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Senate Meeting, August 30, 2017

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Academic Senate Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 30, 2017
Approved

Call to Order

Senate Chairperson Susan Kalter called the meeting to order.

Roll Call

Senate Secretary Martha Horst called the roll and declared a quorum.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Kalter: Good evening, everyone, again. Welcome to the 2017-2018 year on the Academic Senate. So what I didn't say at the President's was thank you again for volunteering your service, whether you're new or returning, and I hope that this experience will offer you a chance to do work that you find interesting and make you feel like you're contributing towards making this university better.

We have some important work, I think, lined up for this year. The Faculty Caucus will be looking at a number of items that related to how faculty are disciplined or receive a fair hearing when they feel that they've been wronged, or are on the other end of that process. We'll be working to overhaul the Senate Bylaws to make them clearer, better organized, and more usable. The Faculty Affairs Committee should at some point be sending us this year a new and improved version of our Research Integrity Policy, and we'll be considering whether we should change a graduation requirement that says that we think all students should have at least three credit hours of college level learning about Africa, the Middle East, Latin America, Asia, and/or the Indigenous Peoples of the World. And then our two budget and planning committees will be looking at how we strategize our capital renewal and capital building plans during these decades when the State of Illinois is no longer actively supporting needed projects, as well as how we fund faculty initiatives, programs, recruit and retain the strongest people, and provide students with diverse learning opportunities.

In addition to all that, we've also launched several one-year committees that will report to the Senate or the Caucus. One is about updates to the Code of Student Conduct and its processes, another about whether our funding mechanisms for tenure line hires need any updating after about 20 years, and the third about how we will examine equity on an ongoing basis in our tenure line faculty reward systems.

So towards the latter part of the year, we're also going to review the new version of the University's Strategic Plan and participate in the campus interviews for our new Provost. Jan Murphy has already taken her retirement cruise, so I'm afraid she's not available. Where is she anyway?

Provost Murphy: She's taking it right now.

Senator Kalter: Excellent. And how was Alaska?

Provost Murphy: Oh, it was wonderful.

Senator Kalter: Excellent, excellent. I'm jealous. So I'm afraid she's not available and that she has no plans to be the next Al McKean or Gerry Azinger. Oh wait. It's Al Azinger or Gerry McKean. Yes. Right. So she's not envying their position. Is that correct? All right.

So the other thing that I'd like to say is thank you to Dr. Dietz and his wife, Marlene, again for hosting us at the University Residence this evening. I think it signals to the campus how important it is to our President, Provost, and Vice Presidents to listen and respond to the thoughts, ideas, and concerns of the faculty, students, and staff

through this governing body and the other branches of our shared governance system, such as our ASPT committees, how much they value our leadership.

Thanks also to Cera Christensen who is sitting about two seats to my left. She is the Senate's clerk, and she worked this summer to close out last year's business and to get us ready for this year. So if you ever need anything, Cera can be reached at acsenate@illinoisstate.edu or 438-8735 for anything that you might need related to Senate business or actually pretty much anything, although I won't necessarily say that she will know the answer, but she can ask me and I might know where to send it to, who to call.

One quick reminder is that we play by a fairly loose version of Robert's Rules of Order, but we still do play by it to ensure that our meetings are both efficient and inclusive. We may sometimes place upper limits on the amount of floor time that any one speaker can use during any one topic of discussion or debate. That way all of the interested voices can be heard and points can be made, but not belabored too much.

And then, finally, I just wanted to say that our thoughts are with people in the United States and around the world who have gone through some very trying times in these past several weeks, those impacted by the events of Charlottesville, the events in Barcelona, and then all of those in and beyond Texas and Louisiana who have been extremely, so greatly affected by the hurricane, the torrential rains, and the flooding down there.

Student Body President's Remarks

Senator Grzanich: All right. Good evening, everyone. I'd like to first start off by thanking President Dietz again for his warm hospitality this evening in inviting us out. This kind of serves as a special treat for student leaders, and I think I speak for the rest of us when I say don't be afraid to invite us again.

To give you an update on SGA affairs, we are now in our second week of school and SGA could not be busier. Two Fridays ago, SGA participated in the off campus, welcome back bag distribution, which is an opportunity for off campus senators, as well as SGA as a whole, to meet their constituents on a door-to-door basis. Yes, we literally walk door to door with the Town of Normal, as well as the Dean of Students' Office, to distribute resources to them as well as get the opportunity to just meet with them and mingle a little bit. We've been doing this for a while now. It has been a great opportunity for the beginning of the school year, and we look forward to doing it again next year.

We also table at events such as the Spirit Picnic, and the Kick Off 'Que, which were all Welcome Week events. At these events, we've been interacting with our constituents as well as pushing applications out for freshmen to get involved in our Emerging Leader Program. The Emerging Leader Program is a program that is geared towards getting freshmen who have the interest of getting involved on campus, have an inkling for leadership, but don't quite have enough help as is to get them into those roles and get them accustomed to campus life. We have had much interest in our ever capable rock star of a Vice President Ashley Shannon has been going through some interviews already, but worry not, there's still time to get involved. If you have any students that are interested in this kind of program or you think that they might be good at it, feel free to shoot them our way.

