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## Senate Meeting, October 7, 2020

Academic Senate, Illinois State University

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**Academic Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, October 7, 2020**  
**Approved**

***Call to Order***

Academic Senate Chairperson Senator Kalter called the meeting to order.

***Roll Call***

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

Senator Kalter: All right, this meeting is being held electronically due to the issued disaster declaration, and because the President has determined that at this time in person Senate meetings and Senate committee meetings are not prudent, practical, or feasible.

We will have a hard stop time again tonight between 8:15-8:30 p.m. so that the Faculty Caucus may send volunteers to the Provost for his retreat working groups, and also continued discussions regarding evaluation of faculty during this pandemic impacted year. And we may again need to defer items until next meeting, we'll see, but we will vote at the very least on the Senate Calendar change this evening.

Please do note that there are two items on our Consent Agenda. Each of these items will be passed by the Senate, unless a voting member of the Senate asked before tonight's adjournment for either one of them to be removed from the Consent Agenda, and placed on a regular agenda as Information/Action Items.

So, we're going to begin tonight with a presentation. We begin our main business with Senator Stephens and his annual presentation on the funding request that we will be making to the State for FY22. Following the presentation, I will ask Senator Marx, or actually Senator Murphy, to offer a motion, on behalf of the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee, pursuant to the request. So, question and answer for this presentation tonight will immediately follow the presentation.

And just a reminder that if you would like to be recognized to speak, you should raise your hand through the participants hand raise function in Zoom or else click on either the yes or no button, if the hand raise is for some reason not available to you. And with that preface, we'll now hand it over to Senator Stephens, our Vice President for Finance and Planning, and his team.

***Presentation: Operating and Capital Funding Request to the State of Illinois (Vice President Senator Stephens, Assistant Vice President of Planning and Operations Sandy Cavi, and University Budget Officer Amanda Hendrix) followed by vote to approve the requests.***

Senator Stephens: Thank you, Senator Kalter. I want to also thank the committee members from the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee, and the Planning and Finance Committee. We had a very good discussion earlier and I shared with them a lot more slides in the overall picture.

I'm going to reduce it down to just simply the topic at hand, which is a COVID update related to the... for the entire fiscal year, and then the Operating and Capital Appropriation Request.

The reason I wanted to revisit the COVID-19 impact is when I gave the presentation back a few weeks ago, when we talked about FY21, the only calculations that I provide were for those amounts that were... are the impacts that were for the fall term. Well, in preparing for obviously the FY21 budget, we've got to take into account and project not only the fall impact, but also the spring impact. And if you look at this chart, the FY20 was similar information that we shared before where our about \$25 or \$26 million impact is predominantly coming from the student refunds we offered last spring. But what has come to light in our fiscal forecast is in the lost revenue areas in the additional expense area right now because of the dedensification and the offering of students with the opportunity to choose to either live with us on campus or live off campus, and therefore dining with us or dining off campus. We've got a significantly reduced number of students with us. We are, traditionally, would have students around the 6,000 count in housing, and right now they're operating somewhere around the 3,000 range, which is about 50% down. The dining contracts are also experiencing a similar reduction. So, that's causing about 30... a significant amount of this \$35 million from an additional expense area, I'll share in a minute.

We've got our surveillance and symptomatic testing that we're doing on campus from a safety perspective. We've got Reditus signed up for this fall. And we're hoping to have the UI Shield program in the spring that will provide us a significantly, a lot more opportunity to provide the necessary testing. But the cost associated with that is, for just both of those two programs, is close to \$9 million. So, I want to make sure everyone here is aware of the significant impact that we're facing just simply due to the pandemic. As you can see here in FY21, operating at a housing capacity of about 50% in the fall and in the spring, it's causing a significant reduction in revenue, almost close to \$16 million in housing. And then the dining operations traditionally serves around 8,000 contracts, you know, each term, we're operating somewhere around 50-55% there. So, they're experiencing a significant reduction in revenue.

As I spoke a little bit earlier, our UI Shield testing and Reditus testing is making up the majority of this \$9 million forecast cost associated with that. So, it's something we definitely, you know, feel the necessity to do, and I'll speak to in a minute why that's important because that is, these type of cost is what we are actually asking the state, in our appropriation request, to help reimburse us for this.

These are just the general statistics around where we draw those numbers. About 50% capacity of students equates to when you've got an annual contract of about 5,400 about \$16 million. And then again, we're at about 55% capacity on the dining area, statistically, that's about \$17 million. Again, tuition prospective and student fee prospective, fortunately, we had a very successful year in recruiting. So, we're not down nearly as much in a revenue perspective there. Overall, we're

looking at about a \$1.8 million reduction, due to the lower student count and about a half a million-dollar reduction on a full year student fees.

The other chart I want again to share is despite the fact that we've got significant revenue reductions, the institution is set up to mitigate that. Unfortunately, when we were building reserves in the past in order to invest in our capital projects, especially on the AFS system side, we're having to use those reserves in order to help offset the lower revenues. We're providing the same level of service in our housing and dining. Unfortunately, we've just got less number of students who are choosing to live with us.

So, if you remember from the last presentation, I shared with you that our overall kind of reserves or savings on the GR, or unrestricted side, as of FY19 audit was about \$104 million and the AFS system, which is the bond area, about \$134 million. So, I was looking at our projections from our audit. We're still in the middle of our audit and it won't be finalized until probably late November, early December, but the early projections show that we are still, despite the refunds, we still had a reasonably successful year, this past year, even on the AFS system side with the refunds, we're still only showing a slight decline in the overall reserves.

The last point I'd like to make is down here at the bottom, because we were in the middle of the pandemic and realizing at the end of the day, having sufficient reserves in order to offset these lower resources coming in, we chose to refinance a major renovation project in Watterson Towers last year. We had originally funded out of the AFS system reserves, about a \$31 million project. Well, because of the pandemic, we thought it'd be a lot wiser or more conservative to place those reserves back in the system in order to provide for, you know, any future need, whether it's this year or any future year that we would borrow for those funds. So, this particular summer we issued debt and we borrowed that \$31.5 million and about 1.5%. So, looking now at all the revenue losses this... we were fairly prudent in placing those reserves back into the system, and that was well received by Standard and Poor's and Moody's. So, we receive positive marks for being proactive in protecting our cash position.

