

Illinois State University

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Academic Senate Minutes

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8-28-2024

### Senate Meeting, August 28, 2024

Academic Senate  
*Illinois State University*

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**Academic Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, August 28, 2024**  
**7:00 P.M. (hard stop at 8:30 P.M.)**  
**OLD MAIN ROOM, BONE STUDENT CENTER**

***Call to Order***

Chairperson Horst called the meeting to order.

***Roll Call***

Secretary Cline called roll and declared a quorum.

***Public Comment:***

None

***Presentation:***

***Responsible Use of AI –***

***Roy Magnuson, Director of Emerging Technology for Instruction and Research***

***Cooper Cutting, Assistant Vice President, Academic Planning***

***Kristin Carlson, Provost Fellow, Disruptive Technologies***

***Charles Edamala, Chief Information Officer***

AVP Cooper Cutting presented the draft statement on Responsible Use of AI to the Senate.

Senator Pancrazio: The first line says, “In response to escalating concerns...” In writing statements in our syllabuses, we try to avoid tense or negative statements. Rather than “concerns” we might want to say “interest.”

Senator Gizzi: Looking at the Guiding Principles, “The University will build a culture of ethical and principled use of AI in teaching, learning, scholarship, and university operations and activities.” When it comes to that question of teaching, learning, and scholarship, a culture of ethical and principled use, I think any document needs to be much more detailed than that. There are appropriate uses for AI, I use it in ways that are appropriate. I think we need to have strong statements about what is appropriate and what is inappropriate in terms of use of AI.

Cooper Cutting: There are more details in other places; this is a general statement. For example the Center for Integrated Professional Development has a very well-developed series of websites to talk about things at the level of detail I think you are talking about. This is intended as a general statement; the details are going to go elsewhere. Also, this is not a policy statement, this is an approach. Policy is the place of the Academic Senate. We think that a lot of policy that is AI-relevant is already there and in place. This fall we hope to have our governance sub-committees work through policy and identify the policies that are related to particular issues within AI, and then when there are gaps that need to be filled the policy documents will be drafted and brought to this body.

Chairperson Horst: Perhaps you could say something like “Embody our policies with an ethical treatment of AI” and refer to the policies?

Senator Kapoor: Thank you for the clarification about approach versus policy. Are there conversations being had that AI is now being thought of as something very much like writing that we will deal with in

curricular design in the same way we think about rhetoric and critical thinking? Will this be something that is part of curriculum?

Cooper Cutting: If you look at some of the CIPD pages, they have come out with a recent scale that ranges from “Don’t touch AI” to “Fully embrace it.” Their recommendation is that it is up to the faculty member to make some decisions about how they want to incorporate AI, but to be clear up front in the syllabus so that students know what they can and can’t use as tools. I think part of this is a recognition that future employers of graduates are going to be expecting them to have some level of AI proficiency, depending on the discipline. We are working on developing some communities of practice that we may roll out in the spring where we give faculty, students, and staff access to some of these models in an enterprise system, which means we have some control over what goes out. We can learn as a community what is appropriate and what is not, and some of the cool things we can do, and some of the risks. I think we are taking a slow, conservative approach to find out how it fits here at ISU. One of the challenges is that as a space it is moving so fast. The hope is that these principals can still encompass some of that movement by staying general. We want to afford the space to figure it out and give individuals the opportunity to make some decisions for themselves about how they want to integrate AI.

Senator Bever: Under “Equity and Biases” it talks about “...establishing protocols to preemptively detect, mitigate, and rectify such issues to prevent unintended harm.” Relating to AI bias, is that something we can realistically do? Can we somehow mitigate and rectify generative AI bias?

Cooper Cutting: We have talked a lot about that, and we have realized that what we can do is find out what we can from them. We can look at the literature to see what is known about potential biases, but in these large, established models, we don’t have the resources to systematically test them for biases. However, we also talk in there about any AI’s that we develop ourselves, and so that is where we will put every effort to test and mitigate for biases. What we are going to rely on for those external things is as much transparency as we feel we can provide. We wrote that to be flexible enough with the recognition that we don’t have the resources to test open-AI’s models to see what biases are inherent, we will have to rely to some extent on what they are telling us and what others are telling us and make that public.

Senator Pellegrini: How would you envision this draft being transformed into the final policy?

Cooper Cutting: This is not policy. The hope is that the University can see what our guiding principles are. What we want to try to do is align any and all AI interactions to the principles that are in place here. The space is changing so fast we may have to come back and adjust. Right now we are going to various constituencies across the institution to get more feedback and make revisions. It is to guide and shape and make public the institution’s values around AI.