Last Friday, our equally capable rock star of a Chief of Staff, Idan Rafalovitz, and I met with Athletics to work out a plan for the Ultimate Fan Experience, which is going to be a partnership between SGA and Athletics to let a lucky student of the Illinois State community go on an Ultimate Fan Experience on one of our football games, as well as our basketball games in order to, one, raise school spirit, as well as, two, get a little bit of positive publicity.

Our first General Assembly meeting of the school year was last Wednesday, in which we passed authorization on our annual Meet and Greet with the Town of Normal at Medici. This will occur on Monday, September 18, from 5-6:45 pm. I strongly encourage anyone to come who has an interest in getting involved within the Town

of Normal. I know it's personally a great experience for student leaders to open those kind of dialogues, and there is free food there as well, so added bonus.

Additionally, we passed funding to begin our feminine hygiene initiative, which we teamed with Nikki Brauer on the Health Promotion and Wellness team to break down the common misconceptions of feminine hygiene, providing free tampons and pads at the G Spot, while also surveying students to determine whether or not this is a service they would utilize year round. We are very excited about this initiative rolling and I will bring you more updates in two weeks.

Finally, if you follow our Facebook page, you would have seen the first of five videos rolled out yesterday in our "You'll Be Fine, Wait to Sign" initiative. This initiative is geared toward busting down the myths of off-campus student realty, giving students the information they need to be informed lessees. Our aim is to be the student voice in the off-campus housing conversation that has been needed for far too long. Often many students find themselves abused in a system where they are pressed into legal obligations that they are not fully prepared for. In these instances, students are the ones suffering in leases that can cost a regular \$7000 annually. SGA is determined to help the students and hopefully pump a little reality into student realty. If you want my full analysis of the housing climate, as well as more information as to what we are doing, please check out my guest column tomorrow in the Vidette, the local newspaper, or check out our website. With that, I yield for questions.

Senator Kalter: Are there questions for Senator Grzanich? I seem to remember a former Chair of the Senate saying that if the students got together and talked about the lease situation, you have a lot of power to influence it, if I remember correctly. So more power to you on that score. Good idea. All right.

We're going to move to Administrator Remarks. Before I go to President Dietz, I just wanted to remind everybody that usually our administrators are very welcoming of all kinds of questions and will take any question at any time, but we do try to observe what we call the 24-hour rule so that if you can at all email in advance to one of the Vice Presidents and let them know what your questions is going to be so that if they need to, they can reach down into the staff in the institution to find out the answers, because, believe it or not, they are not all encyclopedic, walking encyclopedias of knowledge that they can just pull out at a moment's notice. With that, we'll start with remarks by President Dietz.

Administrators' Remarks

• President Larry Dietz

President Dietz: Well thank you, Senator Kalter. I want to say again what a pleasure it was for Marlene and I to have you all at the house tonight. In concert with Senator Grzanich's comments, we will have you back again another time. So thanks for coming out tonight. I want to say, also, congratulations to the new members of the Academic Senate and welcome. Also to say welcome back for the returnees. We got another great year ahead for all of us.

I'll try to be brief tonight, but a few comments that I would share with you. I had a meeting today with the Presidents and Chancellors. For some of the folks that are new to the Academic Senate, Presidents and Chancellors, public university Presidents and Chancellors, meet on a one-on-one kind of situation prior to the meetings of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. During the times when we haven't had a budget, we have met every Wednesday at 3 p.m. via conference calls. The organization of that group is that there is a convener that is elected every year to represent that group, oftentimes to the press and to other entities, and sometimes with the legislature and with the governor. I'm in my third year now being elected into that role, and I don't know if it's because nobody else wants to do that or what, but it's really supposed to be a one-year term, but during those two years when we didn't have a budget, there was a reluctance to have another person in the role. There seems to be a reluctance still to have a new person in the role. Anyway, this afternoon at 3 p.m., I convened once again this group. One of the topics today was about the difficulty that is happening in Houston

with Harvey, and we pulled out some old notes from when Katrina occurred, and the two events are quite different in terms of the cities and the infrastructure and the number of universities that are affected and so forth, but during Katrina we invited a number of students to come here as a temporary home while many of those institutions were getting back on their feet, and we had, I think, about 16 that came up during that time frame. So we've kind of activated that group again, though I think the circumstances are quite different and, based upon the conversation with the Presidents and Chancellors, I think the strategy this time is to work through the chair of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, Tom Cross. My plan is to call him tomorrow and let him reach out to his counterpart in Texas and say that Illinois public universities are willing to be of whatever help that we can, including ranging from nothing, to being as welcoming as we were during the Katrina disaster. I think that's just bottom line a nice, humane, professionally courteous thing to do, and so we plan to do that.