I'll move ahead through these charts and get to the Operating Appropriation Request and the Capital Request. Our current appropriation level for FY21 (and it was the same level for FY20) we were at \$69.6 million. In talking with the President this year, and realizing at the time that the state itself is exhibiting similar revenue reductions due to lower tax revenues from the pandemic, we did not want to be an institution that asked for a unreasonable amount of appropriation request. Matter of fact, what we decided to ask and what's in our request is just simply a flat budget, it's essentially asking them to continue to fund us at our \$69 million level, but reimburse the institution for what we're calling COVID expenses for life safety. What that \$11 million you see here is, again, on the general revenue side, that is predominantly the testing expense we're projecting. The half from the Reditus, it's about \$3.5 million, and the UI Shield, which is about \$5.5 million. That's about \$9 million. And then the extra \$2 million is for other cleaning supplies and expenses that we incurred, and then some of the request for reimbursement for IT equipment

that we had to purchase in order to pivot away from being a face to face instruction to online. So, recognizing that the state is dealing with its own fiscal matters, we thought it would be more prudent to ask for more fair request to just simply reimburse us for the expenditures that were outside of our control, which is very similar to what they're asking the federal government to do as well. So, if we are successful in that request, that would move our appropriation up from \$70 million, including a small amount of license fee rate, to about \$80.6 million.

From Capital Request, before I get to the details of what we're asking for, I wanting to remind the Senate body of what Governor Pritzker had passed through legislation last year. You may recall, he introduced a six year plan of Capital Appropriation that was earmarked in legislation and referred to it as Rebuild Illinois. Well, ISU was identified as receiving \$197 million. These are the projects by which... that we were earmarked, as you see up here, the top, the only project that has been released and funded has been the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts renovation of around \$62 million. That is sitting in the hands of CDB and that project is continuing to move forward. The Library was the other project that they indicated that they wanted to fund. This Capital Renewal or Deferred Maintenance is the request we have in to help repair a lot of the major operating systems around campus in our academic buildings. They also did fund some smaller projects over in the Wonsook Kim complex, as well as some group projects across campus. So, what our request is for this year is very similar to what it was last year. These are the same academic facilities that were in the FY21 request as new facilities. You'll recognize the Engineering Building, the College of Nursing, Metcalf, Degarmo, University High, and Williams Hall. The only difference between last year's funding request and this year is we cost escalate those levels based on rates that the state tells us to do. Last year, our request was around \$403-404 million. It's been cost escalated up to about \$409 million

What our Capital Renewal Request is, we are asking for not only the amount in the what I said here, this \$40 million, we're actually asking for a repeat in FY22 to also add an additional \$40 million as well, because we've got a significant amount of... we've got well over \$250 million dollars of deferred maintenance on our state supported facilities. So, in total, our overall capital request this year is around \$450 million dollars.

So, oh, and this particular list, I won't go into details, but I'll share this with the committee. This is the overall listing, if they did provide the funding of the \$40.4 million, these are the major repair efforts across the campus, the top two that we've been constantly asking for is HVAC upgrades or fume upgrades in our two science buildings, which equant almost close to \$10 million. So, I will stop right there and yield for questions.

Senator Kalter: All right. Wonderful. Thank you so much. Do we have any questions regarding the presentation?

Senator Horst: I was curious about the request for COVID. Do you know if other Illinois institutions are asking for that? And have you heard any indication from the state as to whether or not they would fund it?

Senator Stephens: We haven't. They're just now... the meetings are just now beginning to occur with the IBHE. We've got our joint meeting (budget meeting) with them tomorrow. I would not be surprised. We did ask, from a statewide perspective, if there was any guidance that the Governor's office or IBHE could offer, and unfortunately they didn't provide any general estimates in those ranges. So, in talking with President Dietz and being respectful to the Governor and the issues the state are facing we felt asking for a flat budget and then asking for those reimbursements would certainly not land on deaf ears. Whether they're able to fund it or not is another story. But I'm optimistic that on the national news a lot of the current state funding or the federal funding that the next round they're hoping to provide, I'm hoping that some of that includes funding that in essence would reimburse what we're asking in this particular request.

Senator Blum: Yes, you noted that the Moody's and S&P responded favorably to the moving of those funds back into reserves. I was wondering if that's had an impact on our rating. Or was it just, you know, whatever?

Senator Stephens: Actually, we did have a rewriting by both agencies. Thank you for the question. And they went through not only our existing debt, they asked us a lot of questions about how they see COVID affecting the university, and we shared with them all the relevant information at that time. It's been a few weeks ago, but we did receive the public report from S&P. Moody's will be releasing theirs soon, but we received the same rating and A- rating that we've had from the last couple of years, and they continue to comment about our conservative strategy that we have. And they were very supportive of the fact that when you can secure cash resources that, in our case, a 1.5% interest rate, that that's fairly wise. And so, we're very optimistic that they felt like we were still being very prudent in that area.

Senator Kalter: Further questions. (Pause) All right, I just have a couple, and forgive me if I miss something. Did I read one of those slides right? With the reserves that are unrestricted reserves (I think it was our unrestricted reserves) are actually going to go up from one \$104 million to \$114 million?

Senator Stephens: Yeah, that's correct. Actually, a lot of the reserves itself get impacted by capital, the lack of spending capital. That's one of the things that we are managing through this pandemic is we've significantly limited the capital projects, and because the state hasn't funded on the GR side, a lot of repair, the fact that we have planned for that in our tuition and in our budgeting actually is resulted in some higher resources. The Academic Enhancement Fees was a new revenue stream in this past fiscal year. That's what those funds are used for. So, when they aren't spent in the current year, they just simply get placed into the reserves to be spent in future years.

