

Faculty Senate Meeting
Tuesday, July 9, 2024
Video Conference Via Teams
Time 1:00-3:00 p.m.

I. Call to Order: Yueh-Ting Lee

The July meeting was called to order by President Yueh-Ting Lee.

II. Roll Call: Michael Hylin

Members: Nwamaka Anaza, Gary Apgar, Mehdi Ashayeri Jahan Khanemloo, Randall Auxier, Lingguo Bu, Christopher Chiasson, Marissa Ellermann, Laurel Fredrickson, Timothy Hurley, Michael Hylin, Ghassan Ishak, Yueh-Ting Lee, Cinzia Padovani, Amber Pond, Louis Premkumar, Jeffrey Punske, Walter Ray, Seyed Yaser Samadi, Jennifer Sherry, Lichang Wang, Rachel Whaley, Christopher Wienke

Absent: Daniel Bronke, Khalid Meksem, Jun Qin, Lorelei Ritchie (proxy Dale Aschemann), Jennifer Walker (proxy Alicia Cremeens), Geoffrey Young

Guests: Wesley Calvert, Melissa Laake, Austin Lane, Bridget Liggett, Robert Lopez, Brenda Martin, Kimberli Morgan, Jody Murray, Mark Peterson, Bethany Rader, David Shirley, Constantinos Tsatsoulis, Sheryl Tucker, Casie Wagner, Todd Wakeland, Juliane Wallace, Carroll Walker, Cherie Watson, Shu-Ling Wu

III. Approval of Minutes from May 14, 2024

Motion: A. Pond

Second: R. Auxier

A vote commenced: 17 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions; The minutes from May 14, 2024 were approved as presented.

IV. President's Report: Yueh-Ting Lee

YT. Lee stated the following: We sent out the May/June Issue of Faculty Senate Update/FYI Newsletter. I wish to express my appreciation to a few senators for their helpful comments and input. They are Senator Amber Pond, Senator Michael Hylin, Senator Jennifer Walker and Senator Randall Auxier. My thanks to these senators. I also express my appreciation to Mr. Jeff Harmon for his help in gathering information for us. I am very grateful to both Melissa Laake and Bethany Rader for their assistance in the newsletter. In addition, I have several items to report to you briefly. First, on May 15, 2024, I attended the SIU FACSS (Faculty Affair Council of SIU System) meeting at which we reviewed and voted on the two collaboration research awards. On May 22, 2024, due to the coordination and arrangement of Dr. Bethany Rader, we had a meeting with Chancellor Lane and Provost Tucker about the matters related to Faculty Senate leadership transition and follow-ups. Thank you, Dr. Bethany Rader. Second, in early June I had several virtual meetings by Teams. On June 3, 2024, I had a team meeting with two other constituency heads, Ms. Elizabeth Cheek and Mr. Todd Bryson, about the office operation. On June 4, 2024, I had a brief team meeting with Provost Tucker about the Constituency Office's support and independence. Again, on June 6, 2024, I had a very brief team meeting with Chancellor Lane about the same issue. Now, I am pleased to report to you this issue has been resolved. On June 6, 2024, upon the provost's request, I also attended a group meeting by Teams with a few others to review HLC accreditation follow-up feedback. HLC will have a mid-cycle campus visit here in two years. We met again on July 9, 2024 for this HLC visit and report. Third, on June 17, 2024, I had a

meeting with AVC Wendell Williams on student recruitment and enrollment. I am pleased to learn that his office can support one or two faculty senators who will be interested in visiting high schools or community colleges in 2024-2025. On June 21, 2024, I met with VC of Research, Dr. Costas Tsatsoulis, about SIU Carbondale as an R1 university and faculty research support. Fourth, on June 27, 2024, I met with VC Matt Kupec and AVC Jeff Gleim about how to raise more funds for SIU students, faculty and academic programs, including more endowed chairs and endowed professorships. They are very willing to give us a presentation at our September meeting. Finally, on June 28, 2024, I had a meeting with Provost Tucker on faculty development, academic strategic plan, HLC accreditation feedback and student learning outcomes. Also, on the same day, I had a meeting with SIU VP of Academic Innovation, Planning and Partnership, Dr. Gireesh Gupchup. We discussed the collaboration between SIUC and SIUE, and we will present the collaborative research awards to those recipients at one of the Board of Trustees' meetings this fall.

V. Q and A Session with Chancellor and Provost

A. Chancellor Austin Lane additional comments

Chancellor Lane stated our new student orientations are going through the roof. We have record numbers with students that are showing up and getting registered. Dr. Burgin gave a good report today. He and Provost Tucker started doing some of those orientations by college or school which seems to be working very well. We have five or six more to go. Our undergraduate enrollment right now with six weeks to go is up about 1.2%. Our graduate enrollment is up about 1.5%. Our new student's enrollment is up 9.2%. It's 286 more students. Thanks to our advisors, recruitment and retention coordinators. They're working really hard to interact with those students to make sure they get here. Chancellor Lane invited David Shirley to speak about the predictive analytics with our at-risk categories.

D. Shirley shared a PowerPoint presentation to Faculty Senate. He stated that historically, the following groups have been flagged to be less likely to be retained from semester to semester: Black-African American, Black-African American Females, Students from Cook County, First-Generation, Pell-Eligible, and Students from Probation/Suspension. We are starting to close in the gap from last year. Seven of the eight at-risk categories are up from last week. The following at-risk categories are up from last year: Black-African American 4.8%, Black-African American Females 4.01%, and Students from Cook County 3.23%. First-Generation category is equivalent to 2023. Keep in mind when looking at this data, we are also looking at a larger population than last year. So, by raw numbers, we have outperformed last year's data. We have a data strategy for communicating with the Deans and advisors to better connect with the students who might not yet be registered. Every week the Deans get a letter with disaggregated data for their colleges. We collaborated with IT to help advisors to hone in on students that we are talking about. This is not the entire student population that fills this retention metric.

Chancellor Lane thanked the advisors and each of you. We know retention starts and ends with faculty. Provost Tucker has been interviewing candidates for the Associate Provost for Student Success. We felt we really needed to add this position to centralize a lot of what you saw D. Shirley show. This position will keep an eye on the students as a whole, not just the at-risk categories, so we can move the needle on the retention side of the house. Chancellor Lane stated there will be updates on Thursday about the faculty analysis from CBIZ. We set out several months ago, talking with J. Punske and

some others, to really make sure that faculty were a priority. As it relates to pay and retaining faculty, we are trying to reach the goal of being a R1 institution. Provost Tucker, APAA Juliane Wallace, CFO Susan Simmer, AVC Nick Wortman, and I have set out to try to do some record number of things that historically haven't happened here with our faculty in quite some time. So, you'll see information with some of those steps that we're trying to take as it relates to pay/certain increases for our faculty over the next several years through fiscal year 2028. I want to thank the FA, the bargaining team, and faculty as a whole, who have helped us work through some things that I think is going to help the institution out going forward. We are looking at our spending and ways to reduce our budget in order to make sure we can meet our goals to pay our faculty/staff. This year our state appropriation is \$1.7 million and last year it was \$5.5 million.

B. Provost Sheryl Tucker

Provost Tucker said the interviews for the Associate Provost for Student Success are happening this week. Dr. Gehrke's presentation was taped, and I would encourage you to watch and provide feedback by next week. Dr. Ballard is here tomorrow. His presentation is at 9:00 a.m. at the Morris Library auditorium. It will also be taped and put on the Provost website. We had over 50 applicants for this position. Provost Tucker requested for her Academic Strategic Plan to be provided to the Senate by Melissa. If there's any comments, please let Provost Tucker know. That will be finalized and go out to campus when people return in the fall. With our retention focus, I want to mention a couple of things that did come up at HLC. We want to make sure all our syllabi contain student learning outcomes and are mapping and assessing those outcomes. D2L is the way to go, particularly with introductory classes. Training for D2L will be available this fall. The negotiations we did in terms of putting people first really had a strong emphasis on wanting faculty on contract a little bit earlier so people can take advantage of the training opportunities. To give you a preview of what is upcoming this year, under the student success and retention initiative, is looking at the policies that Georgia State says. Some people went to training there. Where are we the problem?

W. Ray asked about the budget and payback of loans. Chancellor Lane stated hats off to VC Susan Simmers. She's doing an amazing job in the reshaping/remodeling. Every area is being analyzed. We are looking for ways to grow financially and to monitor those expenses. The sustainability plan in 2017 was a plan to work towards paying off a \$38 million dollar hole. We're still sitting at the \$12 million mark. Work is being done with the budget managers, with the Vice Chancellors, myself and with our CFO.

J. Sherry asked about tuition waivers and how that affects our bottom line. As far as budgetary constraints that we have at the university, what does that look like for the future? Chancellor Lane stated four years ago we were the highest institution in the state in terms of waivers being granted. We were at about \$38-39 million. That number is down to \$20-30 million. There are some waivers you are mandated to give. We have reshaped how we award here. Now, we make sure students take full advantage of their state grants if they're getting them here in Illinois, take advantage of their scholarships, and all of those things on the front side before any type of waiver is given. We'll continue to monitor the waivers that we give out and don't give out. VC C. Tsatsoulis stated our GA's will continue to have tuition waived because they're doing a job for the university, and it's very important for us to do continue doing so. Any Fulbright Scholar gets their tuition waived. Someone who has received the NSF or GRF will have their tuition waived.

VI. Annual Report on Faculty Development by Provost Tucker

Provost Tucker shared a PowerPoint presentation with Faculty Senate labeled, “2024 Report on Faculty Development and Support.” Last year we looked at a faculty development project. We brought on a Faculty Fellow, Rob Lopez. He’s currently the Associate Dean at CAM. He took this on as his project, and Cherie Watson, the Outreach Librarian at Morris Library, will continue this project next year. So, they put together a faculty development working group. This was under our Associate Provost Wallace. The three-pronged initiative includes: three-year faculty development program, promotion/tenure process and continuing contracts, and skill refreshers. The first thing the group did was start with an inventory of what is already available and then determined where the gaps are. We want to partner throughout the system to maximize our resources. The new faculty program is a three-year monthly program which includes Welcoming & Orienting, Growing & Transforming, and Feedback & Reflections. NEOED is a new hiring system for HR, and it does allow us to have onboarding. So, that’s why it’s so important that we’re partnering also with HR, and we’re integrating everything we do. We are updating SPARK Week (Support, Professional development, Advancement, Resources and Knowledge).

YT. Lee asked to what extent would you like Faculty Senate to get involved in implementing the faculty development plan? Provost Tucker replied I would like to have a permanent advisory group that Faculty Senate would have membership on for professional development. In the cycle of the three-year program, we will want the Faculty Senate to talk to our new faculty. APAA Wallace has done a lot of work with leadership training for our Associate Deans and Deans. We will be rolling out some new programming for School Directors as well.

B. Rader asked as we go through the three-year plan, is there any plan to gather data from this experience and publish it in different educational journals, because it might be something to be an incentive as well? Provost Tucker stated excellent idea. Associate Dean Rob Lopez stated the workshop template that we made will be part of a way for us to take feedback on sessions. One thing we implemented with the Associate Deans’ Council was doing Teams based surveys to get some response for the work of the program we’re doing. We intend for that to be the model for the faculty development workshops as well.

VII. Special Guests: SIU Export Control Officers Todd Wakeland and Brenda Martin

Brenda Martin stated they will be implementing an international travel system, Terra Dotta. It’s currently used on campus by the Center for International Education. They use the study abroad module. We’re not changing anything with study abroad, but we are going to be adding on the travel registry module. We’re using it both to provide information that travelers need and also get information from them to the necessary offices. The Export Control Office is a system office, but we will be implementing it separately at each campus. We’re looking at the end of July for the start of pre-implementation and launch at the end of September. Terra Dotta is going to be an online system, web based. You use your normal network ID and password. You won’t need any extra password. It’ll be used by faculty, staff, and students representing SIU for international travel. Once it goes through the department workflow, it will come to our office and risk management. After all the approvals, the traveler would get a notification that it’s approved. The Alert Traveler app is free and can be

used to help in emergency situations, for example. We will have a basic system level policy, and each campus will have their procedures.

L. Wang asked how long do we have to apply or send information in before our traveling date? Brenda stated we're trying to request 30 days before the trip. Todd Wakeland stated this has not been finalized yet.

VCR C. Tsatsoulis asked if I'm in the U.S. but attend a foreign conference remotely, do I need to let you know? Brenda Martin stated in general, this will only be most likely if you're traveling there. There are certain regulations specifically with Iran where remoting into a conference is not allowed. We will still need to figure out if that is a case where you'll just email us outside of the system.

VIII. Reports

A. Executive Committee: Chair, Yueh-Ting Lee – No additional report.

B. Election Committee: Chair, Amber Pond

IBHE Faculty Representative (a term of four years) Professor of Chemistry, Dr. Lichang Wang runs for another term.

<https://chem.siu.edu/faculty-staff/faculty/wang.php>

A. Pond stated it's time for us to elect someone to be an IBHE faculty representative. Lichang Wang has already served one term and always brought back informative reports. She's an excellent candidate and the only candidate who has put in any interest for this position. A. Pond made a motion to vote for the IBHE faculty representative today.

Approval for Dr. Lichang Wang to serve as the IBHE faculty representative.

Motion: A. Pond

Second: J. Sherry

A vote commenced: 21 Yeas, 0 Nays, 0 Abstentions; The motion for Lichang Wang to serve as IBHE faculty representative was approved as presented.

C. Undergraduate Education Policy Committee: Chair, Jeffrey Punske – No report.

D. Budget Committee: Co-Chairs, Rachel Whaley and Khalid Meksem – No report.

E. Committee on Committees: Co-Chairs, Jennifer Sherry & Gary Apgar

J. Sherry stated the committee will be working on filling vacancies in the fall.

F. Faculty Status and Welfare Committee: Co-Chairs, Gary Apgar & Dale Aschemann

G. Apgar stated they will meet with previous members of the Faculty Status and Welfare Committee after this meeting to get an update and direction where to proceed.

G. Governance Committee: Chair, Christopher Wienke – No report.

H. VC of Research: Dr. Costas Tsatsoulis

VCR C. Tsatsoulis stated regarding graduate studies, our applications have been up by 13% and our admissions by 6%. About 60% of our admitted students are international,

and we're hearing about serious issues of getting appointments with the embassy. In India, it could be as much as six months. Currently, 57% of domestic students who have been admitted have enrolled. This is an amazing yield of 57%, but with international students it's only 8%. Right now, we have enrolled 361 new graduate students compared to 364 from last year. Regarding research, our expenditures is currently \$69 million at the end of May. We still have June to go for the fiscal year. Last fiscal year, our expenditures were \$73.6. So, I fully expect not only are we going to meet, but we're going to increase our record year we had last year in term of research expenditures.

L. Chang asked if they're still supporting faculty travel to conferences. VCR C. Tsatsoulis stated not only are we supporting faculty travel, but we've increased it from \$500 to \$750. And if you go with a funding agency, we've increase it from \$1,000 to \$1,500. We're also still supporting students and graduate students to go to conferences. McLafferty has been renovated. We're making a world class bio analytical research infrastructure facility. We're supporting research.