A couple of other notes. We've already talked a little bit about the Provost search. The chair of that group is Dr. Brent Beggs. I gave the charge to that group about a week ago, and they're working hard. They'll work in the next several weeks on the position description. We are not hiring a search firm this time. We didn't hire a search firm for the Vice President for Finance and Planning position, and we got a fine gentleman in Vice President Stephens through that process. So I don't think we're going to hire a search firm this time either. That's really to put everybody on notice to say that you need to help us out. Use your networks. You know, once we get the position announced and so forth, use your networks that you have with colleagues and friends at other institutions and try to help us get a deep and diverse pool for that Provost position that's obviously very, very important. I would be remiss if I didn't thank Provost Murphy for her fine work during this time frame, and you're not done yet, so we're looking forward to continuing to work with you until the position is filled.

A couple of dates for you. On September 16, we will be having a gala announcing the loud version of what has been a silent phase of a Comprehensive Campaign. The gala will host about 250 of our largest donors to the institution, and there will also be a campus rollout of that campaign announcement as well, and that will be announced a bit later, but that's going to be on September 16. The individuals that will be invited will be our higher level individuals who have contributed to the institution.

On September 21 at 2 pm, I will give my State of the University Address. It will be at the Center for Performing Arts again. I'm still working on the speech, but I think we'll have some good announcements and talk about some things that we have as challenges, but some good news kinds of things on that date.

Tomorrow evening, I will travel to Chicago and I'll be meeting with the Black Colleagues Alumni Association in Chicago, and this is the time of the year that we not only do a lot of work here, but we start hitting the road and continuing to work on fundraising. Oftentimes you do that through friend raising at alumni events, and then hopefully some of the friend raising results in the fundraising. So we've started the fall travel schedule with all of that. So with that, I'll stop and yield to any questions.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. It seems like there might be some good alternative spring break trips coming up for Texas and Louisiana.

- ***Interim Provost Jan Murphy***

Provost Murphy: Thanks. Welcome back, everybody. Glad to have you back. The summers are always kind of nice on campus, but we love it when fall starts up and the campus gets that excitement and that buzz again. It has been a busy summer on campus. Most of you know that a lot of our summer has been spent in really dealing with enrollment management, watching that, trying to prepare already for next fall. Tomorrow is tenth day, which is official census day, and so it takes a little bit to crunch the numbers, so we don't know quite by tomorrow at the end of the day what the real numbers are, but at this time we're estimating that we're going to be down around 500 new students, our first time in college and our transfer students. The good news is, though, that our overall enrollment still remains strong, that we've had three really outstanding years in terms of new

students. I keep trying to predict to the President. We're predicting 20,750. We're going to go out on a limb and say we think we're going to be around 20,750, which is a good strong number for us. We're already beginning to hit recruitment hard for next fall with the goal for next fall to make our targets, to make sure that we're on track with our targets and that this year was just a little bit of a blip. The good news is that when we think about fall open houses, we already have 600 more students and families registered for our fall open houses -- I should back up -- our September open houses than we had a year ago at this time, so we are already starting to feel real good about recruitment going into fall of 2018.

The Campus Climate Task Force completed their reports and the President has charged Vice President Johnson and I with coordinating the team that will implement all the goals. We're busy getting that information up on the website so that the campus can track the University's progress on each of the goals, and those two reports developed by that important group and I kind of will look at my colleague, Vice President Johnson, who really has taken the lead on those implementation teams in making sure that we're on track and that we have somebody who's in charge of every single goal and that there's somebody responsible and the campus is able to see how we're doing on meeting all of the goals for the task forces that the President charged.

The Graduate School is putting finishing touches on its strategic plan, and Director Amy Hurd will be working this year on coordinating the implementation of many of those goals, so I encourage you to look for that on the Graduate School website. One of the first things we're really going to do is look at marketing and recruiting; marketing of and recruiting into our graduate programs.

And then searches are starting up already, so approximately 45 searches for new tenure/tenure-track colleagues have begun. I always approximate, because that number is a little bit of a moving target, because when some unusual circumstance comes up, we sometimes will add another search to that to try to get ahead of the game. So it's always exciting to begin the process of searches, to kind of read the applications of candidates who want to come here, to invite them to campus and show them what Illinois State University is about. So that's what's been going on. I'm glad to answer any questions about any of that.

Senator Munoz: Do you believe that having the budget not pass had an affect for the enrollment to decrease?

Provost Murphy: I'll answer that, but I'm also going to make sure that the President answers too. I believe there are a lot of factors that go into those enrollments, but absolutely I do believe that the kind of climate for that budget in the State of Illinois the last couple of years has certainly affected enrollments in all of the institutions. There is a lot of competition for students both within the State of Illinois and then the states that are surrounding the State of Illinois. We also know that the number of students that are traditional age college students, both at the high school level and at the community college level, we know that those numbers are going down, so the competition for students is greater. So I think it's just a number of factors that are leading enrollment, making enrollment management just more of a priority, and it's something we work on every day -- the President, Vice President Johnson, Vice President Stephens. We work on enrollment management constantly to make sure that for next year we get ahead of that game. President Dietz, would you?