Senator Kalter: All right, thank you. And then you may have already said this, but for the CFA project and for the Milner project, the money has been authorized or what have you, but we're not... we're probably not seeing the results of that right now. Do you have any guesses as to when we're going to see, for example, groundbreaking or what have you?

Senator Stephens: I was speaking with Mike Gebeke yesterday, right now, on the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts project, that is with the architects, their value engineering from the original architectural designs to try to fit within that \$62 million. I believe they are getting close to finishing that. And then they're evaluating that relative to how much funding we have. But at the next stage, they should be, if we can get a positive outlook that they've engineered it in a way to where the project can move forward exactly with those funds, then they'll go to bid. Now, unfortunately, the Library has been earmarked but it has not... the Governor has not released the funds from the state comptroller's office over the CDB like it has for the Wonsook Kim project.

Senator Kalter: Got it. Thank you so much for that. Are there any further questions?

Motion by Senator Murphy, on behalf of the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee, to approve the FY22 Operating and Capital Funding Request to the State of Illinois. The motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Kalter: All right. Wonderful. Thank you all so much. Thank you, Senator Stephens for your presentation and your work.

### ***Chairperson's Remarks***

Senator Kalter: We move on to Chairperson's Remarks, I do not have any additional remarks at this time. Anybody have any questions about anything? (Pause) And if not, please remember to let me know by the end of the meeting if you'd like any item removed from the Consent Agenda. So, we'll now move to Student Body President Remarks.

### ***Student Body President's Remarks***

Senator Harris: I will be brief, but I just wanted to say that elections per Student Government has been our main push at the moment. We are using our social media heavily, as well as our Civic Engagement Committee, and our Secretary of Government Relations, they are working with CESL really closely for voter engagement and also working on some post-election plans. That same committee is also hosting our annual College Dems vs College Republicans Debate which will be October 27 at 7:00 p.m., I believe, and when the date gets near, if you all would like links, I can send that to you all.

I just also wanted to encourage you all to encourage your students to utilize Turbo Vote. The last time to use Turbo Vote would be October 18. And with Turbo Vote, students can find their polling locations and request mail-in ballots, and Turbo Vote is also generally really good with providing students reminders for important dates and things like that. And Turbo Vote would particularly be really important for off campus students to find their polling location if they

intend to vote on Election Day, but it will also be just important in general for students to of course be registered to vote.

Other than that, our off-campus students are also working on their initiative to inform students on off campus life. Open leasing start soon in the community and they are just looking to encourage students to be more informed before they sign leases, especially in the times that we are in now. We just want to make sure students are well informed before they make decisions.

Kind of drifting away, I also wanted to bring some attention to, I'm sure you all are aware, of concerns that students are bringing regarding proctoring that may be coming soon. I did have conversations with individuals, and myself and our secretary of IT were able to ask some questions. But, you know, of course, I do still have questions, and I know the student body at large still has questions. So, if that would be Senate or someone else to provide some clarification to the student body that would be immensely helpful to dispel all of the concerns that are happening amongst students

And the last thing for me is, I'd be remiss to not acknowledge that a year ago today was when we kind of saw the uprising that happened on campus. And where we saw students come to the Senate meeting to address the grievances that they had with the University. For myself and other students that are now on the association, and that have been a part of the movement since the beginning, that particular moment and seeing Senate led us to want to pursue Student Government and Senate as a whole. So, I just wanted to encourage Senate and you all individually to kind of think of where we are now, when they came to us in Senate, they came to us with a purpose, they led out things that they would like to see the university do. Have we done that? Have we met the needs of students? I would encourage you all to think of that, and not just as the university but as yourself. Have you been working to do that? Because it takes the work of everyone to build a multicultural and anti-racist institution. So, it's not just the university. It takes the work of everyone. So, if you have the time, take a moment to do some self-reflection. It's been a year. For myself as a student, I can say that I do still see that work needs to be done. So, I encourage you all to take that moment as well. With that, I yield.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. Thank you so much, Senator Harris. And very well said. Want to honor, especially the two Senators last year who did a lot of the questioning from the floor: Isaac Hollis and Kiana McClellan.

And, Senator Harris, just to address one thing, when we get to Senator Stephens' remarks, there may be some chance to talk about the proctoring issue. I'm sure that won't be the only venue, but I believe that Charley Edamala is on the call, so he may be able to provide some answers there.

### ***Administrators' Remarks***

- ***President Larry Dietz***

President Dietz: Thanks very much. First remark I would make is to say to Senator Harris that you articulated the concerns very well, both for the organization, and for each of us as



professionals and people that are interested in the improvement of the institution. So, we're continuing to work on those things. Matter of fact, tomorrow, we have another meeting of the #antiBlack group on the campus with administrators. And we're also preparing a report for the Board of Trustees that will be out before the next meeting on improvements and the work that's been going on related to the issues that were raised a year ago at this time.

I want to underscore, a couple of things, also in Senator Stephens' presentation, did a great job and presenting the FY22 budget and summarization of the FY21 budget. As I've mentioned to this body before, we were assured by the Executive Director of IBHE that we will be okay for FY21 in terms of our budget. There's no plan to go through an exercise the way a lot of other state agencies are going through right now to potentially reduce budgets by somewhere between 5-10% for the current year. We feel that we've been exempted from that for the FY21 year. FY22 we have not been exempted from that. And so, we've been asked to go through some exercises and some scenarios that might result in a 5-10% reduction for FY22. Again, right now, that language only pertains to state agencies, and universities are technically not state agencies, but we've been asked to begin thinking about that for FY22.

