education budget. Now the pension numbers are outstripping the amount of money that we have to operate the universities. So I think that bears watching on both sides of that.

There's a conversation that happened with the presidents and chancellors. We always meet prior to the IBHE meeting and we also invite in the chair of the Illinois Board of Higher Education and the executive director. There was a conversation that occurred during that timeframe also with speculation about the elections, and I think the overall feeling is that there might be a seat gained here or there, but really not much is going to happen. So we anticipate potentially having stopgap measures possibly this year and into the future. So that's not good news, but if that's the case we'll continue to work and advocate for the institution and try to do as well as we can. There's conversation about a potential compact. Some states have gone in that direction. New York is one model. Generally, what happens with a compact is that the institutions are expected to do some things like freeze tuition, get their funding based upon performance measures and criteria, and there are several other things that generally are on the institution side for the institutions to deal with. On the other side, then, the state generally agrees that there's going to be stable funding and perhaps even increases in funding for higher education, procurement reform and some of those other things. The difficulty, in my estimation, and even right now and even talking about those kinds of things is that there's a terrific lack of trust between the leadership of universities and the legislature and the governor to really make sure that anything would happen even if you had an agreement on that, because this is the second year we've operated without a budget.

The other thing that's confusing on the budget is that if you really look at the practicality of the FY16 year, which obviously was over July 1, if you look at the practicality of that, we got 82% of our budget last year, or basically an 18% cut, and we have nothing for this year. The way that's being described in the legislature is that we got 70% of our appropriations last year, or basically a 30% cut, and we got 50% of our funding for FY17. The misleading part of that is that all of us have bills to pay still for FY16 plus MAP reimbursement, which is coming in. So that's an optimistic note. But that gets to be confusing. A lot of people would say, and

particularly the legislature would like to say, you need to be thinking about an 18-month timeframe which will eventually end up being a two-year timeframe. Well, the difficulty is that we have a fiscal year that goes from July 1 to June 30. So there's a lot of confusion in the public, I think, and in other places about how much money do we really have. But the practicality is that last year we had an 18% cut and we have nothing for this fiscal year. So what is being set up, really, is the same kind of scenario that we had last year, not so much for Illinois State and not so much for the University of Illinois, but for all the other institutions in the state. Come December, they're going to be in very rough shape to continue on for the rest of the academic year. So we're going to be going from kind of crisis to crisis. The good news is that our enrollment is stable. The enrollment is strong. Planning is good, and we're in good shape as an institution (as well as we can be and still be located in the State of Illinois). So I'm optimistic that we're going to continue to bang on this, but once the election is over we're certainly going to start banging a lot harder than we have been. So stay tuned, I guess, is my watchword on that. I'll stop there and see if there are any questions.

Senator Kalter: Do we have questions for Senator Dietz?

Senator Gizzi: The Tribune yesterday reported that Chicago State had 86 incoming freshmen students. Eighty-six. They also reported that Southern's freshman class was down by 25% and Eastern's was down by about the same. And of course Chicago State is also paying a \$600,000 severance. At what point do they just shut the door on that place? No, I'm serious. From the standpoint of, it has to further complex the battles that you are fighting because you have this sinkhole, in a sense.

President Dietz: That's a good question. I read the same article.

Senator Gizzi: I didn't mean it in a way that was, like...

(Laughter)

President Dietz: No, no. I was seated next to their interim president yesterday at the president and chancellor's meeting and there has been some discussion, most of it quietly. There has been one legislator who has talked about mergers and there's really nothing formal about that, so if you hear about that, all that is is really kind of hallway talk. The troubling part is that if you closed a number of institutions, including the one that you mentioned and let's say two or three others downstate, the amount of money that you really are saving is minuscule compared to the fiscal pickle that we're in. And in some of those locations particularly downstate, if you close one of those institutions you still have a physical plant to maintain and you basically kill the community. So, while that may sound like an interesting thing to do, you're not going to save very much money and you're not going to get the support of legislators in those districts. And you're not going to get the support of legislators in the other districts who say, "Gee, if that happens to you it can happen to us." So there will be a terrific coalition that will be built around all of that. So one of the things that I've been talking with some legislators about is that, you know, this whole last year and currently, all we've been talking about are cuts. That's it. When we started this conversation about getting into fiscal difficulty, there were two parts of the equation - one were cuts and the other was revenue enhancement. And I've said, when the heck are we going to start talking about revenue enhancement? And I've been told that that possibly will be discussed after the general election on November the 8th. So I'll just end that by saying please get out and vote. Vote your conscience, but please vote.

Senator Kalter: Are there further questions for Senator Dietz? I just have one. I'm just wondering if my math has gone bad over the last 25 years, but 70% versus close to 50% appropriation for FY17 doesn't add up to 80% versus 0%. So, are they overestimating the 50% appropriation for FY 17?

President Dietz: Yes.

Senator Kalter: I thought so.

President Dietz: And then it gets complicated further with the MAP dollars because there's still no MAP money out there. I've polled my colleagues at the other institutions to say how many of you are going to continue to honor MAP even though the state has not done that? The initial response is that they all have for the fall and their plan is to do the same thing for the spring. I'm not sure how that's going to happen if they have no money in the spring, so we'll just have to see how that pans out.

Senator Kalter: I'll just add to your plea for us to vote and that we are entitled to people who know how to add and subtract being members of our legislature.

(Laughter)

Senator Kalter: They can come to ISU to learn that, by the way.

President Dietz: The Math Department, I'm sure, supports your...

Senator Kalter: I'm sure. Are there any further questions? All right. Seeing none, Senator Krejci is not here but she did give us comments, so I'm going to read those.

• **Provost's Remarks delivered by Senator Kalter**

First of all, enrollment. She says, "As you know, our enrollment this year was 21,039 students, although not all of the diversity numbers have been forwarded. Our total enrollment now includes 25% from underrepresented groups. The number of students with ACT over 33 is the highest we've had, and we have also seen an increase with students with ACT between 18-20. I appreciate the outstanding commitment of faculty and staff to accommodate a large class. A note that retention will become more and more important. Our first time in college fall to fall retention rate was 81.5% last year and is now 81.1% and will take all of us to focus on ways to support and retain students. We are looking at classroom utilization and understand that some classrooms are near capacity. We have already had over 2,000 applications for the class of 2017."