President Dietz: I think Senator Murphy hit on most of the points I would make. The data is pretty clear on this. This last year, 17,000 students left the state, and that's a net. Some came into the state, into Illinois, but 17,000 left, and I've had this conversation with the Speaker of the House, I've had this conversation with the Governor, and I said that basically if you look at this just strictly from a financial perspective and you rounded the number and on a conservative amount said that there was about \$10,000 just in the tuition and fee part, not including room and board and all of that, that's \$170 million that went across some state line to someplace. More importantly, the intellectual capacity that went with that individual across the state line, the probability of that individual coming back to Illinois to start their business or work in whatever sector that they choose to work in is considerably diminished. And so whether you look at it as an intellectual capacity drain or a financial drain, to me it's very, very clear that what's been going on, and it's been going on really for a long

period of time, but I think the no budget has really exasperated a lot of people and, as a result, they're still looking. I do think the positive part is that since we've had a budget, I think the mood is just different, and you hear a lot of anecdotal kinds of stories really about not having the budget being an incentive for the folks to say, well, why would I stay in a state that doesn't have a budget. So now that we have one, I think the mood has lightened a bit. So I think that will be positive, but sometimes it's a little difficult to view those anecdotal stories with any kind of data, but I do think it had an impact, and I think that impact will be there for a long period of time. It's going to take us a while and many, many years of having a budget to get the confidence back for the parents and the students to enter into our institutions.

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

Senator Johnson: I'll start off by providing a review of Welcome Week. We thought we had a very successful Welcome Week operation this year, I'd say highlighted by a continuation of our desire to get out there as far as what it means to be a Redbird to our new students coming in. That was started during the summer during Preview where I had a wonderful taste of what it's like for all of our faculty and staff who go through every single session four days a week. I don't think I knew what I was signing up for when I agreed to, you know, take that on. Back at the old place where I was at, we probably had six registration sessions during the summer. So yeah, I got baptized this past summer as it relates to that, but what a wonderful program it was instilling in our new students and parents the values of the institution. We carried that on then with a What Does it Mean to be a Redbird Program during Welcome Week as well, and I have to take my hat off to the Theatre and Dance Department on this campus who came up with an outstanding script and various scenarios and situations that our students often encounter, whether it relates to academics and study habits, whether it relates to taking on a new roommate within our residential environment, taking on cultural differences that we might have, but there is absolutely nothing like students hearing from other students and the response has been just absolutely wonderful. So hats off to the Theatre and Dance Department, along with our Dean of Students Office for coordinating that program, which was well received.

In addition to all of the traditional types of things that we do during Welcome Week, the Meijer Mania, the Quadchella, so if you were interested in getting henna tattooed or tattooed or marbled, there was event that took place where we had DJs, and students had an opportunity to do that. Cultural events, including a new event that we had, Cafe Soul. We had the spoken word at that event and it was absolutely outstanding, but Welcome Week went off without a hitch. And thanks to the rest of the campus community, faculty, staff, students, administration, for coming out and volunteering their time and putting on a wonderful Welcome Week.

The work doesn't stop there. We will follow the acclimation process with tomorrow on the Quad and Festival ISU where all the student organizations and groups will be out there, so we invite you to come out and join in the fun and watch our students sign up for various groups, as well as an opportunity for you to be engaged with our students as well as we will host House Calls, our signature House Calls program, once again in September, September 11-14. You should have all received an email message inviting you to sign up and go door to door, literally, within our residential environments and some off-campus environments in order to ask our students simply how they are doing. What can we do to make your experience that much better? How can we make your acclimation to campus that much better so that we can retain our students? So we invite you all to sign up for that.

Speaking of signing up, it's important again to have a healthy campus community, so we invite you also to sign up for your flu shots. Once again, we are offering those to not just students, but faculty and staff. You can stop over at the Health Services and get your flu shots as well. Please sign up early as the good times are going to go real quickly.

Moving on to protocol issues, we should all be reminded of incidents that have taken place throughout our country, starting off with the incidents that took place at the University of Virginia and Charlottesville as it relates to some campus unrest and protests and literally hate speech that has taken place, and our campus

communities are easy targets, as pointed out by our President in the wonderful message that he sent out to the campus community. We are working with the emergency protocol group that's on campus to try to come up and make sure that we have some specific protocols in place to address protests that may reach a level that we're not prepared for. So we are working hard at coming up with the protocols for that.

In addition to those items, this year we will be focused on, I bring you back to this group, again, updates on the fraternity and sorority life task force as we have come up with our recommendations and are floating those by various groups. We've shared that with the Cabinet, we have shared it with Greek life leaders, we will be sharing it with the alumni leadership, Alumni Board, in a couple of weeks, and we will bring that to this group as well.

Also, we are moving forward with our Housing Master Plan, and we are about to launch a survey for the campus community for our students, as a matter of fact, and some of those results we will be bringing back to this group as well.