Also, I would underscore Senator Stephens' comments about the request that we've had. I meet every Wednesday with the other presidents and chancellors of the other public universities in the state, and we've been talking about this Illinois Board of Higher Education, what has been called a big picture meeting, which is tomorrow for us. And historically that really has been all about numbers and all about budget issues, but in talking with Jonathan Lackland, our Director of Government Relations, our cabinet and Senator Stephens, we think that the approach that we've taken, which is basically a flat approach plus COVID expenses is a realistic approach. Some of my colleagues at some of the other institutions are not taking that same approach. And it's been very rare, frankly, that all of us as public institutions have taken the same approach for budget requests. I've suggested that to my colleagues, and there been times when about half of us have, you know, asked for about the same percentage amount, but most have not. And it doesn't mean that the ones that are asking for more are getting any more. But I do think that the request that we have is a good request, a reasonable request, and we'll kind of see where things go. But I appreciate the support of the Senate tonight, in not only reviewing that and listening to the presentation, but also supporting that.

The only other item I have tonight is a bit of an update on the Director of Athletic search. As everybody I think is aware that Larry Lyons, who has served the Athletic department for 33 years, has opted to retire at the end of this calendar year and a search is underway. We are using the assistance of a search firm, the Witt/Kieffer organization. That's one of the ones that's approved by the Central Management Services that approves those kind of contracts and so it's the same firm that we used, that was successful in bringing Provost Tarhule to us. And so, they have a sports segment of that corporate entity, and the individual who heads that has been an Athletic Director at several institutions. So, we're moving that along, we are putting together a search committee, I think we're pretty close to having that one finished. The chair will be Brent

Beggs, who's been the former chair of the Athletics Council, and we will also have the current Chair of the Athletics Council on the committee. And there's a number of other folks that will round out that group. The position is already out, it's been advertised and we already have 30 applicants for the position. And so, I think it's a, you know, we'll get a deep and diverse pool for that. But we're just kind of getting started on all that. So, I'll keep you apprised of our progress on that. With that, I'll yield for any questions.

Senator Kalter: All right, thank you so much. Do we have any questions for Senator Dietz? (Pause) I know I've been asking people to hold questions up until tonight, we're going back to sort of normal business here. I do have a couple of questions for you, Senator Dietz, just about some other searches and they may actually be for your vice presidents more than for you, but I saw that there are some job openings posted right now for the Associate Vice President for Student Success and the Associate Director for the Multicultural Center. So, I'll just say all of my questions all at once. My first question was whether we actually have a Director of the Multicultural Center already, since we're doing a search for the Associate Director? I was wondering if those announcements are going to be distributed internally, so that people from ISU might be able to be aware of them and consider applying? For the AVP for Student Success, whether we've contacted the pool of applicants from last year who qualified for the role, so that they know that it's open again, or whether we're simply including them or the finalists in this year's pool? Because if everybody remembers, we stopped that because of COVID, and so the other question is about the logistics of both searches, how would the logistics of those searches work, given that they were cancelled in the spring due to not being able to bring candidates to campus, and I actually have the same questions for the Athletic Director. So, for all three of those, the Multicultural Center, the Student Success one, and then the Athletics Director, what our plans are for what we usually do as on campus interviews?

President Dietz: I think that there may be some confusion about the Student Success. I think the position in Student Affairs. I'll let Senator Johnson talk about that, but I think it's a different position. In terms of coming to campus, I think for the Athletic Director position, and I think for most positions, that a lot of the interviews will be virtual but, Senator Johnson, you want to say anything about that, or you want to wait until your remarks?

Senator Johnson: I'll wait for my remarks.

President Dietz: That okay with you, Senator Kalter?

Senator Kalter: Yes. So, were you saying that the Student Success one is not actually open?

President Dietz: I don't think so. I think the position you're talking about is in Student Affairs, and it's a position that will replace some of the work that Katy Killian was doing, as she has moved into more of the communications role in the President's office.

Senator Kalter: Gotcha. All right. Any other questions for Senator Dietz?

Senator Robinson: Yes, I have a question. So, with the representation of the search community for our new Athletic Director, would there be an opportunity for students to sit on that search committee?

President Dietz: They have a Student Athletic Advisory Committee and we're asking the chair of that committee to be on the search committee.

Senator Kalter: Alright, thumbs up from Senator Robinson. Do we have any other questions for Senator Dietz? (Pause) Alright. I'm seeing none. Thank you so much.

- ***Provost Aondover Tarhule***

Provost Tarhule: Chairperson Kalter, may I, before I make my remarks, ask a question of procedure? You were asking to be informed about items that should be taken off of the Consent Agenda. Would this include the requests for the Spring Break Academic Calendar Change?

Senator Kalter: No, those are not on the Consent Agenda. Those are on the regular agenda. When we get there, we will just... well, right now, I personally will thank you. I know that I may not be in the majority, or I don't know where I am exactly, because surveys do not always have the majority, but we thank you both for that, for giving us back our Spring Break, and for giving us back a little bit of our meeting.

Provost Tarhule: Well, thank you. I just wanted to get that point of clarification, make sure I wasn't missing an opportunity here. Thanks for the clarification.

A few comments from Academic Affairs, we had a Dean's Retreat on October 5th. This was an opportunity for all of the deans to get together to try to look at the major challenges and opportunities that we have at this present time, and also to try and strategize or identify a number of priorities that we'll be working on in Academic Affairs. I thought it was a very productive meeting. We had a wide ranging discussion. So, that was really interesting. The other reason for that retreat was in preparation for the All Academic Affairs Retreat, which I have mentioned I believe a couple of times now, coming up in February next year. And so we'd like to build upon the deans' retreat in preparation for the spring retreat, and I'm looking forward to welcoming the faculty nominees that you all will be sending to us to work with the groups that are preparing for that retreat.

We also had two public forums to discuss the Engineering Master Plan. I think there were about 80 participants in the first one, and about 60 later, over 60 in the second one, so well over 140 faculty participated. The questions were wide ranging and I thought they were on point. I thought they gave us an opportunity to further elaborate on what the planning committee has been working on, and to hear from Cannon Design, who are our consultants. So, we're looking forward to proceeding on that plan to the next steps.