Chairperson Horst: Just to clarify, there are three polices that I believe are in committees right now regarding AI, so there will be more specific language. One will be the Student Code of Conduct, also Academic Integrity, and also the Faculty Responsibilities to Students policy is another place that we might have some more specific language. Getting back to what Senator Gizzi said, I was struck that there was nothing about how we can use AI in an ethical and accurate way. Under #4, “The University believes that all users of AI are responsible to confirm that information created or modified by AI tools is accurate.” That is the responsibility of the user, and I would like to add, “and must acknowledge that the use of AI in an academic setting may lead to accusations of plagiarism.” “May”, depending on the task at hand.

Senator Helms: I am struggling with #2, Suitability “The University recognizes the critical role of human knowledge, experience, emotion, imagination, and creativity, and seeks to explore and promote emerging career paths and opportunities for creative professionals while also emphasizing the importance of upskilling and reskilling professionals.” If we start with “We are going to utilize AI to enhance productivity” and then go into the things that we value, it seems we are putting more value on the things that we value rather than the use of AI; because it seems to me in that sentence that we are emphasizing the use of AI.

Chairperson Horst: And if you look at the next sentence, “...utilization of AI to enhance productivity and efficiency, aims to cultivate more fulfilling careers and lives....” I don’t know, maybe they should do some yoga.

***Approval of the Academic Senate minutes of [4-24-2024](#)***

Motion by Senator Pancrazio, second by Senator Hofstetter.  
Unanimous approval.

***Approval of the Academic Senate minutes of [5-8-2024](#)***

Motion by Senator Ruffin, second by Senator Bever.  
Unanimous approval.

***Chairperson's Remarks***

Chairperson Horst: Thank you again to President Tarhule for the great dinner we had this evening. It was great to chat with everyone in an informal way and get to know everybody, so thanks again. On tonight’s agenda we have links for the first time, and the links should have taken you to some supplementary materials. That is the way we are going to run things now. We will be receiving links to the agenda items that are relevant. If you don’t have access to a document, please let us know. I want to congratulate all of the new internal committee Chairs this year. The Senate Office has arranged a special training session for you, congratulations! This Friday, just for the Chairs, in Julien Hall 104. We are going to go over the new Senate Action Request system and talk about some other committee chair items. Congratulations also to our newest senators. Over the summer, the Board of Trustees approved our constitutional amendment, thank you to Senator Blum for that. Last year’s Rules Committee did a lot of work on that. We now have Senator Ozalp, she is our first senator representing the College of Engineering. We also have Senator Byron Craig, our interim Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer. Welcome!

The Executive Committee has completed its initial review of the General Education Proposal and has assigned it to the Academic Affairs Committee for the agreement with the UCC and the Senate. We are currently in the process of gathering feedback on the proposal from the campus community, so please communicate with your constituents regarding this proposal. This will potentially be the biggest revision of the undergraduate curriculum in at least 20 years. To give Academic Affairs and all of the internal committees time for these proposals, we have mixed things up with the Senate schedule this year. Please note on the Senate schedule some evenings we are going to have, just in the fall semester, a two-hour committee meeting that starts at 6, and some evening we are going to have a two-hour Senate meeting with no committee meeting. Please make sure that you mark your calendars.

Faculty, we are still looking for tenure-line and NTT volunteers to serve on the Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer and the Vice President of Finance and Planning search committees. The deadline for the NTT's to volunteer is this Friday, and, Senator Stiers, we have 0 NTT volunteers. I'm sure everybody knows some NTT's. Could you reach out to them and see if they are interested in serving? We have 3 faculty -- we could have up to 12 --- so please, if you are interested in how the money works and how buildings are built, the VP of Finance and Planning is your search committee. Please talk to your colleagues and try to get them to volunteer. The deadline for the tenure-track faculty is September 5, but the NTT faculty have to do a separate election via Qualtrics, so we really do need to get some names to put out.

Finally, I want to offer some words of tribute to Dr. Charles Morris who recently passed away at the age of 92. Dr. Morris was the first Academic Senate chair, and he served in this role from 1970 to 1972. Whenever I think that I am having a tough day as chair, I reflect on what Dr. Morris had to deal with as Senate Chair in the 1970's. He handled a potential riot due to the flagpole controversy; he chaired a meeting to discuss a mandatory curfew of the students after that near-riot; he helped write a resolution in reaction to the Kent State tragedy; he created a committee to set up faculty-student patrols to ensure that there would be a safe campus as a result of these potential riots. He helped to create the Academic Senate bylaws- the first set -- from scratch; and he conducted meetings that used to start at 9 PM and they frequently went past midnight. In comparison, my Gen Ed reform plans or problems don't look that bad. I want us all to think about his legacy as being the first Academic Senate chair. We are going to be hearing a little more about him later this evening, and I want to say that he was a great leader and a great man, and Illinois State University is indebted to him.

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

Student Body President Blair: I would like to begin also by thanking President Tarhule for inviting us to his home for a lovely dinner. That is a tradition that I have grown to love over my past few years in the Senate, and one that I will surely miss when I graduate.

On a bit of a serious matter, the Student Government Association and I are concerned about the alleged hate crime that was reported by the UPD Crime Advisory to have occurred on August 24<sup>th</sup>. That report states that a student was assaulted outside the Student Bone Center by 4 suspects who allegedly referred to the student with offensive, homophobic terms, and we would like to reiterate that violence and prejudice have no place on our campus and that we hope UPD and the relevant authorities are able to identify the suspects and take the proper actions needed to help keep our campus a safe place for everyone.

In terms of good news, the SGA has gotten off to a strong start this year. We have a lot of new faces, and I think just as many new ideas that I am excited to see come about, I am particularly excited about some of the opportunities that we have been provided by the 2024 general election.

Part of Student Government's role is to help foster civic engagement on campus, and we are currently looking at several ideas where we could help achieve that goal. While elections in recent years have certainly been contentious and sometimes anxious events, the importance of making an informed and engaged decision with your vote is very crucial, and we intend to help

our fellow students do just that. I will have more news once some of those plans have been finalized.

I would also like to point out that on September 11, the Your Story Matters mental health event is going to take place here in the Bone. Thanks to the work of Senator Hofstetter and various other university departments, it is going to be an event with several resources and activities available to students all throughout the day. I forget the exact time, we will have to have Senator Hofstetter correct that, but I think it is through most of the day. I encourage all of you to stop by if you are able.

Chairperson Horst: Senator Hofstetter, do you have any more details on the event?

Senator Hofstetter: Yes, it is from 1 to 5 in the Brown Ballroom and the Concourse. That is where the fair is going to be happening where you can pick up resources, and then at 7 PM we will have a guest speaker in the Brown Ballroom. Unfortunately that is an Academic Senate night, so you all won't be able to attend at 7PM, but from 1 to 5 PM you all will be able to stop by.

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

- ***President Aondover Tarhule***

President Tarhule: Thank you Chairperson Horst. I am excited to welcome everybody back to Fall 2024-2025 academic semester. This is always one of my favorite times of the year. I look out my window on the quad and I see all of the students and the energy, and it is such a beauty to behold; so I am very excited to see faculty, students, and staff back on campus.

This year we welcomed a large class. It takes a lot of effort to have student move into the residences. I believe there were more than 300 people who volunteered to help with that move-in process, and some of you are here in this room. I want to say a big "thank you" to everyone who helped our student move in. These efforts are greatly appreciated by the students and their families, I have been attending a lot of "welcome back" events with my wife, including the Sweet Corn Circus in Uptown. If you were there, I sold corn for quite a bit and I enjoyed watching the Gamma Phi Circus performers. This is a great way to welcome everybody back to campus. I have a few updates I would like to share, beginning with enrollment.

As I mentioned, we are anticipating a very strong enrollment class. We will not be able to share specific numbers until about September 5. I look forward to sharing those numbers with you, but we are very excited about what we are seeing so far.

The university's strategic plan, Excellence by Design, was approved by the Board of Trustees in May. Currently we have 16 action teams that are charged with developing the actions and metrics to support the goals and objectives of that plan. We are looking forward to learning more about the status of their work. The document was developed very collaboratively, and I encourage everyone to continue to engage in the process of getting those metrics developed.

Also, we are looking forward to hosting representatives from the Higher Learning Commission on campus on October 28 and 29 as part of our re-accreditation process. I don't know if the

Provost is planning to share more information about this, but I am grateful to the steering committee and all the work teams for contributing their effort to this vital work.

We are running several searches, I think we talked about this back in the spring. We are running a search for the Director for Equal Opportunity and Access; the search firm will be Parker Executive search. They ran this search previously and our contract with them specified that if the search was unsuccessful, they would run it again without additional pay. So, we have already paid for them and they will be running that search. Janice Bonneville and Jeannie Barrett are co-chairs of that committee. The search is currently underway and there will be an update meeting on September the 4<sup>th</sup>. We are hoping to have initial interviews in mid-September and on-campus interviews in late September. If all goes well, I anticipate making a hire in October.

We are also running a search for the Vice President for Finance and Planning, as you heard Chairperson Horst describe a few moments ago. The search firm will be academic search. The committee chair is Dr. David Marx, and we are waiting for nominations from this body to complete that search committee; so if you are interested in serving on this search committee, which is absolutely a very vital part of university administration, please nominate yourself or somebody. My goal is to be able to make a hire by January 1.

The other search is the Athletics Director. The search firm is College Sports Solutions. The committee chair is Janice Bonneville, and the committee will be completed after the Athletics Council meeting. The launch will be this fall, and again I would like to have someone in place for the start of the new year.

Finally, we have the Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer. The search firm will be Parker Executive search. They will be continuing the search as part of the contract we signed with them previously, so no new additional pay. Committee chair will be Dr. Miranda Lin, and the committee will be assembled after we get nominations from this body. There is a lot that is contingent upon this body giving us the relevant number of individuals to complete these searches so we can move forward.

Finally, I would like to follow up with a little bit of sadness starting from where Chairperson Horst ended, which is the passing of two members of our Redbird family. One is Dr. Charles Morris. As Chairperson Horst already described, I won't go into too many details. You can learn more about his legacy by listening to his oral history on Milner's library website. I got to know Dr. Morris relatively well and I was honored to speak at his service yesterday.

We were also very saddened by the passing of Joe McDonald, he was an instructional assistant professor in the department of Management, and a fellow of the Society of Actuaries. Joe was a two-time Illinois State graduate, he recently served on the Presidential Search Committee from which I was hired, and was faculty advisor for the Math Tutoring Club. He had worked as a private tutor beginning in 2010 and became faculty in the Mathematics Department in 2016, building on a long professional career as an actuary. Following his appointment, he also taught courses in Management and Actuarial Science. He was a very strong supporter of the Athletics Department, especially volleyball. Most home games, you could count on Joe to be in the stands

supporting our team. These individuals will be sorely missed, and I ask you to keep them and their families and colleagues in your thoughts and prayers.

Senator Hofstetter: Regarding the hate crime that Senator Blair touched on, is the University planning on making a statement regarding the hate crime that happened on campus last Saturday?

President Tarhule: We have an investigation underway. Danielle, do you have some comments on that?

Danielle Miller-Schuster: Thank you for the question. Since the investigation is ongoing, we cannot give out any information right now, and we also want to protect the privacy of the individual. As information becomes available, we will share what we can with the community. Thank you.

Senator Helms: President Tarhule, you brought up the OEOA director search, you mentioned too the chairs for the searches. I apologize, can I ask you to repeat who those chairs were?

President Tarhule: OEOA, Janice Bonneville and Jeannie Barrett. Jeannie Barrett is General Counsel, and Janice is the Associate Vice President for Human Resources.

Senator Reed: Regarding the hate crime that occurred last Saturday, is there anything that University Police or Campus Safety is doing to ensure that students do feel safe on campus?

President Tarhule: I understand when things like this happen there is a level of anxiety; there is angst, there is concern. We understand that; but in terms of specific actions, we have got to know what happened first. Otherwise what are you responding to? I ask everyone to be patient. Let's allow law enforcement to do their job. If you read the story, you can see the efforts they are making. If anyone has information to volunteer, please share that information. Allow law enforcement to do their job, then we will know what happened and we will know how to respond. In the meantime, there are several suggestions that the police department has put out for students, measures they can take to increase their level of comfort and making sure that this doesn't happen. Please read those instructions and suggestions; but in terms of asking the University, "What are we going to do?" We have got to know what happened before we can act. Let's wait for the police to finish their investigations.

Chairperson Horst: I have a question about the Director of Athletics search. Traditionally the faculty NCAA rep is on that search committee, is that the case this time?

President Tarhule: Yes.

- ***Provost Ani Yazedjian***

Provost Yazedjian: Thank you and welcome back to everybody. I'm looking forward to working with you this year. Just a couple of points – Cooper Cutting will be back at our next Senate meeting to talk about the Higher Learning Commission reaccreditation, so you will learn more next time on September 11. I want to highlight the Red folder. Although this is a collaboration



between Academic Affairs and Student Affairs, I do want to state publicly that the bulk of that work happened with our colleagues in Student Affairs, so thank you and I look forward to hearing more about it tonight. Thanks for the partnership, we appreciate it.

I will provide an update about the College of Education dean search. The college is completing the election of tenure-track faculty members by this Friday at noon, and in addition, based on feedback from college stakeholders, I want to let you know that the university is going to be partnering with a search firm, Greenwood and Asher, on this search. That is not something we typically do for dean searches, but college stakeholders felt that would be important, given the context in the college at the moment. The college will be paying half the fixed cost and the Office of the Provost will be using temporary funds to pay the other half of the fixed costs and then any additional costs related to travel etc.

In the near future, the Academic Senate will be sharing a call for more volunteers, this time for the Associate Provost and the next leader of the Graduate School, so please do give a heads up to your constituents that we really do need volunteers for those committees as well so that everyone can have an opportunity to provide feedback.

In addition, after 5 years of service, Dean Dallas Long will be returning to faculty at Milner Library on June 30, 2025. I really am grateful to Dean Long for his service, and tonight I am announcing my intention to run a national search for the next dean of Milner Library. I will be meeting with the College Council and the leadership team in the coming weeks to get their thoughts and perspectives.

As we begin the Fall semester I want to revisit a topic that we discussed twice last semester, which is the 2024 general election. I am grateful for Senator Blair's partnership and appreciate him pointing this out again today. In the spring, I asked for an inter-divisional group to begin preparing for the fall's election cycle, and it has been looking at lots of different variables related to the election cycle. Sue Hildebrandt is involved in that, and she is here tonight. The group worked through the summer and focused broadly on providing the campus community resources related to freedom of expression in addition to supporting voter engagement. There will be three different sessions in the coming weeks that will be open to faculty, staff, and administrators on the topic of freedom of expression and freedom of expression in the classroom. Registration was included in my message to the division last week and my message this week to the division will include resources specific to election planning.

This past spring I met with student Senators Karem, Malia, and Cobi to discuss strategies to promote students' political engagement. We are going to provide more information as the semester progresses. I believe this is an opportunity where SGA can take leadership and partner with the Provost's Office to continue to support efforts to be a voter-engaged campus. I've also sent communications to instructors asking them to avoid high-stakes assignments or exams on Election Day and extend grace to students who may be delayed to class due to voting. Now I do know there is a range of opinions on the topic of class cancelations, and I would like to reiterate that the decision not to cancel classes was not made lightly; but after considerable consultation with multiple stakeholders including senators, student leaders, chairs, directors, deans, provost's at other public universities, and the President's cabinet, I think even with classes being in

session. We can work together to remain committed to our value of civic engagement and keep voting accessible to all members of our campus community.

- ***Student Affairs – Associate Vice President of Student Affairs Danielle Miller-Schuster & Executive Director for Well-Being and Recreation Dawn Pote ([link to Redbird Well](#))***

Danielle Miller-Schuster: Good evening and thank you Chairperson Horst. Vice President Johnson sends his regrets for being unable to be with you in person. He wishes he could be here especially for this first meeting of the year, but I do appreciate the opportunity to be with you in his stead. I also want to begin my remarks with gratitude to our students, staff, and faculty who gave up their time, talent and energy to kick off this academic year with move-in, with welcome week, of course with a very quick shift yesterday and today to move our Festival ISU into the Bone Student Center due to the heat outside. I think each of you knows how important these events are for our students to be able to meet and connect with other Redbirds, but also find Registered Student Organizations and a sense of belonging. These events are essential, and we are extremely grateful to each of you, our students, their peers, and all the colleagues who volunteered.

The remainder of my remarks tonight are twofold. I want to begin with Chairperson Horst, who shared a question and asked that we provide information at this evening's meeting. We appreciate the process of being asked questions in advance, and for that question I am going to ask Dr. Morgan, our Assistant Vice President and Dean of Students to join us at the table.

Secondly we will be joined by our Executive Director for Well-Being and Recreation, Dawn Pote, who will share a highlight of our newest initiative for our campus community. With permission from Chairperson Horst I would now like to ask Dr. Morgan to join us at the table. The question that we have been asked to provide additional information on is related to the Code of Conduct, not the specific incident we were talking about, but it is related to that. The question is, "Over the past 10+ years the Senate and the Administration have had conversations about incorporating language regarding hate crimes into the Code of Student Conduct. As the administration works on a draft of the Code to forward to the Senate this year, are you considering adding such language to address situations such as the attack on the student on August 24<sup>th</sup>?"

Dean Morgan: Thank you. First I want to say this incident is concerning and harmful not only to the student it impacted but also to our ISU community. This speech is hateful, offensive, and inconsistent with our University's values. Our Redbird Care Team case manager has been in contact with the victim, making sure they get the care and support that they need. Based on the details provided in the campus email notification, this could be an act of harassment and/or discrimination, including hate crimes, and is a potential violation of ISU policy 1.2 – the Anti-Harassment and Non-Discrimination Policy. Law enforcement will investigate this, obviously, and they are right now; then it is investigated by the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access or OEOA. That office would handle the alleged violations, and not Student Conduct. However, the alleged physical misconduct violations and threats would be investigated by Student Conduct, since it is addressed in the Code of Student Conduct. The current code does not address hate crimes since OEOA investigates and adjudicates harassment and discrimination cases. The Code

of Student Conduct is currently being revised and reviewed by staff and it will be shared with the senators in the coming weeks, so hopefully sometime next month.

Chairperson Horst: So your answer is that is being handled by a different office and there is a violation of a policy. This was a conversation that happened with the executive team from SGA about 2016 or so, and it resurfaced when we had an incident like this about two or three years ago. Do you think it is necessary to have language regarding such crimes in the code, or do you think it is handled efficiently by OEOA?

Dean Morgan: It is handled by OEOA, since it does relate to federal crimes.

Danielle Miller-Schuster: Thank you Dr. Morgan, we appreciate it. All faculty and staff have received a packet via campus mail which includes the letter our Provost just spoke of from her and the Vice President for Student Affairs. It included our guide to helping students get help and the new initiative called the Red Folder. I am delighted that Executive Director Dawn Pote is joining us this evening to provide more details.

Dawn Pote: Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak to you briefly about two resources that are available to students, faculty, and staff at the start of this new semester. The first is Redbird Well, a link was sent via email for those who want to follow along. This website serves as a one-stop conduit for well-being resources on campus and has been expanded beyond the critical mental health pieces that you saw previously. In this new iteration we've added information to connect students, faculty, and staff to resources in a seamless way.

For those who are following along, the homepage gives you not only a menu bar for options, but small cards that turn this into a mobile-friendly website. The first tab, "Schedule Appointments" will allow students, faculty, and staff to schedule appointments in one location and get connected to student health services, student counseling services, or a personal trainer or wellness coach. "Find Help" for those who are looking for that will still be showing the critical mental health, but we are also showing quick connections to things like the dean on duty, student access and accommodation services, or resources such as "Welltrack Boost" or "Togetherall". "Getting Involved" is an important piece too, and that tab has specifically been added to connect individuals to Redbird Life or specific well-being and self-help activities that are available for everyone. "Explore Training" is my favorite part, but it is the newest part. We know that this one-stop location is going to provide opportunity for training programs such as QPR, which works with suicide prevention, mental health first aid, or even NARCAN training. The "About" section takes you to the five departments in the well-being cluster, but also gives you connections to social media.

Now if you go back to the homepage, I want to talk about the Red Folder, because this is a resource we are incredibly happy about. This is the digital version that is available for everyone. It is accessible, and it was released in fall of 2024 and is noted as a guide for helping students in emotional distress. We know from research presented by EAB that students increasingly turn to faculty and professors. Eight out of ten individuals in this survey had had a conversation with a student about a mental health issue. Less than 30% felt adequately trained to have mental health conversations, and 70% wanted to have that information for themselves, those around them, and

their students. Clearly, this was a critical need. The Student Counseling Services team identified best practices and brought that Red Folder here to Illinois State.

If you open the document from the web page, you will see the first page focusing on recognizing signs and indicators, information about responding with compassion, referring students to campus and community resources. You will even see that stoplight configuration to help with decision making and giving you next steps. The back page features the contact to Campus Information and a quick QR code back Redbird Well. This project does not happen alone, could not have happened without the support of Marketing colleagues throughout campus and so many of our partners in Academic Affairs and Student Affairs.

In August, many people received that packet with the second mailing that went out at the end of August. If you didn't receive a packet or you need more, please feel free to reach out. I had a common question about whether graduate assistants received this information. It was distributed at orientation. If you need more information please let me know. I will also say that I am very thankful to our colleagues in Human Resources that will make sure this packet will now go out as part of new faculty and staff orientation activities.

- *Interim Vice President of Finance and Planning Dan Petree*

Dan Petree: Thank you. I have no report for this evening, but I would be happy to take questions.

***Information/Action Item:***

***From the Executive Committee***

***08.12.2024.02 - Update Appendix II Faculty Caucus Description***

Chairperson Horst: This is an information/action item coming straight from the Executive Committee. Some items the Executive thinks are urgent enough or simple enough that they want to put it straight on the floor; we suggest this could be an information/action item, meaning that we could take a motion from the floor to move it from information to action, if the body so chooses. The issue is that we have a new faculty senator from the College of Engineering, so that increases that Faculty Caucus from 32 to 33, with 30 Tenure/Tenure-Track faculty senators. In order for her to be able to participate this evening, it would be wonderful if we could amend our bylaws to include her in the Faculty Caucus.

Motion to move from Information to Action by Senator Gizzi.

Second by Senator Peterson.

Unanimous approval.

Unanimous approval for the action item.

***Information Items:***

***From Rick Valentin - Planning and Finance Committee***

***06.04.2024.19 - 5.1.1 Concealed Carry and Prohibited Weapons Policy***

[Link to current policy](#)

[Link to proposed policy](#)

Rick Valentin: This is 5.1.1 Concealed Carry and Prohibited Weapons. This policy language was reviewed by the committee and General Counsel and Illinois State University Police. There are some minor editorial changes and some added statutory definitions within the document. For instance, the removal of the prohibited activities sections, then the addition of some statutory definitions for clear and present danger and of a handgun. We have Deputy General Counsel Alice Maginnis here to answer any questions about the statutory aspects of this policy.

Chairperson Horst: Maybe this is a question for Alice Maginnis, could you give us a summation of what laws pertain to this policy?

Rick Valentin: There is the 2013 Illinois Firearm Concealed Carry Act, the Duty of School Administrator, that is the reference for reporting.

Alice Maginnis: I would just say that between the two statutes that are referenced, the first essentially is the concealed carry implementation provision, which includes provisions that allow colleges and universities to establish policies for concealed carry on campus and includes several other implementing provisions. The other major statutory reference is the requirement for school officials and administrators to report to the Illinois State Police under a clear and present danger determination, primarily impacting students.

Chairperson Horst: I remember that there was language about theatrical productions that they could potentially use a handgun if it was part of a dramatic production. Was that language deleted?

Alice Maginnis: I think it is still covered under the exceptions section #1, which includes use of a firearm in instruction and curriculum of an officially recognized program as approved by ISUPD. I would say a dramatic production would fall within that scope.

Senator Helms: In order for that to be used in a theatrical production, prior to rehearsal or anything else permission from ISU's police chief would have to be sought in advance of that, is that correct?

Alice Maginnis: Correct.

Senator Helms: The policy also talks about the idea of being able to carry and listing, "if all of these criteria are met." One of those criteria is that a personally owned vehicle if it is in a designated parking lot. Does ISU intend to identify any designated parking lots for that?

Alice Maginnis: ISU has identified designated parking lots; for example if you look at the tailgating procedures on the Athletics site, there is a specific reference that says concealed carry isn't permitted in a designated tailgating lot; and there were some discussion when the policy was first passed around certain designated parking around the laboratory school areas, but I am

not sure if those were ever officially confirmed. I know that the tailgating is currently on the Athletics procedure for that purpose.

Senator Helms: Would I be able to go to the Parking website and find what parking lots have been designated as appropriate for concealed carry?

Alice Maginnis: I'm not sure, I can certainly follow up with Parking and make sure that is there if it is not already, but I do know that the Athletics one is available from the Athletics website.

**From Tom Lucey – Faculty Affairs Committee**

***06.04.2024.13 - 3.3.4 Non-Tenure Track Faculty Classifications and Performance Evaluation***

**[Link to current policy](#)**

**[Link to proposed policy](#)**

**[Request to add Librarianship from NTT MIL Faculty](#)**

Senator Lucey: Policy 3.3.4 Non-Tenure Track Faculty Classifications and Performance Evaluation was discussed by Faculty Affairs on April 10 2024. It was reviewed by Janice Bonneville. The only change to the policy that is recommended by the committee is on the end, at the description of adjunct faculty where we provide an example of visiting scholars. Then it was revised on October 2020 which needs to be modified to April 2024 and previously revised on 10/13.

Senator Bonnell: I am bringing a suggestion from Milner's NTT and that suggestion is that the committee consider adding under the section "Classification" under the bullet "Instructional Assistant Professor." We suggest you revise the language by adding the words "or librarianship" so it would read "Faculty with a minimum of a Masters degree whose primary responsibility is classroom instructional duties or librarianship." In your packet there is a rationale for that by the NTT's in Milner.

Chairperson Horst: I did receive communication from Vice President Bonneville regarding the addition of the "e.g. visiting scholars". She said, "HR does not use the term 'visiting scholar.' That is a term generally used by the Office of Technology Solutions on behalf of OIE. We simply identify folks as unpaid adjuncts and I-people. Adding the example will likely cause more confusion. Respectfully, Janice Bonneville." So the committee can also take in that suggestion from Janice Bonneville as they consider the final action item copy.

Senator Nikolaou: A couple of small things. Under "Performance Evaluation" where it says "Chairperson/director" we usually say "Department Chairperson/ School Director" so to add the department and the school. Also where we have emeriti faculty, at the very end of that paragraph where it says "Emeritus or emerita. Last year when we revised the policy 3.2.10 Emeriti Academic Employees we added non-gendered language so we listed "emeritus, emerita, emeritum, emerit."

Chairperson Horst: Hopefully the Faculty Affairs Committee will have a chance to address those small edits and we will have that item for next time. Now we have the announcement of the chairperson and secretary elected by the internal committees.

***Announcement of Chairperson and Secretary elected for Internal Committees:***

- ***Academic Affairs Committee:***  
Chairperson: Dimitrios Nikolaou  
Secretary: Emma Meyers-Hoops
- ***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee:***  
Chairperson: Lea Cline  
Secretary: TBD
- ***Faculty Affairs Committee:***  
Chairperson: Nathan Kapoor  
Secretary: Kevin Edwards
- ***Planning and Finance Committee:***  
Chairperson: Angela Bonnell  
Secretary: Tomas Cottingham
- ***Rules Committee:***  
Chairperson: Rick Valentin  
Secretary: Mitchell Ruffin
- ***University Policy Committee:***  
Chairperson: Michael Gizzi  
Secretary: Jamani Reed

***Communications***

Senator Bonnell: I would move to adopt a Sense of the Senate tribute resolution honoring the Illinois State University service and commitment of the late Dr. Charles E Morris Jr.

Second by Senator Blair

Senator Bonnell:

Whereas Dr. Charles E. Morris Jr. of Normal, Illinois passed from this life on August 11, 2024, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. was the first African American tenured professor at Illinois State University in the Department of Mathematics at Illinois State University in 1966, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. was Associate Professor of Mathematics at Illinois State University, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. held the position of Vice President of Administrative Services, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. accepted the position of Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs with the Illinois Board of Regents, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. was elected as chair of the Academic Senate at Illinois State University when it was established in 1970, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. had oversight of the Ewing Museum of Nations, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. was a part of a team that purchased housing for African American Illinois State University students, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr., in 1984, assisted Illinois State University students in chartering the Nu Psi Lambda alumni chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. donated books and pictures to the Illinois State University Multi-Cultural Center library to continue to learn and research African American history, and

Whereas, Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. was the Coordinator of SIMaST (Students Integrating Mathematics, Science, and Technology), and

Whereas Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. was the Senior Associate for the Study of Education Policy, Illinois State University and President and Consultant of CEM Associates, Inc,

*Resolved*, that the Academic Senate of Illinois State University, on behalf of its members:

1. Honors Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr., for his tireless commitment and service to Illinois State University;
2. Honors Dr. Morris for his steady hand and leadership of the Academic Senate as its inaugural chair from 1970-1972. He led the Senate's response to civil unrest in May 1970, including responses to the famous flag-pole protest and other incidents that were related to the Kent State massacre and civil unrest of the time;
3. Expresses its sincere appreciation to Dr. Charles E. Morris, Jr. for his many contributions to success of the Department of Mathematics, STEM, Academic and Student Affairs, the Multi-Cultural Center, SIMaST, and all the Illinois State University lives he impacted in a positive way.

Chairperson Horst: Thank you, Senator Bonnell and to Byron Craig who authored most of this resolution.

Senator McHale: I have a question about the wording on the civil unrest phrase, what is the difference between civil unrest and demonstration in support of Fred Hampton for instance?

Chairperson Horst: The police of Normal declared a curfew because there was a potential riot going on, and also just the civil unrest of the times in 1970 specifically with the death of Malcom X, the Kent State massacre; it was a very tumultuous time.



Senator Gizzi: There was a wonderful description of this in an Illinois State University news story from 2017 which is called “Days of May: Inside the Infamous Flagpole Standoff that put ISU on the Brink” and it spent time talking with Dr. Morris among others.

The resolution passed with unanimous approval

Chairperson Horst: Any further communications?

Senator McHale: I have two communications I would wish to convey. First of all teaching this morning in Moulton and this afternoon in Fell Hall, the heat was incredible. It felt like the heaters were on rather than any AC. Just sitting down my shirt was soaked with sweat and I’m not sure what the reason is, if there is no AC working. I promised the students I would bring that forth and so I am. Second is a question, and that is- does shared governance go from the University level all the way down to the department of school level? And do guidelines and procedures and rules at the departmental level, should that be a shared governance process?

Chairperson: That is your communication?

Senator McHale: It is a question.

Chairperson Horst: We can talk about that one on one. We are here more just to share information. That is quite a big topic you just introduced.

***Adjournment***

Motion by Senator Hofstetter

Second by Senator McHale

Unanimous approval