And our wonderful Provost mentioned the Campus Climate Task Force and Implementation Team. The Implementation Team will be working on the second set of recommendations, which are more longer term type of recommendations, to which we will be assigning champions for those recommendations.

Finally, just a request, I've made this to Athletics as well and I will hope that you all will back me as well in supporting our Redbirds on the football field so that we can take it to the Butler Bulldogs. I do not wish to hear anything from my colleagues at that institution. After being there 20 years, they are quite silent at this point, and let's keep them silent, shall we, by a big victory, a huge victory, on Saturday. So turn out and cheer on our Redbirds on the field. All right. To that end, I will end my report and take any questions that you may have.

- ***Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Stephens***

Senator Stephens: Thank you very much. I am happy to be here and I look forward to working with all of you over this academic year. I've got a few brief comments on facilities, an HR matter, and a couple of finance matters. I'll try to keep this quick. From a facilities perspective, many of you all are seeing the work being done on the Alamo parking lot just right across the street from here. That should be completed at the end of September with all of the infrastructure; both with new electric lighting and, probably what's most important, that parking lot will have a new electronic pay station. It's kind of a beta test we're going to try out to where if you've been in some other campuses where people will be able to go to the front of the lot and purchase with either a credit card or debit card and place tickets on your cars as opposed to worrying about meters. So you'll see some of the additional electrical work being done necessary for that. If that pilot test is successful, the parking team is very interested in doing that in as many places around the campus as possible. So hopefully all that work will be finished over the next few weeks.

Probably the biggest project that we've got going in this particular building... As many of you may know, the Board of Trustees approved the Bone Center renovation work. It's about \$30 million. All the bids have come in and all the wonderful contracting documents have been signed, so the process and project have started. It's going to be a good 24-36-month project. We're in Phase One, which is essentially renovation of the first floor of the building east, west, and north. On the second floor, that's also included in phase one, and to a new lobby, and then a third floor renovation effort of a new Welcome Center. There is a grand opening ceremony, which is going to be Friday, September 15, at 10:30 am. So if you have an opportunity, if you're not in class -- don't skip class -- try to attend that. It's going to be quite an event, something for the University to be very proud of. From a facilities and disclosure perspective, you're going to see more visible signs about how beautiful this new building is going to look over the next several years. We're working with our contractors to get those architectural renderings and not only placed on exterior signs out across campus, but also within some of the other buildings themselves. As students walk around and parents walk around, they'll not only see the construction work going on, but they'll also be able to see what the buildings are going to look like. You may

have seen out in front of Watterson we put an initial sign there showing what the new Watterson dining facility will look like. We're planning to do that for all of our projects, because we are investing a tremendous amount of money and it's going to be incredibly beautiful, so we want to at least market that. I think that will help us from an enrollment perspective going forward as well.

Over the summer, as you can imagine, a lot of maintenance efforts were done as quickly as possible. Some of the quick notes that came from Chuck's group was that essentially every academic building had their wood floors stripped and waxed over the summer. The College of Visual Arts exterior CVA building was painted. Also a number of classrooms were painted in Fell and Stevenson Halls, so we appreciate... Obviously, we are unable to do everything over a short period of time, but we do have a very dedicated team trying to do as much maintenance, you know, when people are out of school, but also while we're in school; as you can imagine, we will still have to do that, so we appreciate your patience as we continue to improve the appearance and usability of our campus.

The Fine Arts. One thing that is a major project that is going to be occurring over the next few months is the roof replacement at the Fine Arts complex is going to happen and should be finished by the end of the year, so you'll see that work coming up.

From a finance side, we are continuing to work through a proposal where we'll be refinancing the Cardinal Court apartment complex. As many of you may know, that's a P3 partnership. We have decided, after about five years, that it is in our best interest not only fiscally but also operationally to have total control over that project. I just got off the phone over the last couple of days with the new underwriting pool team that we are identifying in order to move forward. We are going to have a Board of Trustees resolution in October seeking approval for the actual transaction. At the end of the day, we expect, as long as interest rates stay reasonably in this bandwidth, we are looking at saving the University in this refinancing environment anywhere from \$7-8 million to as much as \$10-12 million spread out over the next, you know, 20-25 years. So a goal that I've got is to try to methodically work through this fall and try to plan it to where we can save as much interest as we can, and then also close the deal either the end of the year or the beginning of the year, and then turn over that full operational control to LJ and his team, which will also help the campus balance out its operational needs in serving the students much better.

On the last front, I was asked to mention from the Human Resources team, and this is pretty much from an employee perspective, but they're working with CMS at the state level. There's a new online benefits program that's out there. By the fact that it's in its first year, the HR team, benefits team, is encouraging all employees to look at their benefit packages and make sure everything is still correct. Then if you see anything that isn't correct, make sure you reach out to them and they'll try to get that information corrected, but this is a statewide change and so it's not just impacting us. So far things are going reasonably well, but don't assume that everything is still accurate. It would be very nice if people would take the opportunity to look at it and bring up any issues to the HR team so they can get it back to the State, because if it has impacted us, it's got to be impacting other schools. So that's the end of my report. I'd be happy to take any questions.