The proctor software, Senator Harris mentioned, and by the way, Senator Harris, I can't let this go without saying that I found your comments really touching and articulate. And I'd like to

applaud you for those comments you made about the diversity and what needs to happen. So, thank you for bringing those

The questions related to the proctoring software, I became aware of this towards the end of last weekend. And so what we have done since then is to work with Charley's group (that is Technology) to look at what the questions are, and then we have developed a response strategy that we're working on moving forward. Part of that strategy requires me to reach out to the faculty that indicated an interest or a need for using the proctoring software. We will be getting feedback from that group. They've already received letters from the Provost Office to comment on a number of questions that were raised with them. We've giving them a short turn around time. We expect to have collected all of those responses by this Friday. And my goal is to provide some communication and guidance by Monday. So, exactly what you are asking for, we expect to have that communication by this Monday, and we hope that that will address, not just the concerns that students have but also the needs that faculty have expressed and the need to touch back with them before we send out that communication. But that will be coming out this coming Monday.

The final comment I'd like to make is more of a reminder and an appeal, if you will, as everyone knows, spring registrations will begin on October 19<sup>th</sup>. I would like to remind all of the faculty Senators who are here, either in their right as faculty members, but also as representatives, to reach out to all of your colleagues and constituents and remind them about the need for following the guidance with respect to communication to students. We would like very much for students to have much greater clarity for the spring than we did this past fall. That wasn't faculty's fault. That happened just because we had to make a lot of revisions and iterations, but nevertheless there was some confusion for the students, and I'd like to be able to learn from that experience to make sure that we can make that communication and hopefully the start of the spring semester much more clear for everyone. So, if you can take that message back to your constituents, I'd appreciate it very much. And those are all of the comments I wanted to make.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. Do we have questions for Senator Tarhule? (Pause) All right. I see none. I'll just make a couple of comments. One is that I sent around the recording of the first Engineering forum for any faculty, staff, and students reachable through the Senate that want to view that and may want to enter questions. They can send them to us or to the Provost directly.

And with regard to the things that the faculty need to tell students, one of the things that has come up in Executive Committee is the question of cameras on/cameras off. So, we're hoping that there will be some room in the notes section of Campus Solutions or wherever that goes, I'm not sure if there's going to be room where students can know stuff like that, as well as synchronous/asynchronous and etc.

- *Vice President of Student Affairs Levester Johnson*

Senator Johnson: Okay, thank you. Good evening, everyone. I will start off the one agenda item that I had was to share with you all that we had our first meeting of the Student Affairs Student Leaders Council earlier today. That is a group of organizational presidents that we pulled together several times a semester in order to educate them on Student Affairs departments and services that we provide, as well as to talk with them about different topic areas that they'd like to address as relates to the out of classroom experience. And then finally, an opportunity for them to share with each other their programs, goals, and initiatives for the semester so that they can support each other and engaging the campus community and other students. It was a great meeting. We did a little brainstorming on topic areas that they wish to address for this year and looking forward to working with those students throughout the semester and academic year.

To get back then to the other questions that were being asked about several positions as relates to the Multicultural Center and the director for that area. There has been an individual identified for that role. We have leveraged again the Diversity Advocacy staff within that area in order to create the staffing pattern for a Multicultural Center and therefore, Dr. Christa Platt will be serving as the director for that area. Several of the people or individuals who are in professional positions were carried over into some of the new roles over within that facility, but the other position that you're speaking of is one of the vacancies that we have, that will be reporting to Dr. Platt then in that sense. Our students within Diversity Advocacy and a number of other students have been extremely involved in this process, and so forth. So, we're very excited about the staffing pattern and the services that we're going to be able to provide in that area moving forward.

In relation to the Assistant Vice President position within Student Affairs, as President Dietz identified, that is a replacement for Katy Killian, not that she can be replaced. But it is to fill that vacancy as she is now working with University Communications and other items within the President's office. That position has reporting to it University Housing, Student Affairs Marketing and Communications, the ISU Police Department, as well as (who am I leave out... Oh, I may be leaving out one additional area). But nonetheless, that person is a vital member of our Student Affairs Executive Team. We have a search committee in place right now. It includes, again, members of our Student Affairs team, students, and the like, and we hope to have a successful candidate identified before the end of the semester, and then the person come on, hopefully, in January. Already we have over 30 applications for it and it is a large and diverse pool of candidates. So, we're very excited about that process. And with that being said, I'll yield to any questions.

Senator Kalter: All right. Wonderful. Do we have any questions for Senator Johnson? (Pause) All right. If not, I just want to thank you for clarifying all of that. It makes it a little bit more crystal clear. And so, we'll go, thank you again, to Senator Stephens for Financing and Planning.

- *Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Stephens*

Senator Stephens: Thank you, Senator Kalter. I really don't have any meaningful comments tonight, other than to just continue to provide an update on a couple of key capital projects on campus. The Julian Hall renovation effort is continuing to move along quite well. Thankfully, after the summer closure with COVID, the contractors are moving quite expeditiously. And then over at the Multicultural Center, that is also, now that we've got all the bids in place and the contractors are working, we're very excited about that project. That is expected to be completed sometime by the end of next spring. And we're very much looking forward to the grand opening of that.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. Any questions for Senator Stephens? (Pause) All right. I see none. Let's have a round of virtual applause for getting through our first actual regular Administrator Remarks with usual Q&A.

***Action Items:***

***Spring Break Academic Calendar Proposed changes***

***Memo Academic Calendar Spring Break***

Senator Kalter: We move now to skipping over the Spring Break Academic Calendar proposed changes, because there are none. And we can have another round of applause for that if you so choose. If not, you know, hopefully it'll be a short night.

***Code of Student Conduct ad hoc committee extension***

Senator Kalter: Now we go to the Student Code of Conduct ad hoc committee extension. This is an Action Item. So, just an explanation for why this is on here. Ad hoc committees have to be renewed annually. This committee has not been able to complete its work, and it had not completed work by the time the Title IX changes had to be made. So, we are voting to allow it to complete its charge so that it eventually may finally disband. So, do we have any questions about that before I asked for a motion?