She then notes, "Troy Johnson, as you know, will be leaving the university [which President Dietz mentioned] to return to his home state to become the Vice President of Enrollment Management at the University of Texas at Arlington. We have benefited greatly from his expertise and thank Dr. Johnson for his strong contributions during these challenging times. We are confident that there is a strong team in place, and we will continue bringing in a strong class. An interim EMAS leader will be named soon, and we will begin discussions on a search for his replacement." EMAS standing for Enrollment Management and Academic Services.

ASPT revisions. She reminds us that the "green version of the beige book of the revised ASPT has been printed and will be effective starting January 1, 2017." She gives thanks to all the Senators for their good work on this revision and so do I, actually. "Dr. Sam Catanzaro is available for consultation and summary of changes and reminds all colleges, departments, and schools to review their local policies to ensure alignment with the new university policies and to see if anything needs updating. Sam also reminds all departments and schools to set a timeline for regular review of local ASPT policies and guidelines."

For community engagement, she notes, "Progress is being made on the building that previously housed Honors as they have moved to the Professional Development Building mostly in order to bring it into ADA compliance. The tentative plan is for that work to be completed by the end of October so that the center can be housed there later this fall. Between July 20, 2016 and September 19, 2016, 1,408 people have used ISU Turbo Vote to register to vote or update their voting address. As a reminder, Illinois State is located in McLean County, which has two election authorities. If you live in the City of Bloomington, your election information regarding voter registration and early voting..." [which I think begins tomorrow, if I'm not mistaken] "can be found at Bloomington Board of Election Commissioners site," and she quotes that. If you want me to read it, I will read

it later. "If you live in the town of Normal or anywhere else in McLean County, voter registration and early voting information can be found at a different address."

For the Climate Assessment Task Force, she says, "The first meeting of the large group took place this past Monday and we will receive updates as that group continues its work. A reminder that the Culturally Responsive Campus Community group that has planned the conference this past spring will be holding their conference October 24 and 25."

With regard to the Leadership Initiative, "The Leadership Initiative is underway with a focus on leadership and building inclusive environments. The kick-off was earlier this month with representatives from across divisions. The Steering Committee has been very active, planning a great year of activities and developments."

With regard to budget implications, "A professional development session was held with academic leaders for ongoing discussions on ways to leverage resources and identify potential areas for growth that align with mission, strengths, and capacity during times of decreasing state support. We have utilized the information and best practices provided by the Education Advisory Board to begin to identify ways to support quality while being intentional and strategic about use of resources."

She notes about International Studies, "Dr. Luis Canales has reported that the international seminars being held this semester are attracting a very large number of students, staff, faculty, and community members. We are working with Jinan University to explore the possibility of a cohort of students coming to ISU for a year-long study focused on English and Business. Jinan is one of the oldest and highest ranked universities in China. It has also extensively partnered with universities abroad."

And finally, for the College of Applied Science and Technology Dean's search, she notes, "The finalist interviews are being solidified and the candidates are scheduled to be on campus the week of October 17. The dates and times of open forums will be communicated soon."

So, I can't answer many questions about that, but we do have three people, or four people in the chairs who may be able to answer if you have any questions, or we can just tape them and send them to Senator Krejci. Are there any questions? All right. Seeing none, we will go to Vice President for Student Affairs, Senator Johnson.

- ***Vice President for Student Affairs Levester Johnson***

Senator Johnson: Thank you. The second time around. We've talked a little bit about retention of our students, and it's an extremely important thing that we do. We probably know that. It's actually literally less expensive to retain a student than it is to actually probably recruit a student. So our work and all the work that we do on campus is extremely important in order to push, as far high as we can, that retention rate. One of the traditions that we have on campus that actually helps and assists with that we just had a couple of weeks ago, and that's called House Calls. Some of you probably actually participated in that. And I'm going to go through a couple of stats as it relates to this year's House Calls, which I believe was extremely successful. We had about 19 different apartments that we actually visited and made contact with and then another 989 rooms that we actually contacted. We had, this year, 88 volunteers who checked in. About 95 people were actually registered, so I think the numbers are pretty good as far as that's concerned. We recorded feedback from about 642 different stops from our students. The themes that we received from those students dealt with everything from air conditioning (surprise, surprise) to furniture issues or cable and Wi-Fi. Students wish to and have to have their technology connections. For the most part, though, students reported that they felt positive about the environment and that they felt connected to the campus community. So that's a great sign as it relates to connection and ties to the institution and retention efforts. So, thank everyone who came out, faculty, staff, administration, who participated in that.

A second item I wanted to follow up on, and that was our Greek initiative. We have had follow-up conversations with, and I've met with, the IFC President. I have a scheduled meeting tomorrow with the

Panhellenic President. We've had ongoing meetings with alumni members of our Greek organizations, and they continue to be extremely excited and thrilled about our Greek initiative and working together in order to uplift the Greek system on campus. I participated last Friday in a tour of some of the Greek houses on campus to see where they're located. It is pretty spread out as it relates to the houses, and I thank those Greek organizations that allowed us to come in and check out their facilities. Some are in very good shape. Some needed a little TLC, and they've admitted that, but I really appreciate them opening up their homes to us in that sense. But remain very excited about our potential for our Greek system.

The next thing I want to talk about is, and make you all aware of, I think there was an indication of people coming down with a little bug that's flying around here, a flu bug. Well, you know what? You can participate in getting your shot and actually prevent that from happening. I want to encourage students to get their shots, which are free, over at the Health Services. And then faculty, staff, and administration, I want to encourage you to go in and get your shots as well. It will only take just a little tap into your health insurance in order to do so. But we have vaccinations for everyone who wishes to participate in that program.

Starbucks and McAlister's. If you have not noticed, they are open. Starbucks is doing extremely well. As it relates to traffic, do not go there at noon or you will experience lines there, but there's plenty of space and you can get in right away if you go at 8 a.m., which is when I go. I also want to make you aware that, as it relates to McAlister's, there is that conference room that's on the side of McAlister's that's open and you can reserve that space. Faculty, staff, administrators, or students who wish to have meetings in that space, I want to encourage you to do that as well.

We're coming off Family Weekend, which was extremely successful again. Weather, weather, weather. The weather was perfect for that day, so attendance was high both for tailgating as well as the game. I want to thank all the families and community members who came out for that. In particular, I want to thank the following offices and areas for pulling together what was a wonderful family weekend: The Dean of Students Office, of course Athletics, the Advancement area, Student Affairs, our University Program Board, and of course Student Government Association.

To pass on a little sad news, we did have the passing of a student on campus. We got notification on Monday, Sean Long who was a transfer student and was in the College of Arts and Sciences and Anthropology major. He passed away over this past weekend. His services are going to be tomorrow, as a matter of fact, and I know a number of us are going up in order to pay respects to the family. So we ask that you keep that family in your thoughts.

Then, finally, I'll end on a little promo for Homecoming which is coming up next week. A lot of individuals and a lot of areas have been working hard on that, and I think this year's theme is A Normal Tradition. How creative.

(Laughter)

I had to go there, sorry. But lots of activities. Lots of events. I encourage you all to participate in the festivities. I'm looking forward to getting my first one in. I'll open things up for any questions that you may have.

Senator Kalter: Any questions for Senator Johnson?

Senator Munoz: The apartments that you mentioned that you went to go visit, what apartments did you visit?

Senator Johnson: I believe the apartments would have included Cardinal Court. It would have included... I'm drawing a blank on the one that's really north of here. Shelbourne and Fell. It would have included those

apartments. Not any of the off-campus type apartments and things of that nature. It's only university-owned facilities.

Senator Kalter: Further questions for Senator Johnson? All right. We wish you and ourselves a year when you do not have to have flu reports but just encouragement to get flu shots. We'll hope for that. Thanks very much. On to Senator Alt, Vice President for Finance and Planning.

- ***Vice President for Finance and Planning Greg Alt***

Senator Alt: Thank you, Senator Kalter. A few information items to make you aware of... Many of you might be aware of this first one. Effective September 30, which is just a few days away, the Department of Central Management Services is moving to a new online enrollment system which is administered by a third party provider for your insurance enrollment. Currently we do have our own online system for benefits enrollment in iPeople that we are accustomed to using but now will be required to utilize the new CMS system. Postcards and letters regarding the system will be sent to all impacted faculty and staff by CMS. Most of you should have at least gotten a postcard by now and a letter sometime soon if you've not received it. An e-mail notice from Human Resources was also sent to all faculty and staff last week regarding the changes, and additional information and training as needed will be provided by HR as soon as it's available. This is only a change in the system for managing your benefits. It's not to be confused with the new benefits choice period in which you're making choices as to your benefit providers. The reason this is important is that for the majority of faculty and staff, unless you're making an insurance benefit change now due to a qualifying event, you won't be impacted until May. But once the May benefit choice period, or annual one, occurs, you'll be required to use the new system.

Also, holders of departmental credit cards in your department (it's kindly known as the P card), you should've had your card replaced this fall with a new chip. If you have not done that, you will find out in October that your card will no longer work. So if you have not had your card replaced and you still need to have an active P card, you want to contact your P card manager.

Finally, just one quick facility update. I think one exciting, too, for the students because it's a student-initiated project, construction work will soon begin on the development of the Redbird Plaza on the previous site of the Rainbow House. This student-initiated project will include a series of pathways, green spaces, seating, and presentation areas. The Redbird icon will be the focal point of that project. They hope to have contracts soon and get the construction started, but the target date for completion is sometime in mid to late January. I'd be happy to address any questions on any of that.

Senator Kalter: Are there any questions for Senator Alt? All right. Seeing none, we move on then. Thank you very much.

09.12.16.02 EAB Presentation for Illinois State 06-07-16 Handout

We move on to our advisory item on the EAB presentation, and I'm going to ask Dr. Rosenthal if you could come and just give us a couple prefatory comments, sort of frame what EAB is, and people received the budget presentation handout in their packets.

Dr. Rosenthal: Thank you, Senator Kalter. I don't have a long presentation, you'll be relieved to know, I'm sure. EAB is a national consulting group. They're concerned with sharing best practices. There are over 1,100 universities and colleges that are members of EAB. As part of that membership, we agreed to have interviews with EAB. They do more than 10,000 interviews with different campuses every year on a variety of topics. The point of those interviews is to gather best practices from different campuses. As part of that, they generate white papers that are available to member institutions. One of the advantages that Provost Krejci is most interested in is that by participating in these interviews, we also get to have benchmark data from other institutions. I will say that given the budgetary uncertainty that's been addressed earlier today, it seemed like a very good idea to invest in EAB's services simply because they are a national best practice organization. They

bring a lot of expertise to us and, sadly for our sister institutions who have faced financial issues before we have had to, there's a lot of information that EAB can share as to how those other institutions have dealt with that. So I think I would say that we're lucky to be able to use EAB proactively as opposed to reactively in times of crisis. So, I think I've said before, given the budget circumstances, this year better be a planning year given the uncertainty about future budgets and how it might affect the academic enterprise.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. I'll just preface this also by saying, first of all, this is on as an advisory item. It came onto the Senate agenda as an advisory item because the chair of the Senate received more than one question about EAB from both faculty on the Senate and faculty off the Senate who were wondering about whether it's a consulting firm, how much we paid for the services that they give, whether we paid additional for the presentations that we got. There was one in June, too. I believe that was just the chairs and deans and some Senate representatives, and I'm trying to remember if there was anyone else.

Dr. Rosenthal: That was part of the whole package of services, so there was no additional fee for that. There was a session for provost staff and deans in the morning and chairs and directors and interested others in shared governance. I think we invited the Executive Board to attend.

Senator Kalter: Yes. And I think at least one of us was able to attend that in June. Then there was another one in September. In e-mailing, I had first e-mailed the question of sort of asking what the EAB was and then had said, "Can we know the annual membership fee for EAB and its forums and how long we've been a member?" And the answer to that is that it was over essentially two years, starting in January of this past year, January 2016, to December of 2018. Is that right? It is \$55,000. So, spread out into three payments over the three different fiscal years. Do we have any questions about... I know some of you have been talking in your departments. Some of your department chairs have discussed in these sessions. Did we have comments or questions about either the handout, about those discussions, about the direction that we are going in with that?

Senator Howell: There are recommendations that are made by the EAB in this PowerPoint. How would they be implicated? Would it be per college or school or would it be the department chair?

Dr. Rosenthal: I should say that EAB is just that, a recommending body to us. We've certainly not made any decisions based on anything that they've presented. Different colleges are administered differently. We have a fairly decentralized structure in Academic Affairs. The answer to your question, I think, varies by college depending on how centralized it is or how decentralized it is. Really, we're asking questions. We're gathering data from departments and schools and college offices at this point. There's certainly no decision that's been made by anybody, and any recommendation that we would choose to implement would go through the shared governance process that is our tradition here. The administration is not moving in a particular direction, certainly not without consulting this body and others.

President Dietz: I would just like to also volunteer that Provost Krejci and I talked about this before we entered into the agreement for the membership. There's also other components of this membership that I know that the Enrollment Management folks use, and it's been very successful to help them achieve the goals related to enrollment. So it's more than just the academic planning part of that. But we can't, frankly as an institution, continue to just go along the way we've been going along. I'm not saying that to scare anybody. I'm saying that we just need to be open to conversations around a lot of the questions that EAB really kind of asks back to us. I think they've done a good job of asking some questions, and as we think about that, you know, I don't have a model in mind. If I did, I'd tell you about that, but I think we need to be prepared to ask some very tough questions particularly in this budget scenario, about how do we move and continue to move without having to lay off a lot of folks, without having to have furloughs. There's a lot of pressure. I hear about this all the time about how have you been able to do that? And it's been through good planning. It's been through solid enrollment. It's been through low debt. And so we're advantaged in all that and positioned pretty doggone well. But the bottom line is that, in terms of enrollment, we're in a declining market. The numbers of students who are graduating from high school in Illinois are declining. The competition for those numbers is increased

dramatically. 16,000 students in the State of Illinois left Illinois this year to go to other institutions to get their education. So if you just think about that. And we were able in some way, shape, or form, to keep, as a state, those 16,000 students. Some would leave anyway, so that's a naïve thought that we would be able to keep all of them, but if you just think about a round number – 10,000 dollars in tuition, that's 160 million dollars that the institutions in the state would have and it's enrollment that some of the institutions wouldn't be in the predicament that they're in. So, to me, the hallmark and one of the strengths of Illinois State has been in really good planning processes, open discussion. I think that's what this whole effort really is about is starting a discussion about trying to answer some questions that they have learned are the important questions for good management of institutions in the future, and they've got 1,100 institutions that they've worked with. So it's just a start. When they talked about, should we share all this information that was in the handout? My bias was, sure. There's no hidden agenda here. It's just tough times and how do we plan in tough times.

Senator Winger: Yeah, I don't think there is any information. None of this reflects any work that they did at ISU, does it, in any of these statistics or charts that are in this handout?

Senator Dietz: I don't think so.

Senator Winger: Right. So then we paid \$55,000. I find it equally disturbing, and this is my professional opinion and as a humanist, that this is exactly the wrong path to go down. And, in any case, it's a completely uninformed piece. This whole half of the debate, I just... One of the books that I would have brought in I had lent to a colleague, *Academically Adrift*. Something I never heard from a provost or anybody from the Provost's Office of this university responding to the fact that in all likelihood, our students' reading and writing abilities go down in the first two years. That grade inflation has never been addressed here. And here, this group, the EAB (I don't know who they are), but my view of consultancy is that it's people paying other people to do their job for them and usually doing a poor job of it. And, honestly, that's what this is. But this suggests, pretty clearly, making our classes easier and emptier. I think that's a fair read. I'm not... If anybody wants to disagree with me on that... Did anybody read it?

Senator Howell: Well, I think it's easier and fuller.

Senator Winger: No, easier and emptier. They're not supposed to be hard because that discourages students. I built my career around, to my own detriment, insisting on teaching writing to large numbers of students. Students leave those classes. It's a race to the bottom. So that's one part of it. Another part, and I'll exceed my time, but the notion that professional education is the way to go is arbitrary here. Fareed Zakaria quoting Norman Augustine from Lockheed Martin: "So what does business need from our educational system? They need workers with greater foreign language skills, knowledge of economics, history, and geography." What disciplines were taken a shot at in this? History, geography, general education. Former CEO of Seagram's (they sell booze). What's the recommendation of the CEO? "Get a Liberal Arts degree." You don't have to believe Fareed Zakaria. The point is, this document doesn't even acknowledge that the attitudes that inform it are contested.

I think you got sold a bill of goods, and I wouldn't give them another dime. There's nothing in here about ISU. Many dubious things here. DFW courses. We have severe grade inflation. I mean, how easy do you want to make it? If everybody gets an A, that encourages another kind of demoralization where the good students are like, "I paid you over a thousand dollars and I'm taking some multiple choice exams." It's theft and it's fraud. I've tested it, but you can read *Academically Adrift*. Students in large classes at state schools are learning nothing. I've tested it here. No improvement, if you take certain classes here, as measured against the AP. None. Zero. No measurable difference in performance on a standardized test. The opposite direction I would go is to say, Illinois State – A Serious Place for Serious Students. We don't need larger sections, as recommended here. If you're going to teach people to write, you're going to teach people to think, as Fareed Zakaria recommends in this book (which is not a great book, but I mean, you can read it in 15 minutes), but if you're going to teach people to read and to write... If you're going to teach them to write, you need to make

them read something. Something important. Something compelling. Something life-changing. And if you're going to do that, you're going to need 20 students or less in that class.

Senator Kalter: I'm going to go to Senator Walsh. Thank you, Senator Winger.

Senator Walsh: One of the majors that I have here at ISU is legal studies, and one thing that they preach to us constantly is the term cost-benefit analysis. So my question that I have today is, is there an estimated revenue growth or savings estimation for any of the actual recommendations that the EAB proposes?

Dr. Rosenthal: I think it's premature to say. In response to my good colleague, Senator Winger, you know, EAB is helping us ask questions. They're not making recommendations. We're not making recommendations to you, but we are asking questions. I won't address point by point, but on DFW courses, you can take it the way you did or you could say, the institution needs to provide greater support for those courses and through the Visor Center and through supplemental instruction methods, we do try to reduce the number of Ds, Fs and Ws in these large courses that we know are prone to having students achieve less success in those.

Senator Winger: But that's not going to help the budget.

Dr. Rosenthal: Well, it's not going to help the budget except, you heard Dr. Johnson say, that it's much more economical to retain a student than to recruit one. So if we can help students by scaffolding supplemental instruction around large lectures with high DFW rates, we can retain students, which, yes, it is a bottom line savings to the institution.

Senator Kalter: Jonathan, can you define DFW for those of us...

Dr. Rosenthal: Dallas Fort Worth.

(Laughter)

Courses that have high rates of grades of D, F, and withdraw.

Senator Kalter: You do know that I spent an involuntary night at DFW, don't you?

(Laughter)

Dr. Rosenthal: I did not mean to rub that in.

Senator Gizzi: She has a gavel, so be careful.

Senator Kalter: Yes, I do have a gavel. I also wanted to ask, in addition to any questions, is there anybody in the room who has been here at either of the presentations that might want to make any comment about them?

Senator Haugo: I attended the presentation in June, and just context... The presentation and the slides that accompanied it that were distributed to you were information really about how EAB goes about its work, not recommendations to the universities about how the process will happen. I went in as a Senate representative and also representing our school, and I went in with a degree of skepticism. But what was useful for me was an understanding, I guess, of how the institution itself wants to approach this planning year, and I think that some of the data, some of the studies that EAB has done, may prove useful for us. But I also recognize Senator Winger's critiques of some of the processes itself.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. Are there further questions or comments? I'll make a couple. I think that as intellectuals we are here to be skeptics and that's our main function. So I think an exercise like this, we would

be doing an injustice to it if we didn't come to it with some skepticism but also with openness to see whether or not it's helpful. One of the things that I want to point out are some of the specifics because, as Senator Winger as pointed out, some of the things that are on this set of slides are not very specific to ISU, and so we should be interrogating them and I hope that faculty in the departments and chairs and directors are interrogating them. For example, when we say 60% faculty teaching less than a standard load, there's an assumption there that there is no logic or resource savings when you put somebody on a lesser load, for example, when faculty are paid, generally speaking, less money than staff to do staff jobs, often. One of the strengths of our system is shared governance and so we have a lot of people sitting on committees making decisions who are faculty. If we weren't doing that, we would be paying more to hire staff members often to do it. Not necessarily in all cases, but it is a trade-off that has to be thought of.

When it says 30% of students graduating with excess credits, this makes me cringe because excess credits, to me, is a student who excels and who wants to take a lot more classes. Now, if it's excess credits because they took classes that they were failing, DFW classes or what have you, that's one thing. But I think that we should definitely be skeptical about that. And I think Senator Winger has also said one of the reasons we do retain students here at ISU better than many of our sister schools is our class sizes, our small class sizes. That we work intensively with students in those classes. We don't just sort of give a cookie cutter kind of education. So hopefully we will ask questions of EAB as much as EAB is asking us to ask questions of ourselves and it will be, hopefully in the end, worth the \$55,000 that we invested in it.

I also wanted to repeat something that Dean Murphy said to me earlier today which is that one of the attempts here is not to say, oh, let's hunker down, cut, cut, cut in order to weather this budget crisis, but let's look at where we're not offering certain kinds of educational programs, or we are but we're not actually expanding them the way that they could be. Let's invest in those programs because several years ago when we went through our last big budget crisis, the word got around to everybody that you should never, therefore, ask to create a new program. That's not a really good idea, frankly. Departments should be initiating new programs, should be rolling with the times, should be thinking about where we can open up new horizons, new intellectual horizons. And if we can sort of think about it in that way, that's a helpful thing. So, while I join Senator Winger in his skepticism, I'm hoping that we will take control of the conversation or continue to have control of that conversation and have it be decided on local levels in particular.

Senator Gizzi: I have trust in our Provost and in the Provost's Office that in using this process this is not to ramrod something through but to have a real discussion. I also, when looking at those slides (which really are, as Senator Haugo said, just a presentation about what the process is like), I look at that slide with that 60% and the slide doesn't tell me anything there. It's just a slide. There's no content to what they said or beyond that. In fact, that would be a good PowerPoint slide because of the fact that there's actually a conversation going on in the room when they present that. So, I'm not going to take those slides at necessarily face value because they're not specific to us nor are they... It's just a slide. And so I do have tremendous trust in our Provost and in our incoming Interim Provost.

Senator Kinross: I do think it's also important to note, at least from a student's perspective, something that draws us to ISU is we get a big campus feel. You know – 21,000 students, which is awesome – but still a small classroom environment. It's really crucial. I think when I came here something Admissions preached to us was for every 19 students, there's roughly one faculty. A 19:1 ratio is awesome. Then, when you get down to your major, it can get as low as 1:7. That shows that you can get that one-on-one time with your professors and you can get that extra educational value out of it that you don't get at many other institutions that have 21,000+ students. So that's something that we as students really hold near and dear to our hearts, that we do have that lower ratio and it's something very important to keep. I just wanted to second what Senator Winger said from a student's perspective.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. Further questions or comments?

Senator Howell: I guess this is more of a statement than a question, but I completely agree with Senator Winger. I guess I'm more appalled by the fact that this follows Troy Johnson's report from the previous year, which after some digging cost roughly \$49,000, which was very specific to ISU. So I guess I don't... Which was about student recruitment and specific demographics related to our student population. That's getting very close to \$100,000, right?

Senator Kalter: It does deserve noting, whatever you think of it, that \$55,000 is about the starting salary for many of our assistant professors, the annual salary. So when we're making those choices of where to invest our money, we should always be assessing whether we got back from that investment that worth or more, and I think that question is going to stay open for a little while.