Senator Kalter: This is going to follow up on you had mentioned the Watterson project. Could you remind us the timetable on that and sort of what they're doing over there?

Senator Stephens: That's a renovation effort that's designed to not only revitalize a lot of equipment in capacity and I believe build another facility really on the -- I call it -- second floor up on the left-hand side of the building. I want to say the amount of money invested in the project is close to about \$11 million. It will not only improve the quality of the dining facility, but it will also have an even greater efficiencies by having newer equipment, a 24-hour ability for the preparation of food. It will also be prepared, again, in hot and cold environments, so there will be greater efficiency, certainly a greater control over the quality of the food, so it's a very exciting project to do. So it's slated to start. We got the Board to approve it. I don't believe it will start

this fall. I have a feeling it's supposed to start over the next summer. As you can imagine, that Watterson facility is our main dining facility, and so we have to make sure we don't disrupt those operations. It's going to be very beautiful and you will see some of that signage placed about the interest of it, because it very much is very attractive, so we want to promote that for the investment that we're doing, because it's all being funded internally within the University's resources.

Senator Kalter: Did you want to follow up on that question, Senator Pryhuber?

Senator Pryhuber: Yes. So you said this project probably will not be started this fall, but in the summer. Correct?

Senator Stephens: That's correct. That's when I think it was originally planned.

Senator Pryhuber: Yes. So, hypothetically, if we don't get this all done in the summer, how will this affect returning students, you know, getting their food, because you have to understand during lunchtimes and heavy mealtimes that it might be difficult to get around.

Senator Johnson: No. We plan on having the building operations start during the summer and to get the majority of the space that's going to be added on done before the summer is out. It's not going to affect the operation for us to start up the fall semester at all. All right? So we're not expecting any disruption. We have to have that facility open since a significant number of our students who residentially live on that side of the campus are right there and serviced by that department.

Senator Pryhuber: Thank you.

Senator Horst: In the spring there was a lot of discussion about the State changing our insurance plan, and then they pulled back from that. Can you give us an update?

Senator Stephens: Yeah. Thank you for asking that. Actually, a few weeks ago, I ran into Janice and asked her that same question. What's the story? I guess the good news I can tell you is it's continuing to be debated at the state level, and this is a particular case where actually no action is good, because, from what we're hearing, the changes that the state is asking to do is to create these metal plans and create obviously higher cost transfer potentially over to employees, and so right now it's still being debated as to how to do that effectively, and so right now Janice had reached out to the state and reached out to other colleagues around the system and there are conversations going forward, but nothing definitive, and our instincts tell us from that perspective that even when they come to an agreement, you're working with insurance companies, and so it isn't like you can turn that switch on a dime. So whenever they do reach agreement, it will likely have an implementation date at the next open enrollment period, which usually is only one time in a year. And so our speculation is that we won't actually see anything finalized and then implemented at best next year. It may go even beyond that, because there are as much politics involved in the conversation as there is, you know, rational thought.

Senator Horst: Is there any update on the law...

Senator Stephens: Trying to be nice here.

Senator Horst: Is there any update on the lawsuits? I know there were some...

Senator Stephens: When Janice reached out to people, I think that's what's also causing some of the difficulty in reaching any kind of conclusion, and so we try not to get involved in that debate and very much leave that to the courts and leave that to the experts in this. I guess I'm being a little more optimistic in saying that slowing the process down, allowing for more rational conversations, even including the issues of the involvement of the

courts; hopefully at the end of the day allows for the best solution that we can get whenever they do choose to make a kind of a change. So it will not be quick. I can pretty much guarantee you that, but you'll find out about it. As more information does surface that has some credibility, I'll be bringing it to the table or be asking Janice to bring it to this table, especially if it starts to get into some of the details.

Senator Munoz: I know also there was some talk about having a grand entrance. Is that grand entrance part of the Bone renovation time frame, or is the entrance going to be a different time frame?

Senator Stephens: To which project?

Senator Munoz: To the entrance. I know there was going to be a stairway from the parking lot of the Bone into the Quad. The only thing, from my perspective, that Illinois State is missing is an entrance type of theme to the University campus. I know there were some talks about some renovations or creating a grand entrance to the Quad.

Senator Johnson: Yeah. That is within the project, and all the more reason the point that he's making about getting these diagrams out and these visuals out so that everyone knows exactly what it is and how this is going to look, but if you can imagine then the east side of the facility here is going to have them be the new Welcome Center, an addition placed on that, and then you know where the stairwell kind of spirals and goes up into the courtyard? That's where that grand staircase is going to be placed, along with some wonderful new grandiose signage that really brands the institution. So if you are to pull into the parking lot coming in in order to have your first visit to the institution, it's going to have a grand appearance then of the stairwell, as well as the new addition that's on that side. A picture is worth 1000 words. We probably need to get that out there. Maybe we can do something like that and send that out to everyone if I forward that to Susan... Senator Kalter then in that sense.

Senator Munoz: Just a quick follow-up: Do you know what time frame is that (inaudible) to be done by.

Senator Johnson: I don't know the specific time for that.

Senator Stephens: That particular phase we can try. Like I said, there's a lot of beautiful design work, and when I actually saw that as I got here a few months ago and started looking at the project, that's the first thing I commented to our Facilities Team and others is wow, this is beautiful. Why isn't this looking like a new residential development where you see what it's going to look like? Why aren't we bragging about this? Anyway, so we'll be actually doing that over the next several weeks. At the grand opening ceremony, a lot of design work will be placed out, but we'll try to get something out that identifies the various phases of the projects, because there is quite a bit of work that will be done, because it is a 24-36-month project, and so there are phases of that, but as LJ has talked about, it's very attractive interest. That was one of the most important parts of the project is to show our pride in how beautiful our facilities are.

Senator Munoz: I agree. Thank you.

Senator Kalter: Any other questions? And I just want to let everybody know that I exercised the 24-hour rule and was responsible, so I wanted to let people know there are only about 70 employees, I understand, who are impacted by this, but I was one of them. Prudential gives us our long-term disability insurance, and if you're on a nine-month salary, over the summer you're supposed to pay your own, they ended up billing me for a fourth month, September. It turns out that you do not have to pay that. Thank you to Janice Bonneville for... I think this came up last year, actually, and she answered the same question about a year ago, so if you got your September bill from Prudential, you can safely ignore it. They overbilled you. You would have paid June, July, and August in the summer. So thank you, Senator Stephens, for helping to answer that question.

Senator Stephens: Please. Like I said, I certainly won't be an expert in everything, but I'd rather you do the 24-hour rule. I mean that helps us possibly be available. If you have any questions, please send them on. It may take us a little bit of time to answer them, but if we see a particular situation like what Senator Kalter brought up, it invites the opportunity for us to reach out to the vendor and say this is causing confusion, and so when you signal that to them, sometimes they may not be quite as aware of exactly what's going on, and they maybe can be able to tweak their system in order to create less confusion in the future. We don't know whether that will happen, but please don't hesitate to show us things, especially from a consumer of information how you're perceiving it or how it's impacting you personally, because that's how we take that back too within our own departments, as well as our vendors, to try to get an improvement in that process where we can.

Senator Kalter: Thank you. I really appreciate that. Twenty-four hours is a courtesy, but it's nice to know that it doesn't have to be an absolute rule. All right. Thank you.

Action Items:

08.22.17.01 -Structure of the Code of Student Conduct Review Committee (From Senate Chair)

Senator Kalter Okay, so the only thing really on our agenda this evening, and it really wouldn't be most first senates of the year, but last, I think it was, October, we passed the Student Code of Conduct Review Committee that I mentioned at the top of the hour, and when we were looking at it, we realized that we had done this interesting thing of demanding that there be two faculty Senators on it, so we're coming up to this fall and the Executive Committee was looking at it and thinking wow, we've got a lot of committees that we need to put faculty Senators on, and we're not sure that we're going to get as many volunteers as we need to out of just that group of 30. At the same time, we have at least three volunteers from the faculty at large who want to sit on that committee, and personally I think it would be a good idea to have people who are actively interested in it. So we have in front of you a proposal, or actually it's more like a question. Does this have to be Senators or can it just be faculty. One of the suggested verbiages is at least one Senator, but I'm actually kind of wondering if we can just make it three faculty voting members, and what the body thinks of that. We usually don't move things straight into an action item, but because we're within the next two weeks going to be, I want to say, stocking this committee. What is the word for it? Seating this committee. We thought we should answer the question tonight. So why don't... Yes, Senator Pancrazio.

Senator Pancrazio: I would contend that having members who are willing to serve is really the major criteria, so I wouldn't restrict that to just Senators, especially if we're under some constraints to seat all the people. We have, you know, quite a bit on our plates as it is, so if we have people who are willing to step forward and hopefully having enough to perhaps (inaudible) have an election or just name people, I think that we should encourage that willingness to serve.

Senator Kalter: Would you like to make a formal motion to that effect, since we...

Senator Pancrazio: I would move that we would remove the restriction of having just Senators and open that up to all interested faculty who would have that willingness to serve, because this is a substantive committee and it's important. It's going to make a contribution both to the students and faculty as we move along.

Motion by Senator Pancrazio to remove the restriction of having just Senators and open it up to all faculty.
Seconded by Senator Stripeik.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. All right, we will move into debate. Senator Grzanich, do you have debate?

Senator Grzanich: I'm in favor of this, as well as making a similar adjustment for the student voting members as well.

Senator Kalter: So that you would completely take off the condition that one has to be a Senator, or two have to be Senators.

Senator Grzanich: I would be in favor of adopting the verbiage that says at least one Senator.

Senator Kalter: For the students.

Senator Grzanich: Correct.

Senator Kalter: Okay. Would you consider that, Senator Pancrazio, and then also Senator Stripeik, to be a friendly amendment to your motion? In other words, that we would take the restriction completely off for faculty, and for students that we have at least one Senator, but then the rest is open?

Senator Pancrazio: Willingness to serve.

Senator Kalter: Okay.

Senator Pancrazio: That's a key factor.

Senator Kalter: All right. Senator Stripeik, is that all right with you as a friendly amendment? All right. Further debate.

Senator Horst: The Senators, the faculty Senators, could still serve.

Senator Kalter: Yes.

Senator Horst: So it's not boxing out the faculty Senators. It's just opening up the position.

Senator Kalter: Absolutely, and the same would be true for student Senators. It can be all student Senators or what have you. Let me just clarify the motion, by the way, for the students. You're saying at least one Senator. You're not requiring that one of them be a non-senator. Is that correct?

Senator Pancrazio: It could be two.

Senator Kalter: Yeah. Terrific. All right. Any other debate? That looks unanimous. Oh, I'm sorry, Senator Munoz.

Senator Munoz: I'm just a little concerned of having someone not from the Academic Senate to sit on this committee. This has been an ongoing issue that's been going on for a while in Academic Senate for someone that's not totally aware what the concerns and why this ad hoc committee was constructed. It gives me a little bit of concern, but I'm open to other ideas and suggest... I mean, I'm open to hearing everybody else's opinions. I'm just a little bit skeptical and a little bit worried. That's all.

Senator Kalter: I don't want to be one of the debaters, but I will just tell you as a point of information that I do know that out of the people who have volunteered so far, there is one former Senator, faculty Senator, and one person who I know is very deeply involved in understanding what the issues are; not because of being on the Senate, but because of being on other external bodies of the Senate. So out of the three people so far who have volunteered on the faculty, two of those three do have a fairly good understanding.

Senator Munoz: That was just only my own concern, but thank you.

The amended motion was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports – Report Elected Chairperson and Secretary

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Kalter: That's our action item for the night. The only other thing we have to do tonight, besides communications, is just to find out who is going to head up our committees, so who out of Academic Affairs is the chair, and then who you elected as secretary.

Senator Pancrazio: I'll be continuing as a chair.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful.

Senator Pancrazio: And Lauren Porter will be continuing as the secretary.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Lauren is doing double duty.

Senator Pancrazio: Thank you for the willingness to serve.

Senator Kalter: Excellent. Thank you. She is also on Executive Committee.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee

Senator Hoelscher: I'll be serving as chair, Mark Hoelscher, and Jed Day has agreed to serve as our secretary.

Senator Kalter: Could you say your last name again? Sorry, Mark. Who are you again?

Senator Hoelscher: I can, but I pronounce it differently every time.

Senator Kalter: Thank you, Mark. That's wonderful. And thank you, Jed.

Faculty Affairs Committee

Senator Liechty: Dan Liechty, I will serve as the chair and Senator Munoz will serve as the secretary for at least the first semester.

Senator Kalter: Thank you very much. Dan, I had my bets on you. I don't know who bet against me, but, you know. I probably got about \$1. Thank you so much.

Planning and Finance Committee

Senator Marx: Yes, David Marx will continue as the chair of the committee, and one of our student senators, Samantha Lewis, has agreed to be our secretary.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Thank you so much for both of you. Then finally Rules Committee. I have a guess on this one as well.

Rules Committee

Senator Horst: I will be serving as the chair.

Senator Kalter: Excellent. Thank you, Senator Horst.

Senator Horst: And we almost had an election for the secretary, but we did not, but Jason Hale has volunteered to be the secretary.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. Thank you very much, Jason. Excellent. I don't think we've ever had a... Well, we kind of had a competition in Planning and Finance, sort of, kind of, but it's rare. It's very rare for the secretary. That's wonderful. All right. Thank you so much.

Communications

Senator Kalter: This is the time when we do communications to the Senate. This can range all over the place. We have announcements about theater productions, things that are going on in your department, things that you just want people to know. I'm going to actually start just to let everybody know, remind everybody that if you do not have your parking permit for free parking on Senate nights, we have them up here, and they're like money. In fact, they are money. So guard them very safely.

Senator Pryhuber: Yes. So Gamma Phi Circus, we're having an open house tomorrow night at 7-9 pm, so come on out. Try it out. You might like it.

Senator Kalter: Excellent. Other communications. Gamma Phi. Didn't you guys break a record over the last year?

Senator Pryhuber: For what?
(laughter)

Senator Horst: Human tower

Senator Kalter: Yeah. Wasn't it like the number of people...

Senator Pryhuber: Oh yeah, yeah.

Senator Horst: Human tower

Senator Kalter: The fact that I know that and you don't. You just don't know how funny that is. All right. Any other communications? If not, we're looking for a motion to adjourn.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Senator Hoelscher, seconded by Senator Chirayath. The motion was unanimously approved.