Motion by Senator Horst, seconded by Senator Mainieri, to extend the ad hoc committee to continue its work for another year. The motion was unanimously approved.

***09.17.20.01 Senate Calendar Changes: Propose moving the Senate from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., with Faculty Caucus immediately after. Internal Committees meet at times of their own choosing.***

Senator Kalter: Proposal to move the Senate meetings from starting at 7:00 p.m. to starting at 6:00 p.m., with Faculty Caucus immediately after, and internal committees meeting at the times of their own choosing. So as of now, all of the internal committees have been able to find times to meet.

Motion by Senator Cline, seconded by Senator Garrahy, to approve the proposed Senate Calendar changes.

Senator Kalter: Before we have any debate, let me just lay out in case this is a long debate, I'm not sure if it will be, some guidelines that I prepared in case we needed to debate the Academic

Calendar question, but might help us here tonight for the rest. Basically, that I won't be calling on any Senator twice until all the Senators who wish to speak have chosen to do so. To discourage people from speaking twice if they're repeating what they just said before. That I can call time on the debate if things become repetitive, or the first round of speakers appears sufficient to inform the vote, and just to try to keep comments, you know, succinct essentially. All right, do we have any debate on the motion to move the Senate meetings to 6:00 p.m.

Senator Pancrazio: Yes, the question I have is, can you explain to us the purpose of this? Is the purpose so that we can end early, or is the purpose so that we can dedicate more time to our own deliberations? Certainly, if the idea is that we can end at 9:00 p.m. I think we would do well to add a hard stop time into this for the Caucus meetings. However, if the purpose is to continue on our discussions, I would urge people to vote no. Because I think one of the things about the Senate that we've noticed over the years is that we do tend to deliberate, and the more time we have to deliberate, the more we deliberate. And I think the very much... the Senate very often is a perfect example of universities moving at the speed of glaciers. In fact, the glaciers may be moving faster than we are. So, could we have some clarity on what the purpose of the actual move is going to be? Thank you.

Senator Kalter: My understanding is the purpose is to move the hard stop times from 8:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. for the Senate, so that the Caucus can then move its hard stop time from 9:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Senate Pancrazio: Can we get that in writing?

Senator Kalter: You have it on recording

Senator Pancrazio: Good. Thank you. Thank you for answering the question.

Senator Horst: I'd like to speak against this motion. I've been on the Senate for a while, and I think the Faculty Caucus did go rather late at the beginning, but I have confidence that we can speed things up. We're getting better at doing elections, for instance, we don't have an ASPT revision this year. We will have one next year. But I'm confident that we can be more efficient. But my main problem is that it's not the number of hours that we're meeting, but it's the number of events. You know, every time I have to do a Zoom call I have to prepare, I have to be there before, I have to be there after, and I've got a lot of things going on (so does everybody else). I'm not going to be able to spend some time with my family, students won't be able to get dinner. So, it's just the number of events for the Senate. And if we do this next year when we have an ASPT discussion again, then we'll have to go there, we'll have to park. So, there's that consideration. I think the Senate load is already with the service and now, you know, with another event, it's going to get heavier, and we're already having problems filling Senate seats. So, this might make it so that nobody wants to really be on the Senate. We've been having trouble achieving quorum in committees. And so this could, now that we're not locked in with the Senate meeting, we could have problem making quorum in our internal committees. I'm a little doubtful that we will

be stopping earlier. That's just me. And, you know, right now I have about 15 to 20 hours extra of childcare because my children are at home. So, I've got a lot of things going on. And the thought of having another event for the Senate is just it's a heavy burden.

Senator Kalter: All right. Thank you, Senator Horst. I just want to clarify one thing. This does not carry over to next year. And as far as I understand it, it is not an additional thing for the Senate, it's moving of the time of the Senate.

Senator Harris: Yeah. Can we get some clarification? To kind of go off with Senator Pancrazio, I thought the proposal for changing this was so that we can... I know it seems they're not in favor of the discussion, but from the student perspective we wanted the more discussion, which was to 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. was where I thought our hard stop time would be, so then faculty, you all can have the extra 30 minutes, because I know now are hard stop time at 8:30 p.m.

Senator Kalter: Yes, I will stand by what I said to Senator Pancrazio, I think one of the main purposes of this is to make it so that faculty are not staying here until 9:30 at night, or at one point after 10:00 at night.

Senator Agbonifo: Yes, I actually have a question. So, when will this start taking place if this does pass?

Senator Kalter: If passed, it would start taking place at the next Senate meeting. So, that would be the 21st, I believe.

Senator Agbonifo: Okay, because it's so, it's a little inconsiderate for students who have classes that ended at like 6:30 or 6:50 or like faculty who teach classes and is 6:30 or 6:50, and like we would be missing Senate like we planned our class schedules around, like, not missing Senate like last spring.

Senator Kalter: I'm a little bit confused with that Senator Agbonifo, because right now we start Senate at 6:00 p.m., we're just moving the internal committees to a different place, and all of the internal committees apparently found a place to move their meetings, which means that they asked all of their members. Am I not understanding that correctly?

Senator Agbonifo: My apologies. I misinterpreted this

Senator Kalter: Okay. Okay. Yes, we would still be... the night would start at the same time. It's just that the internal committees would not be the start, it would be the Senate, and then your internal committees have found alternate times when they would meet.