I. Faculty Advisory Council to IBHE: Lichang Wang

L. Wang stated the following: There were two FAC to IBHE meetings held following my previous report at the Faculty Senate meeting on April 30, 2024: the first on May 17, 2024, at the Illinois Association of School Boards in Springfield and the second on June 21, 2024, at the Harry S. Truman College in Chicago.

During the May meeting, there were two guest presentations. The first was given by Roger Eddy, the Director of Special Projects for Illinois Eastern Community Colleges, on the "Dual Credit Programs in the State of Illinois." The presentation focused on the quality of the Dual Credit program. The second was given by Christi Chadwick, Early Childhood Consortium Project Director at IBHE, on the "Current Initiatives in Early Childhood." She introduced the Early Childhood Access Consortium for Equity, which was formed in 2021 and provides programs of study designed to support working adults and advance equity. There was \$200 million from the Federal Childcare Development that helped establish the consortium, and the Federal grant ends in July 2024.

Between the May and June meetings, I also attended a Zoom meeting with other Higher Education Funding committee members, Danielle Stanley and colleagues on the higher education funding formula on June 18. During the zoom meeting, we were told that a few listening sessions in the fall will be organized at various campuses to understand the funding formula and where it is heading in the state legislation. SIUC is entered as one of the sites for the final selections. Hopefully, we get selected as a site for the listening session.

The June meeting is the end-of-the-year meeting. There was one presentation by Michael Abrahamson on the comparison of Illinois's investment in higher education with other states in the U.S. It showed a significant consistent decline in investment compared to other states. This may be useful to convince the state legislators to invest more in higher education. We are requesting the PowerPoint, and hopefully, I will share it with you once we have it.

Further details on the FAC IBHE meeting can be found in the meeting minutes at <http://www.facibhe.org/meetings/minutes.php>.

The next FAC to IBHE meeting will be held on September 20, 2024.

J. Graduate Council Representative: Mark Peterson

M. Peterson stated the Graduate Council has not met since the last Faculty Senate meeting. We're putting together an ad hoc committee to present a resolution for our September meeting for Faculty Emeritus criteria. We hope to have an approved resolution in a short time.

IX. Old Business

Ad Hoc Committees' Update (AI, ICE, and DFW)

AI – Cassie Wagner

C. Wagner stated a draft went out. The committee wanted a set of guidelines and principles that embraced academic freedom and creativity while upholding academic honesty and addressing academic ethical concerns around AI use, both in research and the classroom. You'll receive the updated guidelines as soon as the committee can get together and look them over.

ICE - Shu-Ling Wu

SL. Wu stated they met in May, and Dr. Mavis Adjei was elected to be Chair. However, she had to step down due to a new administrative responsibility in her school. The committee only has four members now. Since we moved to online evaluations, the response rate has dropped so much so it caused a lot of problems to many programs. We are concerned about the quality of teaching in education that we're providing to students that could be affected, because of how we connect data to our teaching performance. We're also concerned about whether or not the survey questions we are using are eliciting effective results. Do they show bias, or do they actually inform us how to improve on teaching? In the fall semester, we will meet. Currently, the committee is not representing all colleges. The hope is to expand the committee.

DFW – Wesley Calvert

W. Calvert stated the committee has been meeting weekly. We have been meeting with people around campus including the Provost, Jeb from University Core Curriculum, a representative from extended campus, and a representative from School of Mathematical and Statistical Sciences. Coming up, we have writing studies and CTE on our list. We're starting to put together insights on what is documented that anybody anywhere else is trying to do, see if there's anything we're missing. We have some data about student success by class, but we're trying to see whether we can get that information by student. We are hoping to formulate recommendations early in the fall.

X. New Business/Announcements – None.

XI. Adjournment

Motion: A. Pond

Second: R. Whaley