Senator Winger: I appreciate the comments in the room. I just want to call into question as the second time I get to talk, student success is a revenue generator. I kind of appreciated the bald cynicism of the work here – I thought at least it was honest – but then looking at the Professional Master's program, they say, designing around students rather than disciplines. The cartoon mischaracterization of the historic disciplines as having not designed around students. No, I'm only interested in my little pettifogging in history. I don't care about students. What I need to do is start caring about students. This, from the very people, who defined the student as a source of money. I don't think, in good conscience, a university worth its salt can give these people money.

Senator Horst: Could the Senate find out exactly how much money we're spending each year on consulting services like this? Is it \$100,000? Are we spending more? Could we have some sort of statement from the administration in the future that gives us an idea about how much we're relying on these kind of services?

Senator Kalter: You mean beyond EAB?

Senator Horst: Yeah. Are there others? She mentioned one.

Senator Kalter: I think that's a very fair question. I think that would be helpful to have. Let me read out the numbers again. It was \$13,750 for FY16, \$27,500 for FY17, and \$13,750 for FY18, adding up to about \$55,000 over those three fiscal years. Of course, that's not including any other similar kinds of services. So we will get that question to the Provost and ask for a report back in two weeks about that. Thank you, Senator Horst. Are there any other questions or comments?

Dr. Rosenthal: Would it help you to know that EAB is not in favor of draconian program prioritization.

Senator Kalter: You are assuming, Jonathan, that that question came from the spokesperson for the question.

Dr. Rosenthal: I made no such assumption.

Senator Kalter: Ah, okay. Well I'm not sure. We'll have to have a conversation afterwards among the group about whether that's comforting or not. But thank you very much. Are there any other questions?

Senator Heylin: I just have a quick question about what we're actually paying for. Are we paying the \$55,000 for this report, or is this an example of the report that they provide to our university?

Dr. Rosenthal: This is an example of one of the white papers and services that we can receive either on campus or by webinar.

Senator Heylin: So then is there, at any time, a report tailored to our university specifically for our student information, our best practices, anything like that?

Dr. Rosenthal: I think that as with other outside organizations that I've worked with over the years, they're guiding a process for us, or helping us guide our own process. But we're not contracting with them to provide data about our specific institution.

Senator Heylin: Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Am I correct, Jonathan, that as a member of the organization any faculty or staff member can make use of their resources? And could you repeat, again, what those are beyond this report?

Dr. Rosenthal: You can judge for yourself. EAB.com. You log in with your ISU e-mail, established a password, and you can have access to the site....

(Questions from a few in the body)

Dr. Rosenthal: Policy papers, white papers? There are thousands of them, hundreds of them. It's advice to presidents, provosts, administrators...

Senator Winger: And would it be fair to say that the understanding that informing the advice given is one that tends towards what we used to call parochial education? Vocational school?

Dr. Rosenthal: No, I don't think that's fair.

Senator Winger: Really? That's totally the impression that.... The basic point is epistemology. The question asked determines the data. That's why I hate the word data. The trick's in the bag before anybody goes up and gets data. The assumptions informing the work are the most important thing. The introduction is the most important. And the introduction of this book is that the conclusions are foregone. It's agenda-driven. I do think that it aligns with, for instance, the current governor of Wisconsin's attitude towards education.

Senator Kalter: I'm going to ask, Jonathan if you can, in addition to the other stuff that Senator Horst asked, if we can bring back in two weeks some examples of the other services that they offer so that faculty will know in the departments what other kinds of things might be useful to them. That would be helpful.

Dr. Rosenthal: Sure.

09.16.16.01 & 09.16.16.05 Faculty Affairs Committee Blue Book Pages and Planning and Finance Committee Blue Book Pages – Charge Revisions (Planning and Finance Committee) and Membership Revisions (Rules Committee)

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. Any other questions? All right. Thank you very much. We're going to move on to our information item which is sort of a combo piece. We've noticed over the years that the Faculty Affairs Committee, because it only has four faculty members sitting on it, is often at risk of not making a quorum. So one of the proposals in your information item is to move somebody from sort of the "overstocked" Planning and Finance Committee (although this year it happens not to be that overstocked)... But that committee currently has eight faculty members on it. So the proposal there is to move one from Planning and Finance to Faculty Affairs so that it's much more even with the other committees and is more likely to make a quorum. In addition to that, Planning and Finance went through the Blue Book function and we had noticed (I think this was last year, actually) that it had a line that said, "The chair of the Planning and Finance Committee will annually select a member of the Planning and Finance Committee of the Senate to serve a one-year term on the Academic Planning Committee," but in the Academic Planning Committee's charge, that person is indeed the chair of the Senate. I think over the years most people have found that that's a very good kind of a set-up for the chair of the Senate to serve because, first of all, there's continuity, and that person, if there are draconian program prioritization events, can serve a role in making sure that there is a good planning process for curriculum planning, for program planning, etc. That was invoked several years ago when there was an attempt to

eliminate one of the majors in one of the departments, but the dean had kind of gone around the mulberry bush that he should have gone through (let's put it that way) so was asked to go follow the policy by the then chair of the Senate, Senator Holland. So you'll see in the side note there that one of the charges was to ask the Academic Planning Committee to also go through their Blue Book charge, and that has been conveyed to them. I'm not sure if the Planning and Finance Committee chair (Senator Marx) or Faculty Affairs Committee – actually this came from the Rules Committee – Rules Committee chair (Senator Horst) has anything to add, but I'll give it first to Senator Marx. Did you want to say anything? Have I covered it?

Senator Marx: I think you've covered it. Thank you.

Senator Horst: If that change does occur, we need to change the numbers below it. That's my only comment about the additional change that came from Planning and Finance, which I appreciate. We just need to change all the numbers.

Senator Kalter: In other words, number four becomes number three. Number 4.a. becomes number 3.a., etc. That's a very good point. Thank you. Are there any observations? This is just at the information item stage. Any comments or questions? All right. Seeing none, we will put this on a future Senate agenda as an action item and we move now to our committee reports. Remember that you have two weeks' worth of reports because we didn't meet two weeks ago on the 14th. Only the Caucus met. So if you can give us your report for both of those weeks that would be terrific. We'll begin with Senator Pancrazio for the Academic Affairs Committee.

Committee Reports:

Academic Affairs Committee:

Senator Pancrazio: Currently we're working through the policy review cycle. We've covered about four or five policies and we have another eight or so that are in review. This evening we discussed the guidelines for the dual degree programs. These are programs that already exist, but they're coming up with some set guidelines for future reference. We will be forwarding these to the Senate for their review on action items.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Are there any questions for Senator Pancrazio? All right. If none, I didn't see Senator Hoelscher or hear Senator Hoelscher. Senator Bantham, did you have a meeting tonight?

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee:

Senator Bantham: Yes. Dr. Hoelscher is not here tonight and he asked me to fill in for him. Let's see. I'm trying to think back two weeks ago. Basically we reviewed the tasks on our committee's plate, tried to prioritize the ones that are annual and then fill in the available time with those to clean up some policy review. Tonight, Senator Alt and Sandy Cavi, the Director of Budget Planning and Operations, presented a joint meeting of Planning and Finance Committee along with our committee for, I guess I would describe it as, a presentation of the Finance and Planning unit – a short summary of the budget process along with the request for the 2018 operating and capital requests.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. I'll just say here before I go to questions, I believe that we need to have an agenda item to approve those before the next Board of Trustees meeting. So just a reminder to Senator Hoelscher if we can get that. I think we've got some time. I think it's not until end of October, but for the capital and operating budgets, we usually approve those as a full Senate.

Senator Bantham: Ok.

Faculty Affairs Committee:

Senator Dyck: Yes, we had good meetings both times. We are a little short on faculty, and so this policy changing the membership could be important because after our substitute for one of the Senators left, we weren't sure we could make a quorum to decide whether to adjourn or not tonight. So it seemed to be a bit of an

issue, and I think the committee would be supportive of that policy. So, last time we reviewed the Blue Book and began through our task list and priority setting and decided that one of our first priority tasks would be to look at the University Professor Policy and Distinguished Professor Policies as Provost Krejci has requested. We also discovered in our look through our tasks that the Faculty Associate Contractual Continued Service policy had been revised over the summer and had not been brought to us yet. So we took that up today, and you will be seeing that next time as an information item for Senate. We also finished reviewing our tasks and priorities and talked a little bit in terms of the process for how to look at the UP and DP policies and will be working on our process. We very much appreciate the detailed report made by the previous Faculty Affairs Committee chair, Senator Horst. We do appreciate that and will be looking thoroughly at those recommendations.

Senator Kalter: Are there any questions for Senator Dyck?

Senator Gizzi: It's just a comment. Once you have a quorum, it doesn't matter if people leave. You can continue your work, including ending your meeting. So that's just a little Robert's Rule. All you need is the initial quorum.

Senator Dyck: Initial quorum? Well, thank you very much.

Senator Kalter: Although I would be cautious about votes during that time.

Senator Gizzi: Yeah. But I'm saying you can adjourn.

Senator Dyck: We didn't want to stay another two weeks.

Senator Kalter: Students don't know this, but somehow Faculty Caucus stayed in executive session all summer long because we forgot to come out of it. So, you know, those things happen.

Senator Grzanich: Could you repeat what policy they passed over the summer?

Senator Dyck: Yeah. It was the Faculty Associate Contractual Continued Services. And basically that policy looks at when do the faculty associates at Metcalf and U High become tenured?

Senator Grzanich: And who did that?

Senator Dyck: It was done, very appropriately, through the schools and through the superintendent, and they were forced to move forward with that because of a change in the state law. So I'll give you more details next week.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. Any further questions for Senator Dyck? All right. Seeing none, we'll move on to Senator Marx for Planning and Finance Committee.

Planning and Finance Committee:

Senator Marx: Ok. Thank you. Two weeks ago we reviewed our Blue Book description, and we're working on re-aligning the activities of the committee to match that description. We'll be discussing this in detail in our future meetings and reporting back to you on what that's going to be. We also reviewed the policy on organizational change, which has to be one of the best policies to review because it's only one sentence. The committee passed the policy without any changes, and it's been added to the consent agenda for your review. Tonight, we attended that joint meeting with Administrative Affairs and Budget and enjoyed the lively discussion. It was very informative in terms of all the challenges that we face in terms of budgeting and planning, and so we were very grateful for that presentation. Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. It will be coming out on the consent agenda. It hasn't quite yet reached you, but Exec has put it en route to the consent agenda. Are there any questions for Senator Marx? I also love one-sentence policies. So we'll move on, finally, to Rules Committee and Senator Horst.

Rules Committee:

Senator Horst: Rules Committee met two weeks ago and we also looked at our task list and we did, then, forward the item that we've already discussed this evening. Tonight, we did three things. We came up with a strategy for reviewing the College of Education bylaws, we reviewed the Civil Service Constitution text that was forwarded to us, and we also began our discussion on the Grad Council bylaws.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. Are there any questions for Senator Horst? All right. Seeing none, we have communications for the Senate. Anybody have any communications?

Communications

Senator Dawson: It's my pleasure to announce and share a postcard campaign to Springfield regarding MAP funding. It's something that affects everybody. If certain students have to drop out because they don't have the money, other students may see a tuition increase as a result. This is statewide. The jam-up is in the legislatures, in the House and the Senate in Springfield, and what we have here are postcards. You don't mail them, but they can come back to me. In fact, I'm going to pass two groups down here. Take two because I hope you guys know better than the students that it's not Mr. Durbin and Mr. Kirk in Washington that's going to get these. These are the people down in Springfield that represent you as a state Senator or as a Representative in the legislative districts at home. If you don't know who your people are, you can go to elections.il.gov or il.gov/elections. You'll get there. Just ask, "Who's my rep?" and you can get that. Important to know before you go in to go voting as well. I have a considerable supply of these. I've passed out 400 in my two classes and we're getting that back. I bribed them, though. I'm sorry. (Don't tell!) Yeah, they don't have any other opportunity for extra credit this semester, so that's fine. Only one point.

Senator Kalter: You are on tape.

Senator Dawson: Oh, ick! Well, spread the word. I'm a softie. The idea is to gather these. We're going to process them in different offices through the state, so I'll bring in what we get from ISU unless somebody else wants to take a big load of that. I'm looking to the Student Government Association. Perfect thing to do while they're registering to vote. So we want to send these down to Springfield by November 4, and they're actually going to be delivered. Think of, "Yes, Virginia. There is a Santa Claus" and all the mail that came in during the trial – bags and bags. We're hoping to deliver boxes and boxes. They're coming in from all over the state. So if you need to take some time before you fill out two, fine. I'll collect them next time, or you can leave them up at the nameplate table. If you have a class that you want to have your students do this, every student at ISU should be concerned about this as well as faculty and staff. It's important. ISU is so lucky that we can carry these students, but who knows about spring and will ISU ever get reimbursed the monies that are due them for covering this?

Senator Kalter: Senator Dawson, do you have a mail code that people could send these to you?

Senator Dawson: Oh, sure. Yeah. Dawson at Accounting 5520 is my campus box. The Accounting Department. Or you can turn them in during a meeting or whatever. I'll get them. And I need to talk to Senator Walsh.

Senator Kalter: Are there further communications for the Senate?

Senator Dawson: 5520. Send it through campus mail. Don't just put a stamp on it and set it down there because it's not addressed that way. But make sure you mention ISU as the university affiliation. I think, Senator Dietz, you were going to make a comment?

President Dietz: My only comment – I appreciate this effort – my only comment is about part of the wording on this. Students were really not denied grants. The institutions funded the grants, so the state didn't fund it, but now they have funded it retroactively, so you might want to be ready for some questions about that.

Senator Dawson: That sounds good. But 16-17 or fiscal 17?

President Dietz: The same is true.

Senator Dawson: The same is true.

President Dietz: The state's not coming up with any money, but institutions are...

Senator Dawson: Would that go across the state, do you believe?

President Dietz: All the public universities are funding the MAP program. Some community colleges are not, and some private institutions are not, but for the fall semester, public universities are funding the MAP grant on behalf of the state hoping for a re-imburement.

Senator Kalter: Thank you.

Senator Gizzi: Starting on Tuesday night, October 11, a four-week series called Super Tuesdays: Elections 2016 is being sponsored by faculty from three colleges. There are four talks – one on Voter Suppression, one on the Role Of The Courts (I don't know why you'd want to go to that one, though, primarily because I'm one of the speakers). On the 25th, Media and the Modern Candidate, and on November 1, Modern Political Movements. It should be a very interesting set of talks and opportunities to have important conversations as we reach the end of the Republic. Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Further communications for the Senate?

Senator Walsh: Just a quick question. Where did you find these days? Is there an online site?

Senator Gizzi: Oh yeah. There's posters everywhere. Google Super Tuesdays ilstu and you will find it.

Senator Kalter: Further communications?

Senator Munoz: Just a statement. Last year, our last meeting, we received a parking voucher for...

Senator Kalter: Yes.

Senator Munoz: Moving out was pretty much very dirty, so I kind of lost my card. There's a few of us in the Student Government Association that want to know if we can... Aw, thank you!

Senator Kalter: Anyone else?

(Laughter)

Senator Gizzi: You do know they're only good on Wednesday nights for Senate meeting.

Senator Munoz: That's perfectly fine. I caught myself yesterday waiting until 9:00 to get out.

Senator Kalter: Yeah. There you go. That's the ticket. They do leave after a certain time. Was there another hand down there?

Senator Grzanich: I'd just like to say on behalf of the students to thank Senator Dawson for her extra efforts in vouching for us and going for our needs, and I would really like to thank her and the rest of the faculty that are going out of their way to help us.

Senator Dawson: Thank you very much. I appreciate that. Yes, you still got your A.

(Laughter)

I said your name right the first time.

Senator Kalter: Are there further communications? I'm going to put Senator Haugo on the spot. When is Waiora? When does that start? It's the first of the AMALI plays?

Senator Haugo: Yeah. Can I do that here? Can I make the announcement?

Senator Kalter: Absolutely.

Senator Haugo: Oh. I'm missing an opportunity.

Senator Kalter: The Communications section of the Senate has been traditionally dominated by the College of Fine Arts, and so we missed your voice.

Senator Haugo: Oh, well. Should I do like a beep, beep, beep - there's an announcement coming?

Senator Kalter: Absolutely.

Senator Haugo: So the School of Theatre and Dance opens our 2016-2017 season Friday night with Waiora by Hone Kouka who is a Maori playwright. We've had in residence for a month a Maori dancer and choreographer who has been teaching our actors the haka, which is central in the play. This is a season that has four AMALI plays in the season, and we'd love to see people turn out to see the plays. Waiora runs for two weeks, opening Friday night, closing the following Sunday (which is the 9th), which is a specially scheduled performance to kick off International Education Week.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. And AMALI, for those of you who don't remember, stands for Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Latin America, and the Indigenous peoples of the world. Any other communications?

Senator Powers: This year I'm producing a market beat for the WZND radio station that airs every Friday on the bottom half hour. This week's story will be about OPEC's decision about reducing oil production and how that'll be affecting markets. So if you want to learn more about that, tune in. Like I said, bottom half hour. It's every other newscast, so if you don't hear it on one newscast, tune in to the next one and hopefully you can hear it. Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Sounds good. Further communications?

Senator Marx: I'd just like to urge everyone to check out the schedule for International Education Week. They put together a phenomenal program for that week and I'm sure there's something for everybody there.

Senator Kalter: Further communications? All right. Seeing no Senator Hoelscher, we are looking for somebody to adjourn us.

Adjournment

Motion: By Senator McHale, seconded by Senator Dyck to adjourn.

Senator Kalter: Senator Dawson was preoccupied, so we're going to go with that one, first and second. All in favor, stand on your feet. Faculty, stand up but then sit back down again. We'll do some elections.

The motion was unanimously approved.