Senator Toth: Yes, very quickly. It was also my understanding that we were changing the calendar time so that the hard stop time for the Senate would remain the same, but we would have more time for discussion and deliberation, or anything else like that. However, our Student Government Association assemblies always go to at least 10:00 p.m., and just like faculty have



to teach in the morning, students have to learn in the morning as well. So, I think that if the goal is to just end early to, you know, go to bed earlier, I think that the time should stay the same. And I'm going to have to change my support, but unless we are going to be able to talk longer and have more time together as a Senate assembly. I think that was the goal originally

Senator Kalter: I don't remember ever saying that the hard stop time would stay exactly the same with this. There's always been concern for the Faculty Caucus to make sure that we're... and it's not just, by the way, it's not just going to bed earlier, which may sound like a luxury, but also so that we are deliberating with sound mind and body. So, what we are finding in the Caucus is that when we go that late, we're talking about pretty important issues and we're all exhausted, and so are not really able to bring our reasoning... remembering that many of us, not me, but other people have full days. In fact, I think, Senator McLauchlan, who's not a voting member, but he said he had been meeting from 8:00 in the morning until 5:00 in the evening right before he started his other meeting. So, it's partly about hoping to give faculty the ability to deliberate while they have oxygen in their brain.

Senator Mainieri: Yes, I would like to speak against this motion as someone with childcare and family obligations. On splitting the meetings, even though it's the same time putting them over different days, or I know some committees are then going to be meeting at 5:00 p.m. makes it, you know, those obligations just harder. I think also it's hard to vote on a motion to do for the whole year because we do not know for the spring if all the internal committees will be able to find a time that aligns with spring schedules because spring schedules are going to be different than fall schedules. And so, I will be voting against this motion.

Senator Miller: Yeah, so it was the students' understanding that we wanted to move it up so that we could have more discussion time. But seeing as if the hard stop time is also being moved up to 7:30 p.m. doesn't make much sense for us to vote for it either, but it doesn't solve our issue either. So, I was wondering, what could we do that would help us with that discussion problem because we don't have enough time anyways, and that's the whole reason why we wanted to change it? So this doesn't really solve anything. I was wondering why we push the hard stop time up when we needed more time to discuss because of that first meeting we were kicked off and we were given responses to questions afterwards. That's why we were upset and that's why we wanted to change, but now it didn't solve anything. So, I was just confused.

The motion was defeated 9-37.

Senator Kalter: All right. We have just hit our hard stop time. So, the motion does not pass.

***08.07.20.06 Student Code of Conduct 2016 version (From Dr. Davenport)***

***08.07.20.05 Student Code of Conduct Mark Up (From Dr. Davenport)***

***08.07.20.07 Student Code of Conduct Clean Copy (From Dr. Davenport)***

Senator Kalter: Let's do one more thing, because it's been on our agenda for a little while. There is the Student Code issue hanging out here. You remember that this was a compliance driven

change to our Code. By the way, there was also a smaller change within the Student Code of Conduct with regard to the SCCR office. It used to be called the Student Conduct and Conflict Resolution office. It was changed to the Student Conduct and Community Responsibilities office. So I'm wondering if we have a motion from one of our students senators first and then a second from a senator from the Rules Committee

Motion by Senator Horst, seconded by Senator Mainieri, to place the compliance driven changes to the Code of Student Conduct on the floor for approval. The motion was unanimously approved.

***04.09.20.01 Policy 4.1.3 Textbooks CURRENT Copy (Academic Affairs Committee)***

***04.20.20.06 Policy 4.1.3 Textbooks MARK UP (Academic Affairs Committee)***

***04.20.20.07 Policy 4.1.3 Textbooks CLEAN Copy (Academic Affairs Committee)***

Senator Kalter: Okay. And actually I just noticed that we have one other action item that has been on the agenda for a while. I'm wondering if, Senator Nikolaou, would you like to place the motion on the floor on behalf of Academic Affairs Committee to approve the changes to the Textbooks policy?

Senator Nikolaou: Yeah. This is the... we saw it as an Information Item at our August meeting. So, the Academic Affairs would like to put it on the floor for your vote.

Motion by Senator Nikolaou, on behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee, to approve the changes to the Textbook policy.

Senator Kalter: All right, do we have any debate about that one?

Senator Garrahy: Senator Kalter, I just have a question for clarification. Is this the policy change that stated that the university would not enter into an agreement with different companies or bookstores?

Senator Kalter: It says... let's see, Senator Nikolaou, do you have that?

Senator Nikolaou: So, it says Illinois State University may not enter into an exclusive contract for textbook sales with any one store.

Senator Garrahy: So, Senator Kalter and Senator Nikolaou, I have a question. Where does that leave us with Barnes and Nobles bookstore on campus? I would assume that we would... I would assume we have some kind of contract with them, given that they have a place of prominence in the student center.

Senator Kalter: Yes, correct. I think Senator Nikolaou responded to that when it was on the floor, right, Senator Nikolaou?

Senator Nikolaou: Yes. So, for... and that's why we brought it on, you know, on the floor. We wanted to get some feedback from the Senators because the contract refers exclusively to on

campus. So that it is going to be the exclusive on campus store. And that's why the committee thought that if we totally eliminate that whole sentence, it means that it doesn't apply only to on campus, it applies to any store in general. So, in theory, the university could go into an agreement with one store and create like a monopoly. But something that, you know, an alternative would be to actually specify and put, for example, at the end of that sentence in parentheses, excluding the designated on campus university bookstore. And that would solve the problems in the sense that we have our university bookstore where we can have that, it is the designated on campus, which is what the contract says, but at the same time, we don't have like a general exclusive vendor for anything else. So, maybe that's an option. Yeah.

Senator Garrahy: Thank you so much for that explanation, and I apologize, I didn't remember back from August. But I would also follow up with, that is, given that this is a policy, I would assume that General Counsel had reviewed this, and I'm wondering if they had a suggestion related to this.

Senator Nikolaou: And so, for this one when we talked with... because we talked with Danielle Miller-Schuster and Alice Maginnis, they recommended removing this sentence. But that's why we wanted to hear what the Senate... so, when we brought it on the floor, we didn't get any feedback for removing that sentence. And that's why if—I don't know if I saw someone from Legal—so if adding that parentheses at the end of the sentence deals will be the problem, that could be a solution.

Senator Garrahy: Thank you so much. I appreciate the explanation.

Senator Pancrazio: Yeah, I think the original discussion was initiated back in 2016 and it started with counsel when they brought it to the attention of the Academic Affairs Committee when we looked at it, and they said that we were renting space to Barnes and Nobles, but that had no impact in the cost of books. So, and it was, we looked at it again. So, Legal has been involved in this throughout. Thank you.

Senator Johnson: Okay. I do remember us having discussions about this, and I did raise that concern about, again, the feedback from Legal as well as Danielle Miller-Schuster about taking that line out. That does place us in a precarious type of position by having that line in there, as relates to our relationship with our bookstore. And I know that Danielle Miller-Schuster is on the line and we may want to pull her in and have her speak to that as well.

Senator Kalter: So we would only be able to do that, Senator Johnson, if you are asking for her as an expert witness.

Senator Johnson: I am asking for her as an expert witness.

Senator Kalter: Is it Dr. Miller-Schuster?

Dr. Miller-Schuster: Yes, it is. Thank you for having me. Can you hear me okay?

Senator Kalter: Yes.

Dr. Miller-Schuster: Yes, you're exactly right. We did have conversations. And the concern with the Legal aspect of it, and I know that Alice is on the line as well, is that the agreement that we have with Barnes and Noble predates the change that we had in the policy. And so, technically, it's important for us to acknowledge that we do have an agreement with Barnes and Noble to be our exclusive on campus book retailer. But the important part that I would emphasize, especially to our students, it does not mean in any way that our students only have to buy from one retailer. They have the option to buy from any retailer, whether that be a brick and mortar or an online retailer. And so, this just allows us to have an agreement with a vendor on our college campus and our student union.

Senator Kalter: And so, the sentence that Senator Nikolaou was suggesting to add would help?

Dr. Miller-Schuster: It would satisfy the on campus piece. But one thing that I know that a few of us have talked about, and I think it's important to bring up is should we limit the university's ability to enter into an exclusive agreement when deemed appropriate. And so, this doesn't give the university the opportunity to do that. One thing that I know that we've all learned in the last six months is that the pandemic has taught us that we need to be incredibly flexible. And the changes in the delivery of course content, and the provision of any of our programs and services on campus. And so, you know, the future may require us to consider more online or educational content from a retailer, and that may be a bookstore or something that even our on campus bookseller could not provide. And so, I mean, it would be my recommendation not to include the statement at all because it gives the university the most flexibility. The agreement that we have with Barnes and Nobles would stand, and it would be an exclusive agreement that would be on record. And so, nothing else can come after it unless they couldn't do it. They would always have the first option. And so, it's just something to consider. The addition does satisfy it, but really, the legal advice that I know Alice has given us is that we remove the statement because it is in direct conflict with the agreement. I don't know if Alice wants to say something or someone else has to acknowledge Alice to say something.

Senator Kalter: I'm going to suggest actually that we either table this or send it back to committee. I do have quite a bit to say about this myself, and I only have four minutes to wrap the meeting. So, do we have a motion to table? So we can take this up at the next meeting.

Motion by Senator Mainieri, seconded by Senator Blum, to table the changes to the Textbook policy. The motion was unanimously approved.

***Consent Agenda Items:***

***09.18.20.02 Policy 4.1.4 Student Dress Code Current Copy (Lisa Huson, Susan Kalter, and Dimitrios Nikolaou)***

***09.18.20.03 Proposed Policy 4.1.4 Student Dress Code Mark Up (Lisa Huson, Susan Kalter, and Dimitrios Nikolaou)***

***09.18.20.01 Policy 4.1.4 Student Dress Codes Clean Copy (Lisa Huson, Susan Kalter, and Dimitrios Nikolaou)***

***09.29.20.01 Policy 3.3.4 Non-Tenure Track Faculty Classifications And Performance Evaluation Mark Up (Faculty Affairs Committee)***

Senator Kalter: All right. I want to make sure that nobody wanted to take anything off the Consent Agenda.

***Academic Affairs Committee: Senator Nikolaou***

[Senator Nikolaou: On October 7, the Academic Affairs Committee met and discussed the Religious Accommodations policy. We discussed the compliance issues raised by legal and we made adjustments in the policy to capture that religious accommodations apply to the admissions process. After we voted to approve the policy, the AAC continued its IDEAS discussions.]

***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee: Senator Marx***

[Senator Marx: On October 7<sup>th</sup>, the AABC and P & F committees held a joint meeting to receive the presentation of this year's operating budget and capital request presented by VFPF Dan Stephens.]

***Faculty Affairs Committee: Senator Hollywood***

[Senator Hollywood: The Faculty Affairs Committee discussed the language in the 1.8 Integrity policy. We made good headway with clarifying language.]

***Planning and Finance Committee: Senator Avogo***

[Senator Avogo: The committee had a joint presentation: FY21 Operating and Capital Funding Request, Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Stephens and Staff.]

***Rules Committee: Senator Horst***

[Senator Horst: The Rules Committee met on October 7, 2020 from 6:00-6:50 pm. After a brief discussion on the Library Committee Appendix II page, they reviewed the Council on General Education Appendix II page and the College of Arts and Sciences Council Bylaws. They will continue discussion on the Council on General Education page and the CAS Council Bylaws next week.]

***Communications***

Senator Mainieri: Yes, I would like to applaud Senator Harris's comments at the start of our meeting. I, they are timely and important, and I want to encourage everyone that in a few weeks time, we all have the opportunity to reflect on combating antiblackness via the Culturally Responsive Campus Community Conference that will be occurring October 29 and 30th registration just opened, and the entire conference will be focusing on... the first day will have conversations about combating antiblackness. And then the second day is an Institute where faculty and staff and students can come together and talk about these issues and really reflect on where we are and who we are. And so, I encourage everyone to check out that website and registration just opened.

*Adjournment*

Motion by Senator Mainieri, seconded by Senator Jones, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved.