**Academic Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, October 9, 2024**

**6:00 P.M. (Hard stop 7:30)**

**OLD MAIN ROOM, BONE STUDENT CENTER**

***Call to Order***

Chairperson Horst called the meeting to order.

***Roll Call***

Senator Cline called the roll and declared quorum.

***Public Comment: All speakers must sign in with the Senate Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.***

Derek Sparby: Good evening. My name is Derek Sparby, and I am a proud member of the United Faculty of Illinois State University, UPI Local 4100. I’m here this evening to talk about the proposed budget for next academic year. Budgets are not just financial documents—they are moral and ethical ones that show institutional vision and priorities. The vision you will see tonight is a concerning one. ISU’s administrators have budgeted $140 million 500 thousand dollars for instruction, a drop from 2023’s expenditures of $152 million 816 thousand dollars, and especially 2022’s $190 million 262 thousand dollars.

The pattern over these three years shows a disturbing trend of declining investment in what should be the core functions of a university and in the people who make ISU a great institution. You will also hear tonight about ISU’s need for more support from Springfield. We in UFISU agree, which is why during negotiations we have proposed a joint lobby day where our union and the ISU administration can work together to advocate for a stronger ISU. After initially rejecting this proposal, the administration provided a “counter” (in quotation marks) that states the Union can lobby in Springfield and explained that they don’t want to be required to work with us on this endeavor. We proposed this article specifically as a point of unification and partnership, but ISU admin don’t seem to want to unify or act as partners.

Further, in February, our union presented a complete, comprehensive proposal, including articles that would ensure faculty have the resources we need to do our jobs and are fairly compensated for our work. We have not received a response on any economic articles despite campus-wide emails, department meetings, and news stories in which administrators make dire statements about ISU’s finances that lack transparency.

We continue to come to bargaining looking for a collaborative relationship, but it seems like our administrators want a conflictive one instead. We hope they will reconsider this stance. We hope you, President Tarhule, will reconsider this stance. Even if you don’t, we will continue fighting for the institution that we, our students, and the people of this state deserve. Thank you.

***Presentation:***

***FY25 Operating Budget & FY26 Operating & Capital Appropriation Request***

***Interim Vice President for Finance and Planning Dan Petree***

\*The presentation is in Appendix 1 of these minutes.

Senator Petree: I’m happy to be with you this evening to talk about where the university is and where it needs to go, starting with this fiscal year. Every year we put before the Board and before you our proposed budget for the current fiscal year. Our proposed operating budget for next fiscal year, 2026, and our proposed capital budget for next year, also ’26. For FY25, we are proposing a budget of 585.7 million dollars, about 59% of which is unrestricted, meaning State appropriations money and University Income Fund, the largest share of that is tuition. Restricted is about 41% bond-revenue operations, which are constrained or restricted by bond covenants and by state law, local funds are largely by the purpose for which they were raised, and grants and contracts, which are bound by the contract and grant terms. The university always asks the Board to approve a balanced budget. That doesn’t mean that our revenues and our spending will necessarily match up with that budget. This is a plan, and by practice and policy we have to present a balanced budget. That is what we are doing this year; it is up a little bit over FY24. This is one of the things the Board will be asked to act on this Friday. We are almost a 600-million-dollar operation. Unrestricted State appropriation for ISU comes in at about 14% of our operating expenses. The other 86% have to come from somewhere else. The largest share of where that somewhere else is, is tuition. That summarizes the income fund of about 45% of our expected revenues.

Our Personal Services category is our largest single budget expense item. Almost half the budget is earmarked for that. The second largest is Contractual- could be software licenses, consultants, any number of professional service groups that we contract with. That is a little over 19%. Awards and Grants is mostly financial aid for our students. It is almost 76 million dollars for FY25. Permanent Improvements is mostly capital or repairs and renovations – around 44.7 million dollars for FY25 or about 7.5% of our expected expenditures. The last four categories are Commodities, Debt Service which right now is at 22 million dollars per year, that is what we have to pay in principal and interest on our previous certificates of participation and on our bonds, Equipment, then we have almost 7 million dollars in Miscellaneous or smaller budget items which are captured in that little box at the bottom.

We can separate these out by function. What you will see on this slide is not what you are going to see when you see our FY25 audit for a couple reasons. The most important is that we have audit standards we have to follow, and classifications from those audit standards are different than our budget operation standards. Cost of Instruction is 24%. Our Cost of Instruction is significantly higher than that. There is a difference between what we report and what we budget. Student Services, 21%. I believe that is a significantly increased category over the years, and the reason is financial aid is in there. Fiscal Plan is almost 100 million dollars a year. Physical Plant is maintenance, repair, painting, new carpet, remodeling, major capital projects. Institutional Support is largely university overhead- President’s office, Division offices, shared services around the campus. Other categories are Research, Academic Support, Debt Service, and Public Service. That is how they break out into categories as opposed to expense types.

We have a request in front of the Board to approve our budget for FY25 and we have sent in a request to the state legislature to approve our operating appropriation for FY26 and our capital appropriation for FY26 as well. For our operating appropriation request we are asking for a 20-million-dollar increase. This current fiscal year we are going to be at about 80 million dollars from the state appropriated specifically for operations. We are asking the state to increase our allocation by what it costs us to provide a category of about 6 mandatory student groups, that we have to accept at no revenue. They are students who are entitled to every benefit of being a student here, the difference is state legislature has exempted them from tuition and fees. That is about 12 million dollars. Our student financial aid has been growing very rapidly, about 400% in the last 20 to 15 years. We are asking for an additional 4 million dollars to help offset some of that growth, and we are asking for some support for some of our high-demand disciplines, another 4 million dollars. All of those categories add up to 20 million dollars and we are asking for a total of 99 million, eight hundred and eleven thousand, eight hundred dollars ($99,811,800).

I would like to say I am optimistic about this, but I am not. This is what we need, and we are asking for it and we are going to try to help the legislature see why it is necessary for us. The other thing we have to submit that has not been approved by the Board is our appropriation request for capital. Capital is buildings, infrastructure, information systems, things that have a longer life than a month, semester, or academic year. Like every other university in the country, we have enormous needs in the deferred maintenance category or updating and upgrading our structures because they are old. It is important for us to help the state understand how important those expenses are and how current funding simply doesn’t make much of a dent in what we need to do on the capital side of keeping this university functioning well. We have had power outage, a fire earlier in the year, there are all kinds of things we can’t plan for, but when they happen, we have to deal with them. Everything in this category will fall into that description if we don’t do something about them. We are asking for a very large list of funding for capital in the neighborhood of 650 million dollars. I don’t know why, but I am a little more optimistic that legislature may begin thinking about how to deal with the enormous cliff of unfunded deferred maintenance, because it is true on every campus, and it is an enormous number. Those are the things we have to submit for the Board. I wanted you to see them first, and I will be entertaining questions about those as we get to the end.

This reflects the story we told earlier. We get about 14% of our operating funds through appropriations from the state. This graph shows us all the way back to 2005, so basically 20 years, how much money the state has transferred to us in direct fashion through appropriations. It peaked in 2011 at 85 million dollars, in 2005 it was 79 million dollars, and it is 80 million dollars in 2025, so basically it is flat, despite the fact that our expenses are not. I think it is safe to say that the state is maintaining it level of support for us as an institution, but there has been essentially a 20-year period when there has been a little bit of a wiggle, but really no indication of a higher allocation of funds to us. This is a common phenomenon around the county. Public universities have been subject to systematic disinvestment. It has taken years, but it is finally arriving.

As a growing concern, we have to find ways to fund our operations that don’t rely on the state to provide us with a substantial portion of our operating revenue. This is the same data, adjusted for inflation. That 80 million dollars that we are getting this year would have been the same as 45 million back in 2002. Not only we flat in pure dollar terms, we are losing ground in terms of purchasing power for the university. Among the State of Illinois public universities, if you look at the annual allocations that are paid to each of the universities on a per-student basis, our average allocation is a little over 4 thousand dollars. The state average among all the universities is almost double that- 7900 dollars, and the largest is 25,000 dollars.

I think it is safe for us to say that we are underfunded relative to our colleagues around the state. They also have needs, and I am sure they have good cases for why their appropriation should be higher than it is. This is not news. We have been firmly in last place on this particular metric for a number of years.

What has happened is there is a shift in how we get our money. The blue line represents state appropriation the red line represents tuition. Beginning in 2007, the relative importance of those two funding sources have completely switched. We are now at 14% state support and 45% tuition support for FY25. You can see the gap is getting bigger, not smaller. Two of our largest and fastest growing expense categories are personnel services and financial aid. Average financial aid in FY15 was something like 780 dollars per student, it is now several thousand dollars per student. Taken together, you can see that both of these expense categories have been rising. They started out in a lower base, the rate of change in financial aid is greater than the rate of change in human resource cost, but they are both rising faster than our revenue.

At the university we have prided ourselves on building healthy reserves and remaining liquid, and that is still true today. We are still a liquid institution. We convinced the bond rating agencies, the two major ones, to upgrade us in terms of creditworthiness in this last round of evaluations. They are perfectly comfortable with our liquidity situation and so am I. Part of our liquidity is in the form of reserves. If we were a profit-motivated organization, which we are not, these would be equivalent to retained earnings. This would be the money that was earned over time and accumulated throughout time. From the time we became an independent university to today, that is where those accumulated positive returns go. Every year when we have a negative return at the end of the year, it reduces those reserves. The thing about reserves is they are one-time money. This doesn’t represent a flow like tuition or appropriations. This is what is left over after we have closed out a year, and if there is positive money left over that is what goes into the reserves. We can’t say that because we start the year with 90 million dollars, we are going to end the year with 50 million dollars, and next year we are going to start with another 90. Historically we have reported it the same way we report it to the credit agencies and the way the government requires us to report. We report all of the reserves in one big lump. At the end of FY24 we had 83.8 million dollars in GR reserves. The standard expectation is that our reserves should be enough to cover 6 months of operations. Six months of operations for us if we just look at salaries is over 100 million dollars. We are a little short in terms of total reserves. We are not in trouble, but our reserves could be stronger and need to be stronger for some of the investments we anticipate making down the road.

On top of that, the 84 million dollars in reserves aren’t fungible. We can’t move them around and use them to fund anything we like, because they were put in reserves in a restricted fashion. Out of the 84 million dollars, 20.4 million of that has been earmarked for capital projects that are either under weigh or will be soon. Another 27.3 is in the Strategic Budget Carry-forward. Those are funds that have been left at the end of an operating year and are supposed to be used to invest in strategic initiatives in the future. When you take all those things together, our uncommitted reserves are about 19 million dollars out of that 84. That is the money that is really fungible.

We have a second set of reserves, those are the AFS reserves. They are funded out of bond revenue and fees and the largest single unit there would be Student Affairs. Their current reserves are about 160 million. Each of those units has its own set of reserves, and these reserves are being accumulated to replace and repair capital. That particular pool of money, while it is genuinely reserves, is not fungible to us from the operating side. It is restricted for the use it was generated for.

This is a slide that should not surprise anybody. The chart on the left captures the U.S. high school graduation rate and the trend. The blue side captures the situation in Illinois. You see the second line shows us where we are today, and if you extend that line out to 2038 you see that the number of high school graduates in Illinois dropped from 148,000 in 2025 to about 115,000. Those are really solid numbers, because those kids were born 18 years ago. We know where they came from, and we know how many of them there are. Our enrollment has held up remarkable well. While this chart looks flat, it represents a slight improvement and that is counter to higher education as a whole in the United States. One of the reasons a lot of schools are in trouble is they have been depending on the margins they generate from tuition to keep the doors open. We have been lucky and worked hard to make sure our incoming classes replace our graduating classes and we continue to grow in enrollment. We have now reached a point where our revenues will no longer cover our expenses, and they will certainly not cover our budget. If that continues, it is called a structural deficit, and that is not a sustainable situation for the university.

Senator Seifert: About that slide at the end, you said that it didn’t match the statements, but it does. When I look at your charts here, the categories are the same as what are on the audited financial statements. Instruction has indeed gone down every year on your audited statements and on your budget here. Student Services has increased almost double from your financial statements from last year. Why do you say that the recissions should come from Instruction and not other areas of the budget when it seems that we have run the risk of not being able to cover classes next year? What business are we in? Teaching, or the student experience? We are only 24% of the whole budget. I am confused about this trend.

Senator Petree: I can’t speak to the trend. I can assure that as we were working as a cabinet to come up with budget guidelines for ’25, the primacy of the academic mission was paramount.

Senator Seifert: Are we going to be able to cover our classes with the recissions? If you take the recissions that you are asking for, next year you are going to be getting into personnel budgets. We don’t have the money to give back without getting into personnel. That jeopardizes our ability to cover our classes and deliver those services.

Senator Petree: It is always true that revenues take longer to build than expenses take to cut. At every university that is true. As we are looking at the immediate of this year, next year, and probably the third year, we are investing heavily in programs and activities that we believe will generate new revenue. Engineering, Nursing, Cyber Security, and other activities that we are attempting to launch. In the meantime, we have to put together an expense budget that matches our revenues. We have pledged not to do layoffs and we have pledged not to close programs. The budget we have starting right now in fiscal ’25 gets us there.

Senator Cline: You explained that the budget categories in the audited financial disclosures are not always 1 to 1 aligned with the budget categories that you have in the pie chart.

Senator Petree: I apologize if I said that. What I meant was, what is in those categories is not aligned. The expense lines that are on the statements don’t appear in the budget in the same place. I didn’t mean to confuse you.

Senator Cline: The Student Services line in the 2023 audited financial disclosures is 53.8 million, but if I look back at the presentation made last year, Student Services in the budgeted operating expenditure by function chart, we are budgeting 120.1 million. We have budgeted 120.1 million in the Student Services category, but in the audited financial disclosures the actual is 53.8 million. I don’t understand the difference. If the case is that we are supposed to put in Student Aid, which is a further 86.8 million, that would take us up to 140.6 million. Either we have spent less than half of what we had budgeted, or we spent 20 million more than we budgeted. Could you clarify?

Senator Petree: The difference is a number of things, but the largest is Financial Aid. One of the reasons it doesn’t appear in the same way on the financial report is that it is considered a reduction in revenue instead of an expense. Student Aid for the purpose of the report would have been counted as discounted tuition and the category is Student Affairs.

Senator Cline: Then we didn’t overspend by 20 million in the Student Services category, but 20 million dollars was counted in a different category?

Senator Petree: Student Services has more than one source of funds. Without going in depth into the financial statements that are applicable to Student Services, which we don’t produce, it is hard for me to reconcile the 20 million.

Senator Cline: Same here. We have audited financial disclosures and then we have these numbers that are presented to us annually at Senate. If there are categorization differences between those two and they are reasonable and explainable, if you could provide that it would be great. Tonight, we have heard that those budget categories don’t specifically align, and maybe also instructional costs don’t align. Could you provide more information about how those audited financial disclosure categories fit with these public budgetary allocations?

Chairperson Horst: We might be able to discuss this even further in the RISE task force. The actual versus the budget might be something for us to look into.

Amanda Hendrix: I’m not an accountant and I don’t do our financial statements, but we did reach out to the experts that do. On the face of the financial statements, there are things that don’t align. One is Instruction. The reason for that is, the State requires us to report State-of-Illinois-provided benefits such as SURS and OPEB, which stands for Other Post Employment Benefits. We are required to report those across all functions. On the face of the financial statements, things do not align, but there are different schedules within the financial statements where they better align. The Comptroller’s Office recommended that when comparing expenses from year to year, we use the supplementary information portion of the financial statements. This breaks down the institutional expenses and is called Schedule of Operating Expenses.

[*A breakdown of institutional expenses (Schedule of Operating Expenses) is provided in the Supplementary Information portion of the financial statements (pages 86-88 on* [*FY23 audited financial statements*](https://accountingoffice.illinoisstate.edu/statements/FY23-ISU-Fin-Full.pdf)*).*]

Senator Bonnell: When you presented to the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee and the Planning and Finance Committee, you had an important slide. It was slide 20 in our extended slides and it showed the projected revenues and expenses. Could you talk about that?

Senator Petree: Our projections are taking us out to ’28, and the bottom line from those projections is that we anticipate that if we do nothing, which we are not going to do, we would expect to accumulate net losses or negative margins totaling 32 million dollars over the next 3 fiscal years. That slide gave us a snapshot of how the curves between revenues and expenses are diverging. The reason is because the rates of change are double on the expenses of what they are on revenue.

Senator Blum: It seems that we are getting to a place where we can’t raise tuition because of competitors, and also, we don’t want to raise tuition on students. In order to avoid deficits, we are going to have to find other revenues. Is that accurate?

Senator Petree: I agree.

Senator McHale: In that breakdown, are administrative costs under student services or where are they accounted for?

Senator Petree: I am not a cost accountant, but if we are like most other universities there are at least two categories of administrative costs. There are costs that are associated with a specific academic activity like a department chair or dean, those would be under Academic Enterprise. There are also university-wide administrative positions, Associate Vice President for Human Resources for example, that would be a Central Service Expense for the university. It depends on scope and focus for the individual activity.

Senator McHale: Do we consider those Instructional Costs? Are we calling them, Instructional Resources?

Senator Petree: Many of them are counted as Instructional Costs.

Senator Valentin: I was curious about the Rising Financial Aid and GR Personal Expenses chart, and the indication that personal costs and financial aid costs have grown by 75 million or an average of 8.3 million annually. This timeline shows that 75 million growth over 10 years, but this is not inflation-adjusted is that correct?

Senator Petree: That is correct.

Senator Valentin: Would it be fair to make an inflation-adjustment evaluation of this chart? I ran it through the Bureau of Labor Statistics inflation calculator and found that 168 million in 2015 is equivalent to 221 million in 2024. That would indicate that there has actually been, in terms of expenditure towards personnel costs and financial aid, an actual dip in the amount that has been dedicated. Is that fair?

Senator Petree: It is not unfair. What we are trying to capture for folks is an idea of the trends. What is the magnitude of change over time and how does it compare to the previous ten or twenty years? I don’t know what additional information we would get if we applied the inflation adjustment to all of our slides, it is something for us to consider.

Senator Valentin: We are seeing this increase in financial aid and personnel expenses, but not taking into account inflation and increased costs relative to those. It looks like the university’s appropriation in these areas has actually gone down relative to inflation.

Senator Pellegrini: Just a clarification for the mandated waivers. Is the reimbursement something that we have done in the past?

President Tarhule: Yes, we have, every year.

Senator Ionescu: Regarding the revenue, the graph looks like a perfect line. Can you clarify if it is tied to the data?

Chairperson Horst: The one that says, “revenue and expenses” and “we are here”?

Senator Ionescu: Yes.

Chairperson Horst: That one is for presentation only.

Senator Petree: It is supposed to be illustrative.

Senator Ionescu: Regarding Williams Hall renovation- I know it is a very old building and a new building is about 137 million. The new nursing building is about 87, and renovation of Williams Hall is 116. Is there a possibility to build something newer?

Senator Petree: Major capital improvements, like new buildings, are not expensed in the current year, they are expense over the life of the project through depreciation. They wouldn’t impact our bottom line this yar. If we open the STEM lab this year, the money for that project would not be expense this year because it has been invested for the expected life of the building. We will write that value down over 30 years or so.

***Remarks by State Senator David Koehler***

State Senator Koehler: Thank you very much. President Tarhule has informed me along with Representative Sharon Chung about the budget; I appreciate that. I too am a senator, just in a different arena. I want to let you know some things I’ve learned.

I’ve only represented this area for less than two years, and I think you are going backwards. I think it is up to me and Sharon Chung to make sure that we make that message heard in Springfield. As an example, in FY05 the state allocated 1.3 billion dollars to public universities. In FY25 we allocated 1.3 billion dollars to universities. That is discouraging. In FY05 the state allocated 79 million to Illinois State University. In FY25 the state allocated 80 million. That certainly doesn’t keep up with inflation. The state appropriates ISU $4,156 per student. It is less than any other state-supported 4-year school in the whole state. It is actually $3,774 less. State appropriations make up 14% of the University’s annual budget. ISU has 19 million reserves uncommitted and free for use. That is far less than what is recommended for any university.

Universities are mandated to provide wavers for certain programs, including Special Education, totaling 12.3 million dollars in unfunded mandates that this school absorbs. The university will submit an FY26 appropriation request outlining a 20-million-dollar increase. This will address the 12.3 million dollars that you absorb in terms of mandated wavers while adding an additional 4 million for student financial aid for need-based students and 4 million to expand Engineering and Nursing.

The state has increased MAP funding by 75% since 2019. We have increased MAP funding every year to an all-time high of 701 million dollars and increased the Aim High program from 35 to 50 million. In FY24, the state will provide more than 2.5 billion dollars to higher education overall.

Here is what I am prepared to do, and I speak on behalf of my colleague, Sharon Chung, as well: I think we need to bring that level up in terms of “per student” funding, because you are the lowest. ISU is really one of the highest-regarded universities in the state of Illinois if not the Midwest. You have an excellent reputation. Yet, the state funds you at the lowest level? It doesn’t make sense to me. If the state mandates that you not charge tuition for Special Ed students, then we, at least, ought to follow up with supplementing that so you don’t have to absorb all of it.

I was just at a meeting with the IEA this afternoon and talked to some of the Special Ed teachers that teach in the high schools here. I asked them, “Did you pay any tuition when you went to ISU?” No, they didn’t pay any tuition. I explained to them that the university had to absorb that. That wasn’t just something they did because they wanted to help you out, that is something that was a state mandate. They need to understand where that comes from. ISU is the one that absorbs that to the greatest extent of any four-year school in the state.

I think that the way we should approach this is that I will file a bill in the Senate and Sharon Chung can file a bill in the House that would put these things in place in bill form that says exactly what we want to bring ISU into equity with the rest of the schools. This doesn’t mean that bill will pass on its own, but it means it is a place-holder. I sit on both the Higher Education Committee and the Higher Education Appropriation Committee, so I am in a good spot to work this bill through. We want to have a place-holder so that we catch the attention of everyone else to say, “It’s our turn. All we are asking for is to be brought up to what is equitable with how the rest of the state schools are dealt with.” That is my challenge. I guess I can look back and not accept all the blame because I have only represented you for less than two years, but going forward, it is my responsibility to make sure that things change, and I commit myself to that. I really appreciated working with Dr. Tarhule.

Chairperson Horst: Senator Koehler, it is wonderful to hear that we have a strong advocate for our university. There was a state task force that came up with a plan for increasing funding. Do you have any sense of where that plan is going?

Senator Koehler: You are talking about the evidence-based funding?

Chairperson Horst: Yes.

Senator Koehler: We had a presentation on that with the Higher Ed Committee last spring. It is really constructed similar to what we have done with evidence-based funding for K-12. There is status-quo funding that exists for all schools, then when you ask for money above that what you do is you appropriate that based on need. When we first had this back in 2017, Andy Manar was a senator at the time, and he proposed this to be evidence-based funding for everything across the board. The schools that were well-funded in rich areas weren’t about to lose any money, so it had to be a compromise. We said we will hold the line on where we are, but then above that we put 350 million dollars into that evidence-based funding every year, which has meant more than 2 billion since we started. That money is now allocated on a base of 4 tiers, the first being the schools that are most in need. The idea is that your education should not depend on your zip code. We ought to expect quality education no matter where you live. That is the premise of it. We need to do that for higher ed. That would be a good move going forward, but that doesn’t bring you out of the hole that you are in. First, we have to talk about equity for ISU, then we can talk about evidence-based funding going forward. The fact that we have not increased our funding overall since ’05 says that we are going backwards.

Senator Cline: Those of us who are in a separate set of sub-committees had a presentation from Dr. Petree in our last meeting. Dr. Petree told us that they had been told by people in Springfield basically, “Enough already. Shut up ISU. We are tired of the song and dance and the little violin.” I’m not blaming you, but it is really sad to hear that our consistent requests fall on deaf ears. My question for you is, how can we as senators or faculty help change that? What can we do to change that narrative that we are this screaming baby in central Illinois? In McLean County, this institution is a major economic driver for us. This is not just about our students, it isn’t just about the faculty in this room, but for McLean County this would be devasting to go backwards.

Senator Koehler: ISU is important not only for McLean County but for the state of Illinois. You produce more teachers than any other institution in the state, you have for forever. ISU is a valuable commodity. What we have to do at the state legislature level is we have to make it so that we support our schools at the level they deserve, and that we allow for our in-state students to be able to afford to go to our state schools. That is a problem right now. I heard when I came in the room someone asked about raising tuition. We have to make schools affordable. When it is more cost-effective for a family to send their student to Missouri than it is for in-state tuition in Illinois, then there is something wrong with that picture.

You mentioned that people have told you to stop whining. I would guess that they don’t represent you in the legislature, and they are probably administrators. They don’t make policy; the state legislature and the governor make policy. I would disregard that, because you can whine all you want. It doesn’t bother me. I’m going to use that as fuel to get this issue across.

You asked what you can do. You have got a lot of alumni in the state legislature. Jay Hoffman in leadership in the House, Chris Belt is a senator from the metro east area, Elgie Sims is our chief budgeteer in the Senate, there are others I am just picking the ones I know. You need to contact them and Brad Franke will work with me on making sure we get a hold of them. President Tarhule has met with them. He knows who I am talking about. We have talked about the Redbird Caucus as something we are going to grow. We have to bring this issue forward so that people understand that this is a crisis. You are in a crisis, and we have to begin to resolve it. This is going to be a tough year, because the budget projections are that this is going to be a tougher year than last year.

My take on that is that our budget is our set of values. It is what we say we are about in Illinois. If this isn’t one of the highest values we have, I don’t know what is. We are now talking about the future of this state in terms of who we educate and who we keep here. We can’t keep losing students to other states. Once they go away to college, they don’t come back. We need that talent right here. The governor is in Japan right now getting business organizations interested in coming and investing in Illinois. They will come and invest when we have the talent pool for them to be interested in coming to Illinois. We do have a talent pool, but we are seeing some of that siphoned off and we have to stop that.

***Approval of the Academic Senate minutes of September 11, 2024***

Motion by Senator McHale.

Second by Senator Hofstetter.

Unanimous approval.

***Chairperson's Remarks***

Chairperson Horst: I want to thank Interim Vice President for Finance and Planning Dan Petree and State Senator David Koehler for their remarks this evening. We do have a full agenda, so I am going to go as quickly as possible. Amanda Hendrix, our Interim Associate Vice President for Budget and Planning and co-chair of the RISE task force, and I are working with various constituents to finalize the membership. The task force will begin its work this month and we will keep this body and the Planning and Finance Committee apprised of our work. This task force has been charged with analyzing our current financial situation and working with a consultant to consider budget options that would better align our revenues and expenses going forward.

The Campus Communication Committee worked with President Tarhule to finalize our letter to the Board of Trustees which will be read on Friday. The letter addresses the pop-up party event and subsequent arrests that occurred near ISU as well as announcements regarding the university’s financial situation and announcement regarding no raises this year for many employees. I want to thank all the members of the Campus Communication Committee and especially wish to thank Senators Blum and McHale who will be covering my shared duties for that committee as I travel to California this weekend.

Committee chairs, the Executive Committee will be shifting its meeting from October 28th to October 21st due to the HLC visit. If you have any items for the Executive Committee to consider, please get them to the Senate office by October 17th at 2pm.

This Friday’s Board meeting should be really interesting. I am sorry I am going to miss it. I encourage you all to stay abreast of the agenda items being considered by the Board of Trustees and consider what it will mean for your constituents. All of the Board of Trustees resolutions are posted at IllinoisState.edu/trustees. Depending on how the resolutions work out, the Planning and Finance Committee may wish to consider additional topics for its priorities report.

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

Senator Blair: I would like to begin by welcoming our new student senator, Alondra Zagal. I am very excited to welcome her to the team both here and in Student Government. I’ll save details on policy 2.2.1 Student Employment for when we discuss it as an Action Item. In terms of other Student Caucus activities, on policy 2.1.25 Short Term Emergency Student Loans, we are still awaiting some responses from stakeholders while we complete that review. In the meantime, we have begun our review of policy 2.1.28 Medical Amnesty and Good Samaritan, which was initially worked on last year and now we are picking it up again. We look forward to getting those policies ready for your review as soon as we can.

In regard to the pop-up party incident that occurred, I would like to reiterate the statements that I made in the previous Student Government meeting. I encourage everyone, in particular our student leaders, to educate ourselves and our constituents on how these events are orchestrated and how they can be damaging to communities like ours. When these things happen, it is always important that students make the responsible decision not participate in these harmful events. I am thankful to state from the information that I have that the vast majority of the individuals involved were not ISU students or otherwise affiliated with the university. I would like to add on behalf of the Student Government Association, any dialogs, programs, or ideas on promoting continues responsible student decisions or aiding in university responses to things like this that might happen in the future, that we are more than happy to provide whatever aid we can.

***Administrators' Remarks - President Aondover Tarhule***

President Tarhule: I would like to begin with something that I hadn’t written down, which is the budget presentation. Allow me to make three quick comments. One is that the budget is extremely complex. I have spent far more time looking at our budget and analyzing it then any president should, in part because of where we are, and I have come to appreciate the complexity. Not just in numbers, it is part of how different reporting systems require different criteria, so it is almost impossible to look at the numbers from one report and take that and compare to something else. We have to make sure that everything is apples to apples before it makes sense. All of that has to do with the different ways in which the State requires classification. Please don’t just take a number somewhere and try to compare it where it is extremely difficult to make them work. Our budgeting people are here to help us all understand.

Second, I see the complexity in our budget and the challenges we are facing in two ways. One is what Senator Koehler and everyone says- we are just not getting enough money to operate. For those of you who are 20 years and over, think about if your budget, the money that you made 20 years ago, was the same amount of money that you have to operate on today. Without accounting for inflation, that is what we are dealing with. We are getting the same amount of money that we got 20 years ago. Add in inflation, and that is what the institution has to work with. When the institution runs into problems like this, it is not because we are not mindful of the challenges. Nothing would give me more pleasure as a new president to give a fine, hardy increase to everybody on staff. Nothing would make me happier, but you have got to have the money. If you have a deficit of 10 dollars and give a salary increase of 3 dollars, now you have a deficit of 13 dollars. Now you are now longer trying to solve a 10-dollar problem, you are trying to solve a 13 dollar problem. Those are some of the challenges that we are facing.

The last point I want to make our budget is this: your anger, your disappointment, your confusion are perfectly understandable. I see it. I am as disillusioned as anyone of you about the state of our budget. I ask that we channel that anger and disillusionment appropriately at the root cause of the problem. The root cause is we are just not getting enough money. The root cause is inflation is outpacing. The root cause is not this one number analysis. Please ask all the questions you can. Let’s study the examples of other institutions that are going through this, and it is literally the majority of institutions across the entire country who are going through what we are going through. Just get on the internet and google it, everybody is going through what we are going through. The people who are succeeding are the ones who are focused on the root cause of the problem. Other schools have run into a lot of difficulty because they are looking at, “Well, here you reported 9.2 and here it is 8.7, why don’t they match?” That doesn’t serve anything. We should ask those questions to understand, but we should stay focused on the root cause. Be united in advocating for more money. Be united in coming up with new ways of trying to save costs. The root cause is our costs are going up twice as fast as our revenues. That is indisputable. We must find a way to slow down the rate at which our costs are going up, but we must find a way to increase the revenue that we are creating. I want to appeal to everyone. I hear your concerns, I am as disillusioned as you are. This is not what I thought I would be inheriting, but it is what it is. I am very encouraged that we have defined the problem. We have spent a lot of time trying to understand it. We have come up with strategies that are painful, admittedly, but it is much better than to wait for this to be the same kind of crisis that we see at other institutions. I ask for your understanding and your support. The RISE task force, which I am going to talk about, is an avenue to ask the more detailed questions and to interrogate the budget as much as you would like.

Let me give you an update about the RISE taskforce. I have been meeting with various leadership groups, I think 18 so far by my count, to include in shared governance and to discuss university finances and RISE. I have learned a lot and have come to appreciate the information that I have gotten from these groups. In addition, over the next weeks, I am going to have open budget meetings. Senior leadership will be there. I invite anybody who has a question to ask about the budget to come and ask. We will try to explain. I don’t expect to convince everybody, but I am going to be as transparent as I can be and show you all of the numbers and explain some of the reasons why you may see differences. I want to have open budget forums and make sure people come and get their questions answered and hopefully become better informed about what we are dealing with. This current issue is survivable if we stay focused in looking at what we need to do now to position ourselves for strength. I believe wholeheartedly we could come out of this stronger and thrive as an institution. We have to go through a little bit of pain, but we will get there.

The RISE taskforce has 33 members. 10 members come from the division of Academic Affairs, 7 from shared governance partners, 4 each from the division of Student Affairs and Finance and Planning, 2 each from the department of Athletics and the department of Advancement and Alumni Engagement and the Office of the President, and 2 from the Chairs and Directors Council. The goal here is to be very representative to make sure that all stakeholders can nominate whoever they want. I have deliberately decided to have no say at all in who is nominated and who gets on this committee. We will discuss the budget and work with the consultants. The task force will be to ensure full communication, transparency, and campus engagement related to the budget and implementation of what we are going to do next. They will work with an external consultant to review our past practices and decision making. Budgets are not about numbers; budgets are about processes and decision making. The budget simply reflects the cost and economic implication of the decisions we make. You are not going to change a budget by just changing the numbers. You are going to change the budget by changing the things that resulted in those numbers. It is really important to keep in mind that what we are talking about is, what are we going to do different? If we do everything exactly the same as we have done it in the past, we will end up with the same result we have, which is a structural budget deficit. In order to get out of that, we must do some things different. What should we do different? This is very important. It is not just a semantic difference. It is a foundational paradigm-shift in terms of what we think about budget.

I want to thank Martha Horst and Amanda Hendrix for agreeing to chair this very important task force and to ensure that we all get the information that we want. More to come on that. I also want to provide an update on several searches in key leadership positions. The search for the permanent Vice President for Finance and Planning has launched. This is a very hard market for CFOs because every school is going through a budget crisis. CFOs are in huge demand, so please reach out to your network and encourage people to apply so we can get someone. The review of applications will begin on November 1, and will continue until the position is filled.

The Provost is also running the search for the Dean of the College of Education. Thanks to Todd McLoda for stepping in an interim capacity. I anticipate that on-campus finalists will be here at the end of January.

We are working with CSA Collegiate Sports Associates on a national search for an Athletics Director. Because of the number of searches, we have had to stagger them a little bit because there are so many people serving on the same committees. This search will launch this fall and the goal is to have final candidates on campus in late January. The search for an Ombudsperson, we did this search before and failed it, we are trying it again. Zoom meetings with the candidates will begin next week. The search for the Chief Equity and Inclusion Officer will commence in the spring of next semester. Finally, I would like to ask Chief of Police Aaron Woodruff to give a little bit of an update on the campus security situation.

Police Chief Aaron Woodruff: As you know, the vast majority of our campus community does not experience crime at Illinois State, however crime unfortunately does occasionally occur despite our best efforts. I did provide an update earlier on the hate crime investigation as hopefully all of you received. I am sure you are aware we issued an emergency alert during homecoming weekend, and that investigation remains under Normal Police Department. They are diligently working on that.

As the parent of a student who is living and attending here at Illinois State University, I genuinely appreciate everyone’s concerns about safety, and I assure you we are doing everything we can to prevent these types of incidents from occurring on or near our campus. We have very little control over the activities of others. In this case I can say we were fortunate, both our officers and Normal Police. We are very close and were able to issue an immediate emergency alert to our campus community.

A couple reminders in terms of emergency alerts- they are issued on a case-by-case basis taking into consideration the location of the incident, timeliness of the information, the credibility of the information, and the potential of an ongoing threat. Our responsibility lies primarily to the university property, but we do send out alerts for off-campus locations like this recent one if it is close to university property and if we have sufficient information from Normal Police Department to do so. The intent for the crime advisory is to create a better informed and educated campus community so appropriate individual precautions can be taken, which is why we include specific prevention tips in each one of those as well.

Finally, if we have information about a concern which does not rise to the level of an emergency alert or crime advisory, we do share that information as a community update on our social media. I would encourage all of you to follow us on social media for that information as well. We also take a very proactive stance by offering numerous crime-prevention programs free of charge to our students, faculty, and staff aimed at reducing their vulnerability to crime and criminal attack.

This brings me to our Redbird Safe Walk program, our Safe Redbird ambassadors, our self-defense courses known as AWARE and RAD and of course we have our community engagement unit that is also out and available to assist with this programming. I would be remiss if I didn’t mention the Safe Redbirds app which has a number of safety features which I would encourage you to download and use at your convenience.

Senator Pellegrini: For the open meetings for the budget, will we be provided with the details?

President Tarhule: Yes. We are working on a time and a location and logistics, and we will be sure to share that information as widely as possible.

Senator McHale: I understand the complexity of the issues, and I appreciate you sharing that there are complexities that the numbers don’t always line up with what we project and what we actually spend. I am worried about the use of the term instructional resources in regards to administration. I’m sure that some of those are instructional resources but maybe we should include the words, “and administration” when we talk about instructional resources.

Chairperson Horst: We could certainly look into that. If you could type that up and send it to me, we can look into that with the RISE taskforce, how the administration is accounted for in the budget.

Senator Blum: I’ve been here 20 years. I have heard a lot of these presentations and, I’m looking at this slide on 2020 Operating Appropriation by Student FTE number. That number has been that way for eons. If we are really going to take on the structural deficits in the next decade or prevent them from happening, there has to be a different approach. This is going to stay the same.

President Tarhule: I agree. Our underfunding goes back, as far as I can determine, to 1974. That is before some of your parents were born. It is not something that just started today. It has gotten worse because we haven’t lost enrollment. Several schools have lost enrollment by the state at exactly the same amount. Southern Illinois at Carbondale used to have 25,000 students. They now have only about 11,000. They still get the same appropriation. Northern used to have almost 25,000 students. They now have 16,000 students. They still get the same appropriation. The schools that have dropped still get exactly the same appropriation as they have gotten. We still get exactly the same as we got decades ago. A big part of our budget problem at this institution is that we are doing exactly the same. Our budget is not tied to our revenue, and we have done that for decades. Every year we have been allocating the same amount of money to everybody. Our budget is backward-looking. It is based on what happened last year, or 5 years ago, 10 years ago. It is not based on what is happening now. We are doing to ourselves exactly the same kind of issue we are complaining about to the State.

This is where I hope that we can all get past the anger and the disillusionment. I went through all these phases when I found out about the budget. I went through what you are going through. I have had a year to come to grips with it, so I understand that it will take people months to be angry – I accept that. Once you have all processed it, let us channel our anger and frustration at the right places. We have to make a change. We have to make a budget that is based on the money we get. We haven’t been doing that, we have been doing it based on the money that we allocated last year. You don’t budget like that in your own household, but we do it at an institution that is a lot more complex. We need to make those structural changes to ensure our own future. That fact that we haven’t done it for decades has compounded the issue, but I hope we take this as an opportunity. In the past we always somehow made it work because we had enough money. Now we can’t because there isn’t money, and we must make those decisions.

I am looking to Senator Horst and the RISE taskforce to help first educate themselves then educate the rest of us as a campus, then make the case for alternatives that will serve us better, taking reality into account. I came from New York. New York’s system has 64 campuses. They have been trying to close some campuses for decades- they can’t. The state does not make budget decisions on economic realities, it is politics. None of the representatives from the other schools will allow their schools to get less money so we can get more. I agree with you that the chances we can solve this through the state are very low. We have to look at the things we can control. If the state is ever to help us, fine and good. Given 5 decades of every president trying to correct this, I hope this miracle happens under my tenure as president, but I am not holding my breath. I would rather look at other options.

***Provost Ani Yazedjian***

Provost Yazedjian: In the interest of time, I am going to put a teaser out there that if you want some exciting news about the College of Engineering, go to the Board of Trustees website to learn more.

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

Senator Johnson: In the interest of time, I have no report.

***Interim Vice President for Finance and Planning Dan Petree***

Senator Petree: I have no report.

***Advisory Item:***

***From Director of Emergency Management Eric Hodges and***

***Deputy General Counsel Alice Maginnis***

[***5.5 Emergency Response***](https://illinoisstateuniversity.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/AcademicSenate/ESZtJqwxzp1Ityz_tWYHIvoBuVnsaeHaE9Rmy3uekO4p-w?e=btK0Ql) ***- New policy***

***Replacing policies 5.1.10 & 5.1.15***

Eric Hodges: Policy 5.5 is a new policy related to emergency management. This is born out of the fact that the emergency management program in its infancy started in environmental health and safety many years ago. What little policy existed was woven in there. It was so old and so detailed it had things like, “when we have a closure, we put the announcement on a recorded line.” That doesn’t exist. It was very mired in details. It also didn’t cover some of the things that we are legally obligated to do, so we wrote this from scratch before COVID, then COVID happened, so this has been baking for a long time. We finally got it done over the last couple years. What we have here is a very short policy that references a lot of the details that are in the Campus Emergency Operations Plan. I will let you know that we are working on a web page also now for closures. You don’t have to read the 120-page Emergency Operations Plan to figure out about closures, we are going to have a web page that talks about it. What does it look like if we do a late opening, or an early dismissal and my class straddles that? That is coming hopefully in the next couple of weeks before winter season is upon us.

Chairperson Horst: This is not a Senate policy, but this is a new policy and so we have an opportunity to ask questions.

Senator Gizzi: Why is the policy not a Senate policy?

Chairperson Horst: The Executive Committee determined that this was not in the academic area broadly considered, and the Executive Committee is the one that sets the list of Senate policies.

I have a point of clarification for you to consider. I was Senate Chair when COVID was happening and I know that was a very unusual circumstance, but there could be a situation such as at Appalachian State where there could be a prolonged emergency event, and I am going to suggest that some language, “when appropriate, these considerations will be informed by consultation with shared governance leaders, particularly if the event warrants a prolonged closure.” This is informed by our experience with COVID where there was a prolonged closure that led to a lot of discussions with shared governance.

***Information Items:***

***From Rick Valentin: Rules Committee***

***06.04.2024.24 - Public Comment Time Frame for Int. and Ext. Committees***

[***Appendix II Proposed Changes***](https://illinoisstateuniversity.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/AcademicSenate/EWxW8ENPShVKnNSVCP8wvvwBzYhUPgsVQiTeXRFxeUZ89Q?e=pz1cyc)

[***Appendix II Current***](https://academicsenate.illinoisstate.edu/about/bylaws/#Appendix-Two)

[***Article 6.6 Proposed Changes***](https://illinoisstateuniversity.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/AcademicSenate/Ebg5qL2zvihJl-q79xkgLEcBMB8_xPRqgdFL5zfgWGh9TQ?e=IuyExB)

[***Article 6.6 Current***](https://academicsenate.illinoisstate.edu/about/bylaws/#Six-Six)

Senator Valentin: This is an addition the Academic Senate Bylaws Article 6.6 regarding public comment time frame for internal and external committees. The internal and external committees of the Senate are subject to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, which requires time be set aside for public comment, but there is no time frame specified in the Act. Any person shall be permitted an opportunity to address public officials under the rules of establishment accorded by the public body. The full sentence has parameters for public comment in Article 5.4E of the Senate bylaws which is allowing up to 10 minutes of time in total for public comments and questions during a public meeting. Currently under Appendix II of the bylaws, Committee Structure of the Academic Senate, this article is referenced in regard to the public comment for Senate committees. The issue is that the 10-minute time allotment is fine for a full Senate meeting. For committees that often meet for only an hour, 10 minutes dedicated to public comment would be a big chunk of time taken out of committee business. This is a proposed clause, 6.6T, outlining the opportunity for public comment in committees based on a percentage of meeting time rather than a fixed time frame. The edits to Appendix II are to reference this new clause rather than the full Senate clause 5.4E.

Chairperson Horst: This would apply to all committees?

Senator Valentin: Internal and External.

Senator Blum: Sometimes we have a different length of meeting times because we changed the schedule this year. Would you want a fixed number like 5 minutes rather than a percentage of the meeting time?

Senator Valentin: That is the argument. If you have a 60-minute meeting, a fixed time of 10 minutes would be a substantial chunk of that time. Whereas if you have a 2-hour meeting, 10 minutes would probably be ok. Having the percentage would then allow for distribution of time equally through different-length meetings.

Chairperson Horst: With our situation, you could 120-minute meeting and that would be 12 minutes vs a shorter meeting of 50 minutes would be 5.

Senator Cline: That is the planned meeting time? If a meeting goes longer or shorter, we are just going with the planned meeting time as our percentage?

Senator Valentin: Exactly. Also identifying the beginning of the meeting for public comment. Just by the nature of time you wouldn’t be able to predict if the meeting was going to go over and adjust.

Chairperson Horst: You might want to include that word. “Committees will allow up to 10 percent of *allotted*…” does “allotted” work?

Senator Midha: What was the reason that you have given 10 minutes for those visitors? If it is for them to put forward their points, I believe we need to look at the historical reasons why 10 minutes was considered.

Chairperson Horst: 10 minutes for the internal and external committees is based on what we have for the Senate. Legal determined that the length we have for the Senate applies to all of the committees. Unless we have specific language for the committees, it is the language we set forth in the bylaws for the Senate. We did 10 minutes a long time ago. It is based on the length of the Senate meeting. In comparison to the Board, which allots 30 minutes, they have a longer a meeting and a lot more time.

Senator Midha: Do you think 5 minutes will be sufficient if we have some speakers?

Senator Valentin: We discussed that and, yes. There is an option if there are more speakers than time permits that they can then be in the queue for the next meeting.

Senator Midha: They can come back to the next meeting?

Senator Valentin: This body has the same policy.

Senator Cline: It might be interesting to consider something that is on the books for the Municipal and County codes for the state of Illinois, which is that in the event that there is a pressing need for the comments, that the chair of the committee can waive the limit. That is within the right of the chair without objection from the committee members to waive it. We are allowed to do that. A lot of governing bodies don’t frequently do it, but it is allowable in circumstances where it is important to hear that person’s comment given that time. They are still limited to 2 minutes per person, but the chair could be empowered to extend in the event that there is some pressing desire to extend.

Chairperson Horst: I appreciate that. I would encourage us to do that for the Senate and committees at the same time. This is the first step to get the committees to have some language. I would suggest in the future we could incorporate that idea into the full Senate and the committees at the same time.

***From Michael Gizzi: University Policy Committee***

***06.04.2024.39 - Delete Policy 8.1.1 Television Programming***

***Deputy General Counsel Alice Maginnis &***

***Director of the School of Communication Aimee Miller-Ott***

[***Link to proposed policy***](https://illinoisstateuniversity.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/AcademicSenate/EazexXCENLZOoml2DxkNgH4BnFyMOsE-FceC1bToYZu9Rw?e=P2jvpb)

[***Link to current policy***](https://policy.illinoisstate.edu/services/8-1-1/)

Senator Gizzi: University Policy Committee was slated to review policy 8.1.1 Television Programming which was last reviewed in 1975. This has been on the books to get taken off for a while. The committee reviewed the policy and the chain of emails with various stakeholders and voted unanimously that the policy was obsolete and should be deleted.

Chairperson Horst: We have Alice Maginnis here, who has looked into the 1970’s laws about television programming. She can answer our questions about this ancient policy.

Senator Blair: If any one of the groups mentioned decided that they had desire to put content on television after deleting this policy, would they be able to do that? Does this policy’s existence permit them to use that medium?

Deputy General Counsel Alice Maginnis: I think deletion of the policy will not have an impact on the ability of groups to put content forward in mediums that they want to, moving forward. I would say the laws and regulations through the FCC or other regulatory bodies would continue to apply, but we don’t need this policy in order for content to be made available in existing forums.

Chairperson Horst: Aimee, I wondered if you had any perspective from this Communication?

Director of the School of Communication Aimee Miller-Ott: No. Alice and I talked ahead of time. This policy doesn’t dictate what can be put on air, so we agree that it is obsolete and unnecessary and outdated.

Deputy General Counsel Alice Maginnis: As a point of instruction, in the first paragraph it references the program guidelines of the National Association of Broadcasters, which I believe was ruled unconstitutional in the early 80’s.

Director of the School of Communication Aimee Miller-Ott: A lot of the units that used to be on campus back then that are mentioned in this policy no longer exist either, and we are not the Department of Communication anymore.

Deputy General Counsel Alice Maginnis: Committees mentioned in this policy also haven’t existed in decades.

Chairperson Horst: There was some discussion about having a new policy at some point that your school could put forward if so needed.

Director of the School of Communication Aimee Miller-Ott: We could, if necessary. At this point, none of this guides what we are doing right now, so if needed we could do that later.

Senator Cline motions to move this policy from Information to Action.

Second by Senator Pellegrini.

Unanimous approval

Motion to approve deletion by Senator Cline.

Second by Senator Gizzi.

Unanimous approval.

HARD STOP

Items below this line were not addressed due to time constraints and will appear on the next agenda.

­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

***From Rick Valentin: Rules Committee***

***06.04.2024.31 -*** [***College of Engineering Bylaws***](https://illinoisstateuniversity.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/AcademicSenate/EYNFo0I2IUxEpXHFLQPxmWQBXg8LgLFoOqRV4mB8uMV9_g?e=Hk5kkf)

***Chair of Electrical Engineering Vijay Devabhaktuni***

***From Cobi Blair: Student Caucus***

***06.04.2024.35 - 2.2.1 Student Employment***

[***Link to proposed policy***](https://illinoisstateuniversity.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/AcademicSenate/EWRsLuS7U8RCoaTtNc4Jx6cBvNGjSaI39rmABpLA_pSY5g?e=LDTiry)

[***Link to current policy***](https://policy.illinoisstate.edu/students/2-2-1/)

***From Dimitrios Nikolaou: Academic Affairs***

***08.08.2024.02 - 4.1.18 Credit Earned through Transfer, Examination, and Prior Learning***

[***Link to proposed policy***](https://illinoisstateuniversity.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/AcademicSenate/ESDx4tIK8F1HtxBTMlsyEsAB0ZXO8-TCuH7elxG2IyZ0GQ?e=T1V4P8)

[***Link to current policy***](https://policy.illinoisstate.edu/academic/4-1-18/)

***Internal Committee Reports:***

*Written reports were submitted after the meeting due to time constraints.*

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

The Academic Affairs Committee met on September 25, 2024, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

The Committee discussed and voted to forward Policy 4.1.18 Credit Earned through Transfer, Examination, and Prior Learning to the Executive Committee for consideration for addition to the Academic Senate agenda. We also discussed Policy 4.1.21. Distance Education. The Committee also started its discussion on the General Education proposal. We focused on describing the current General Education program and then the new proposed General Education program to ensure that all committee members are clear about where we are and where we might be headed. We also set the plan on how we will review all the comments received through surveys, comments made during Senate, emailed comments, and feedback provided by any other means.

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

The AABC spent the first hour of our meeting listening to Dr. Dan Petree provide a

presentation on the state of the University’s finances and an explanation of our request to the

State of Illinois in the next fiscal year. We spent the remainder of our meeting working on

edits to policy 3.2.13.

***Faculty Affairs Committee: Senator Kapoor***

During our meeting on September 25, the Faculty Affairs Committee met to discuss the

Office of Research’s revisions and proposals concerning Policy 7.1.1 and 7.4.2. Craig

McLaughlin spoke at length about the reasons for the language and schedule changes to the

grant proposal structure at ISU. Following his presentation, the committee developed

questions and suggestions. The meeting ended with Senior Director of Research, Jason

Wagoner, offering further explanations for the office’s decisions.”

***Planning and Finance Committee: Senator Bonnell***

The Planning and Finance Committee met September 25 and held a joint meeting with the

Academic Affairs and Budget Committee for the FY25 Operating Budget & FY26 Operating

& Capital Appropriation Requests presentation from Interim VP for Finance and Planning

Dan Petree. During the second hour, PFC met with Chief Information Security Officer, Dan

Taube, to begin discussing policy 9.2 Appropriate Use. That policy was last approved by

Academic Senate back in 2011.

***Rules Committee: Senator Valentin***

The Rules Committee reviewed and endorsed the College of Engineering Bylaws and the

update to the Senate Bylaws regarding public comment and reviewed additional updates to

the Senate Bylaws (adding College of Engineering Senator and Academic Facilities Report

assignment).

***University Policy Committee: Senator Gizzi***

UPC is working on revisions to the university code of ethics and its two appendixes.

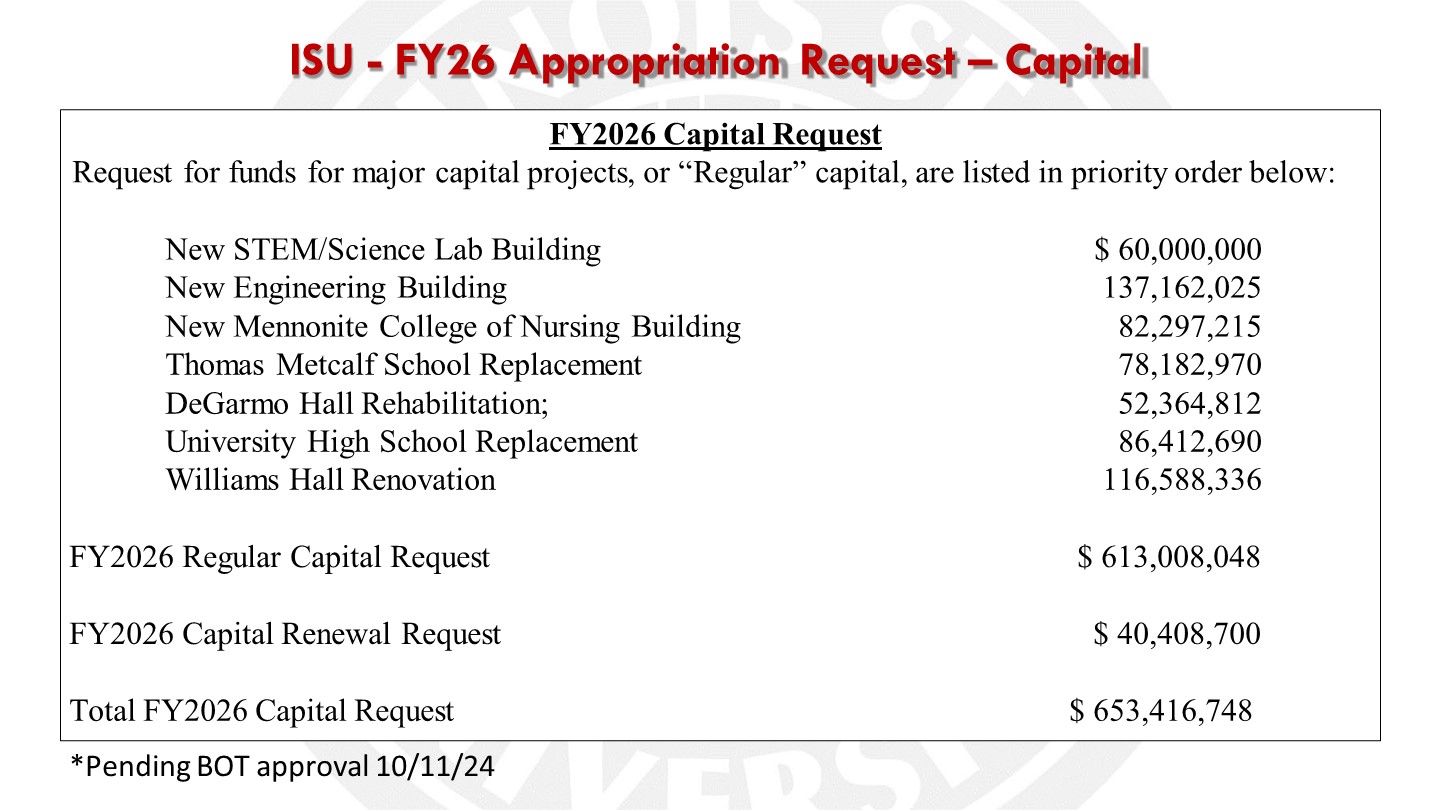
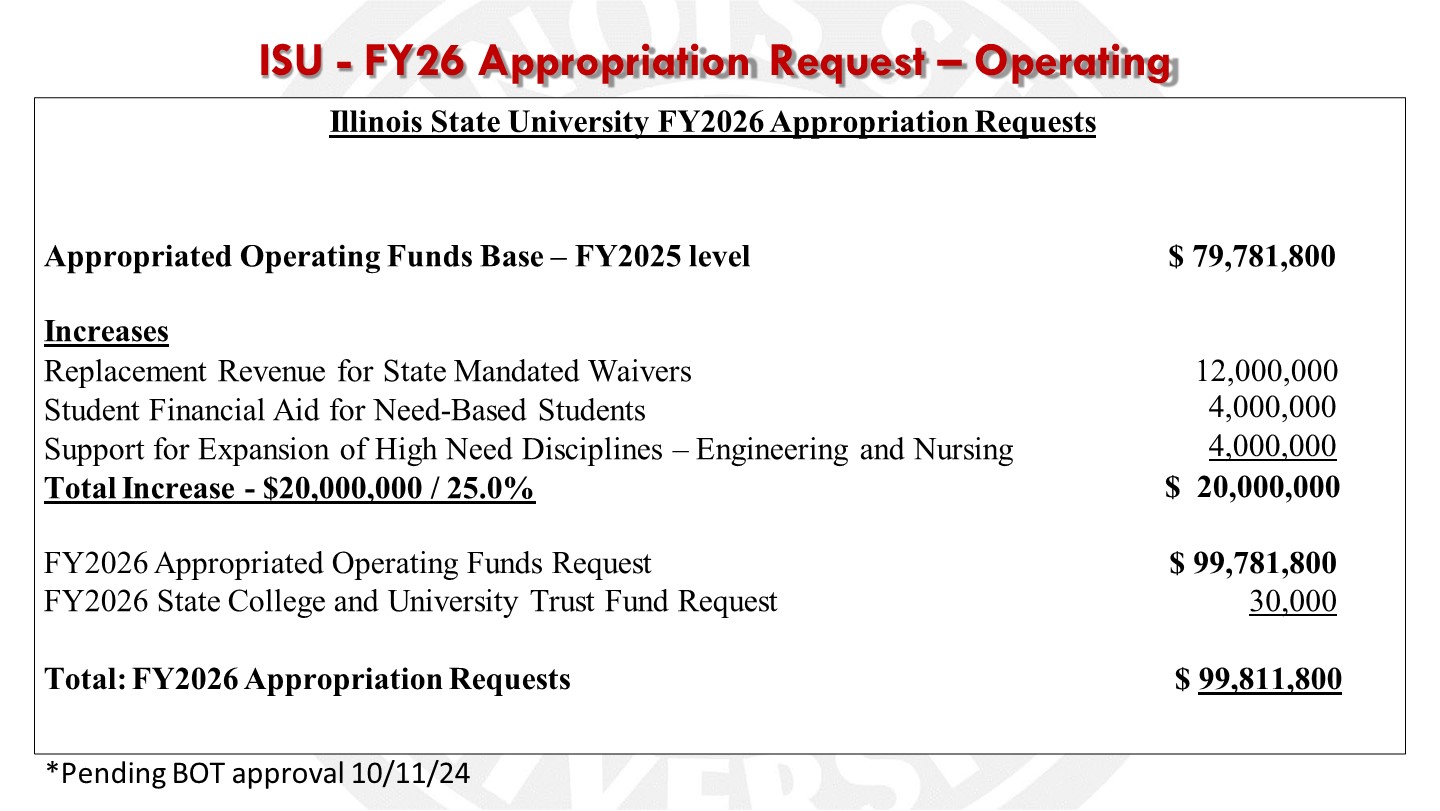
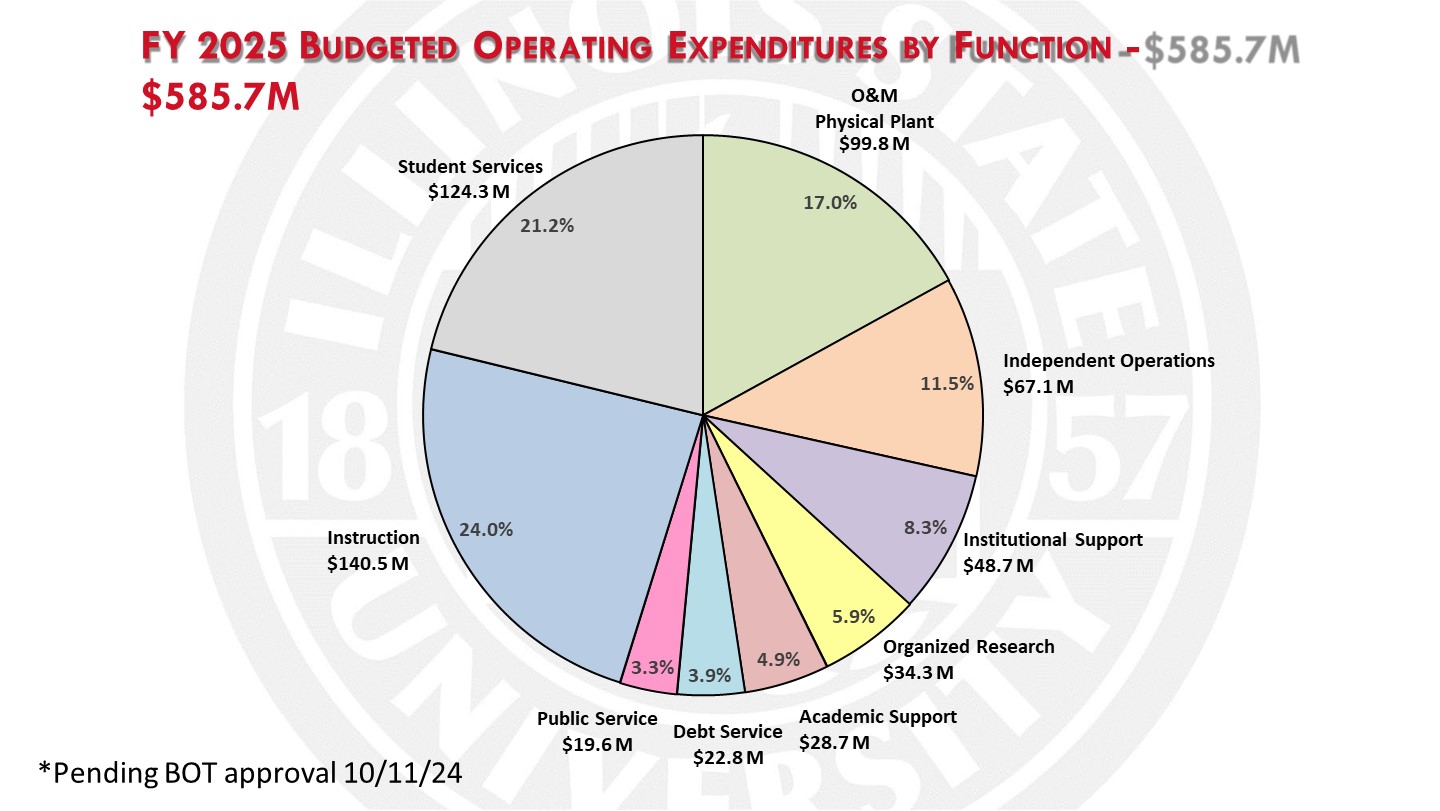
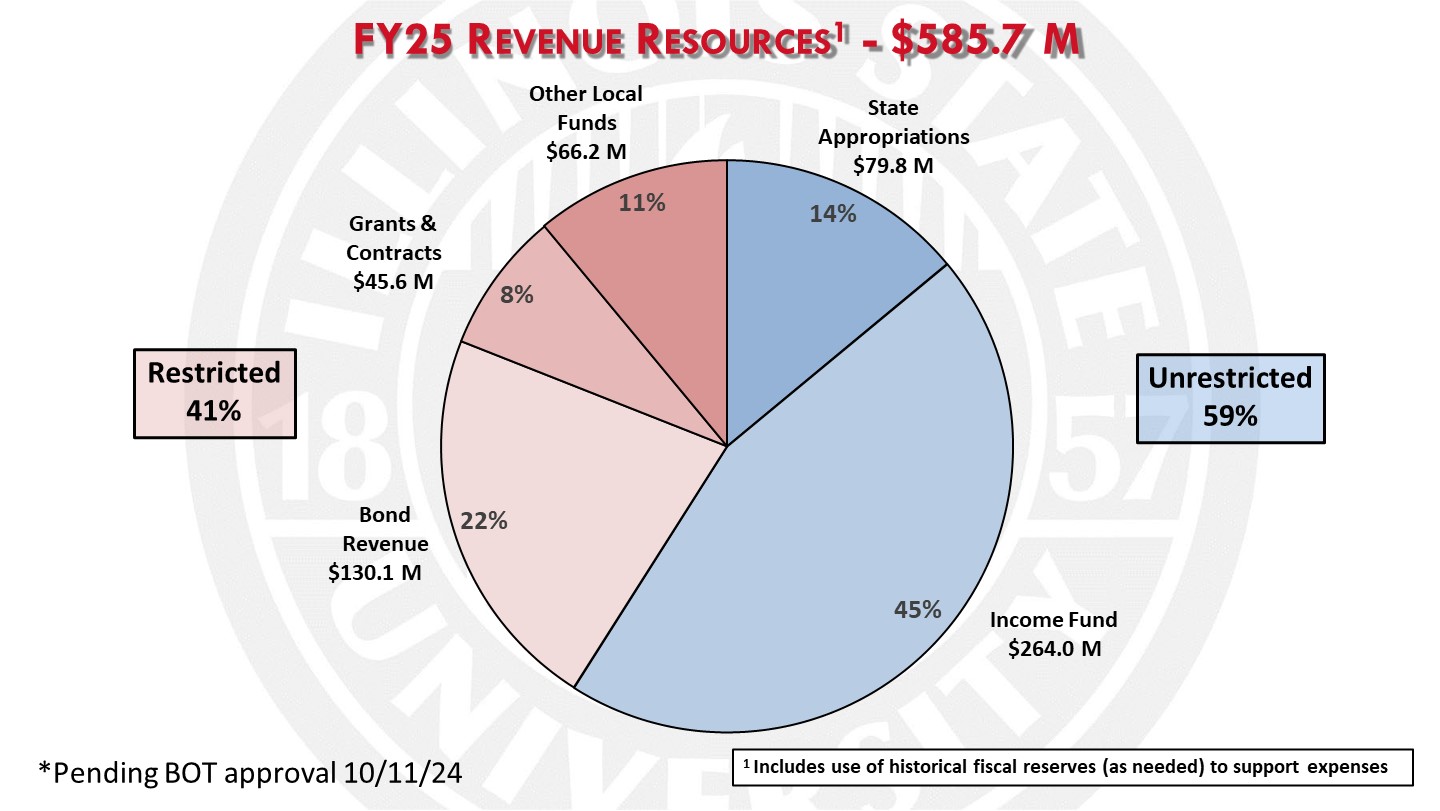
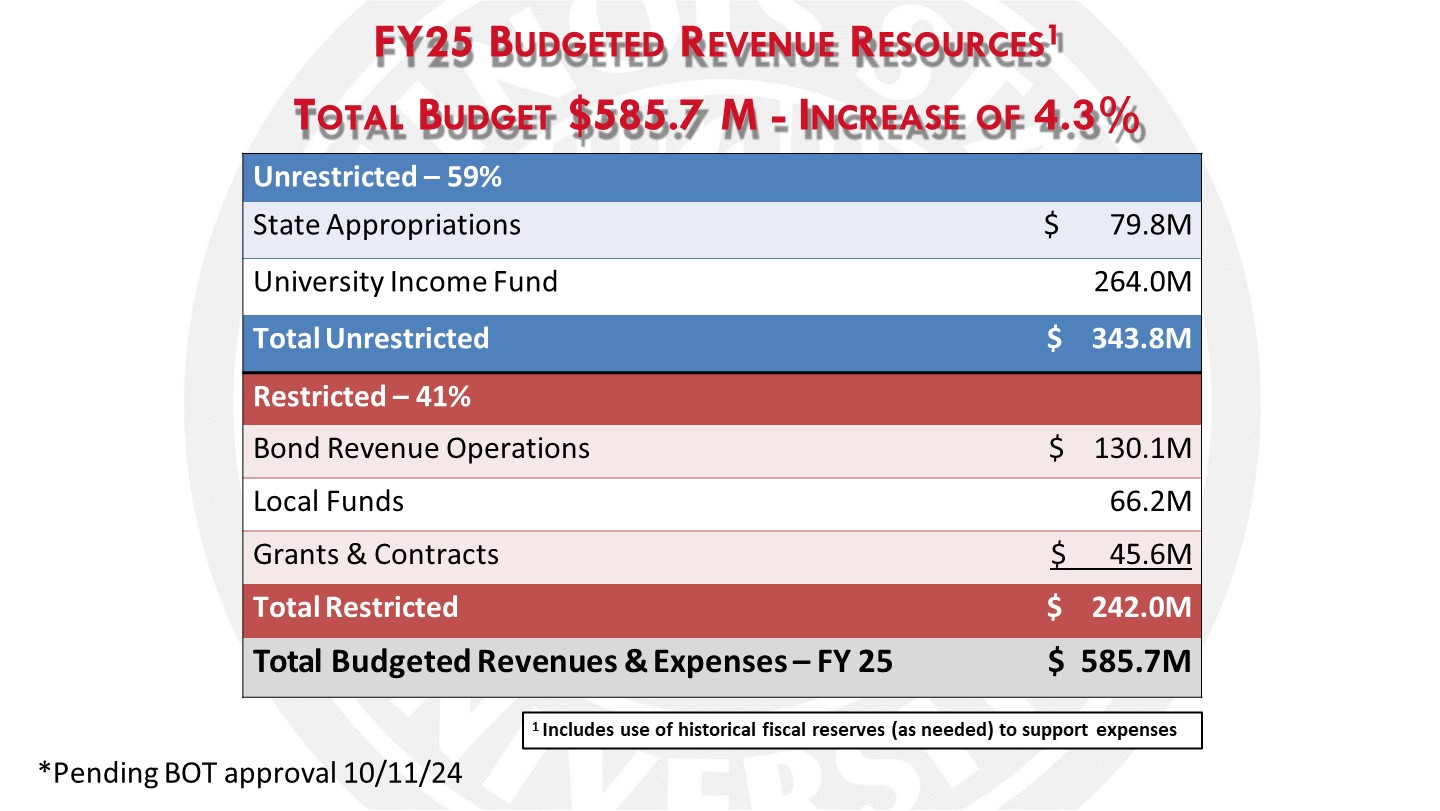
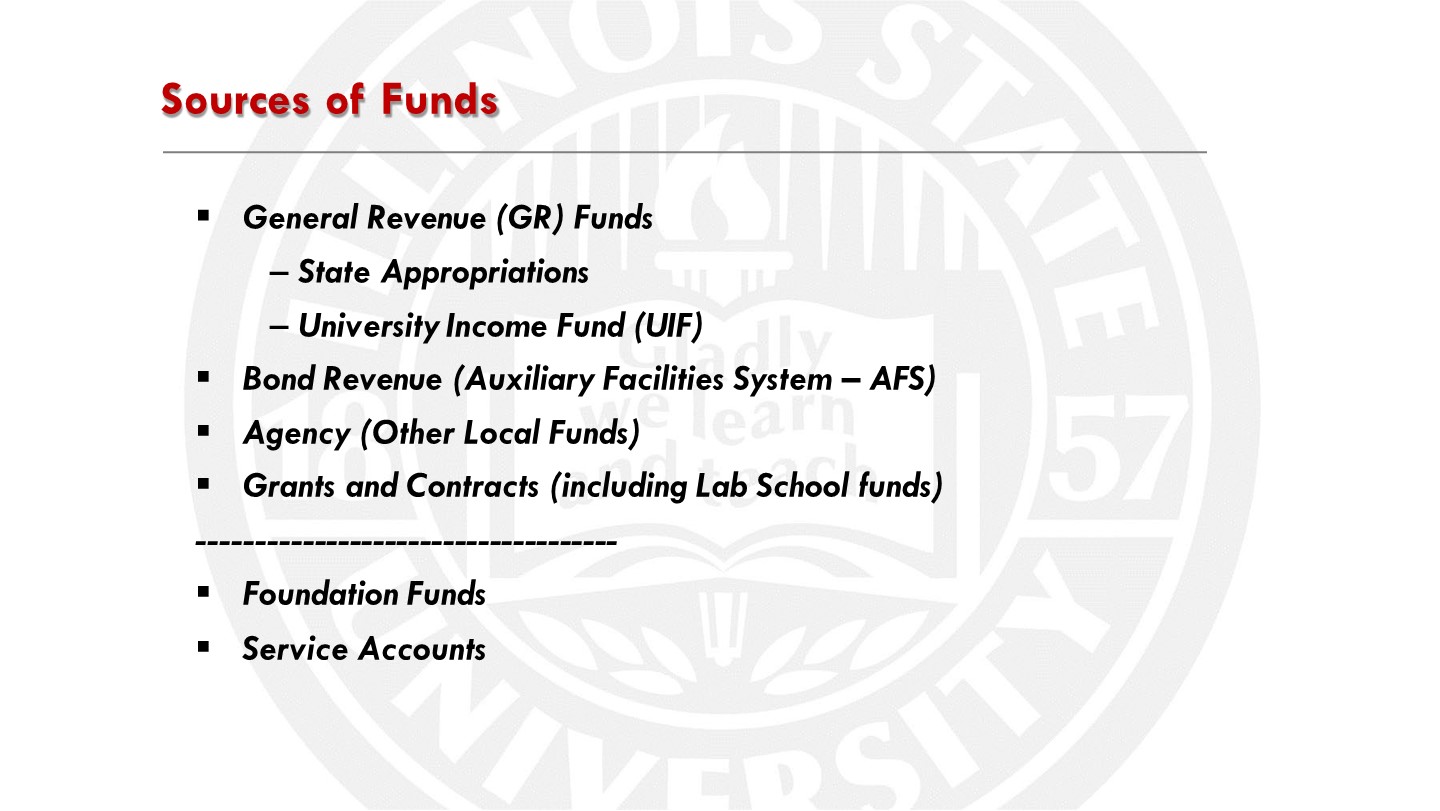
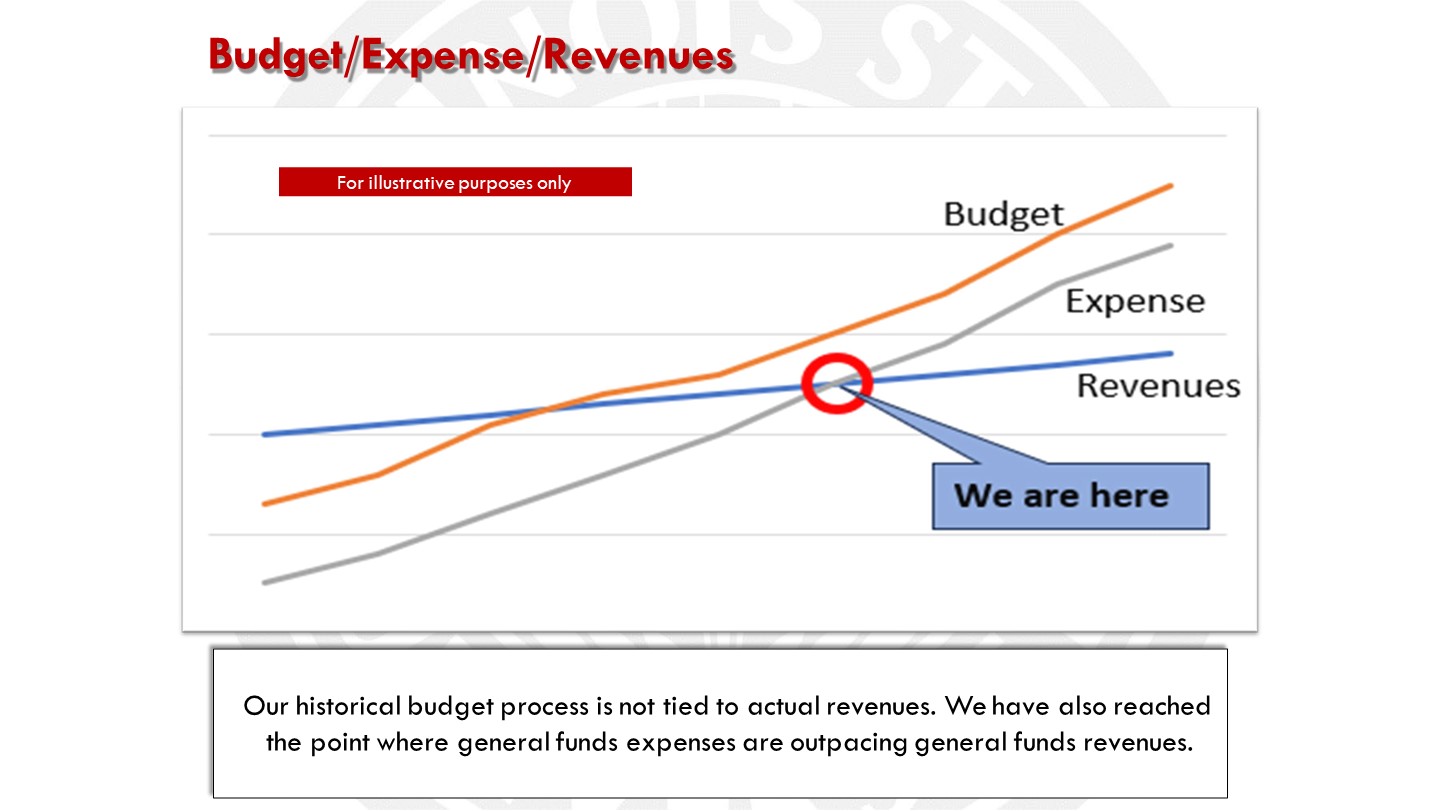
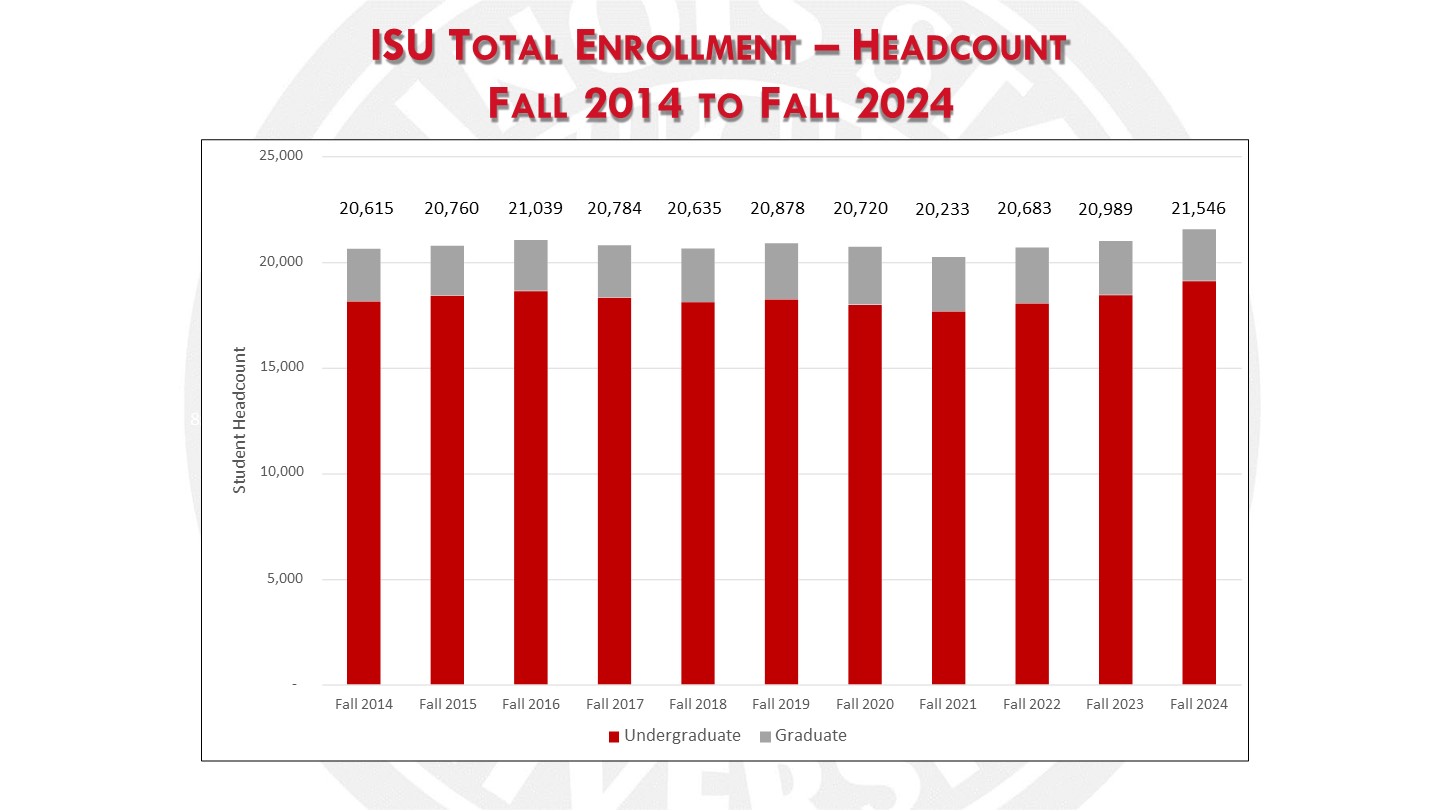
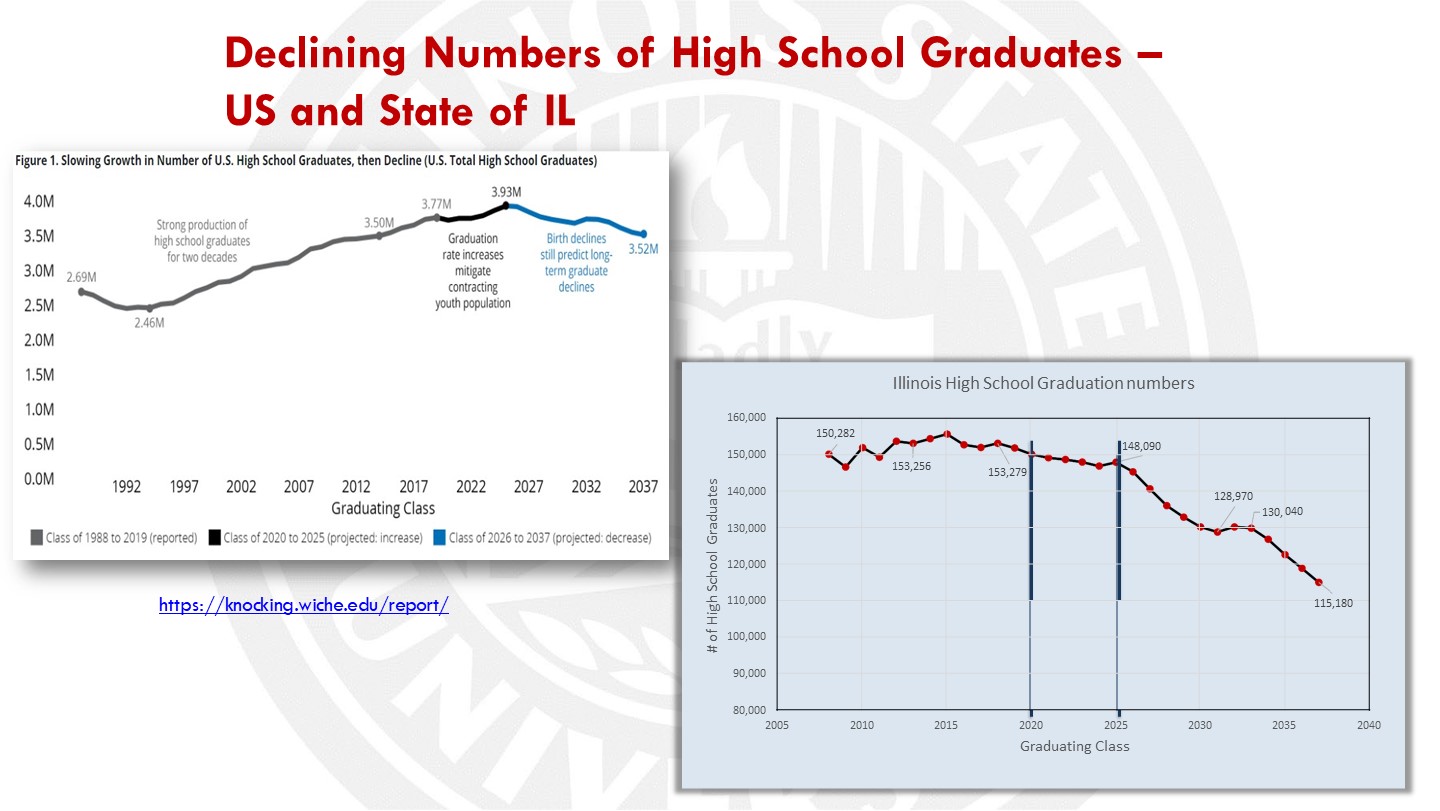
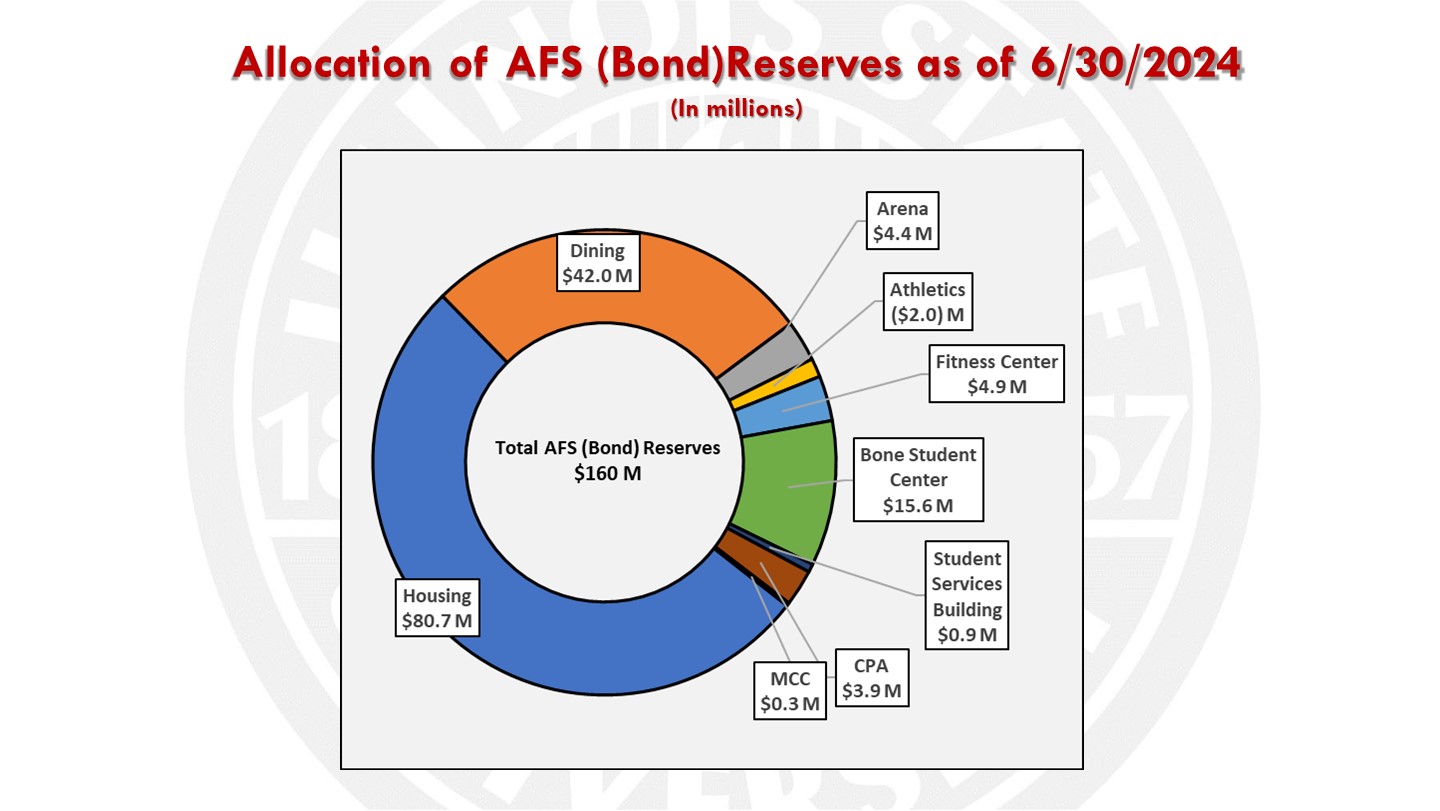
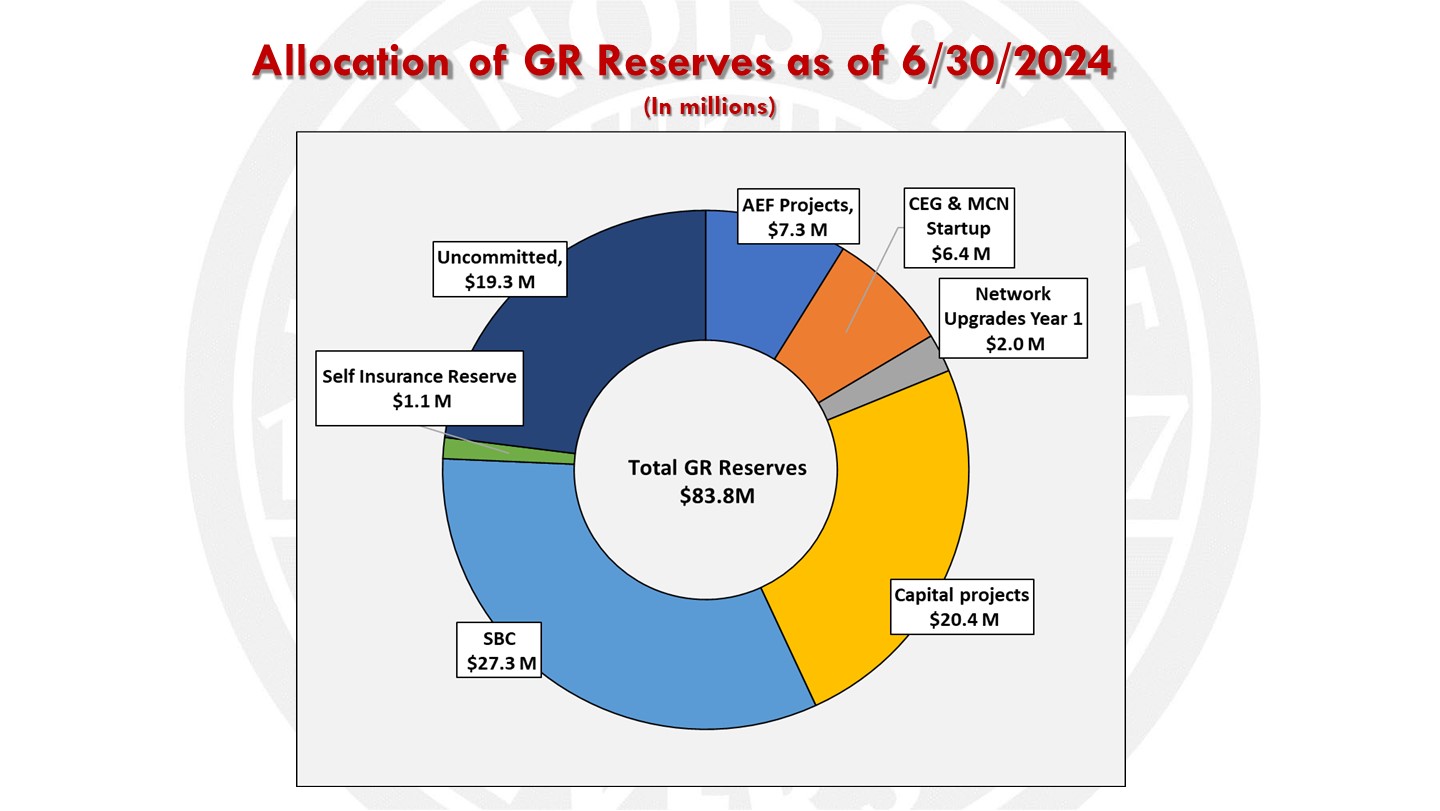
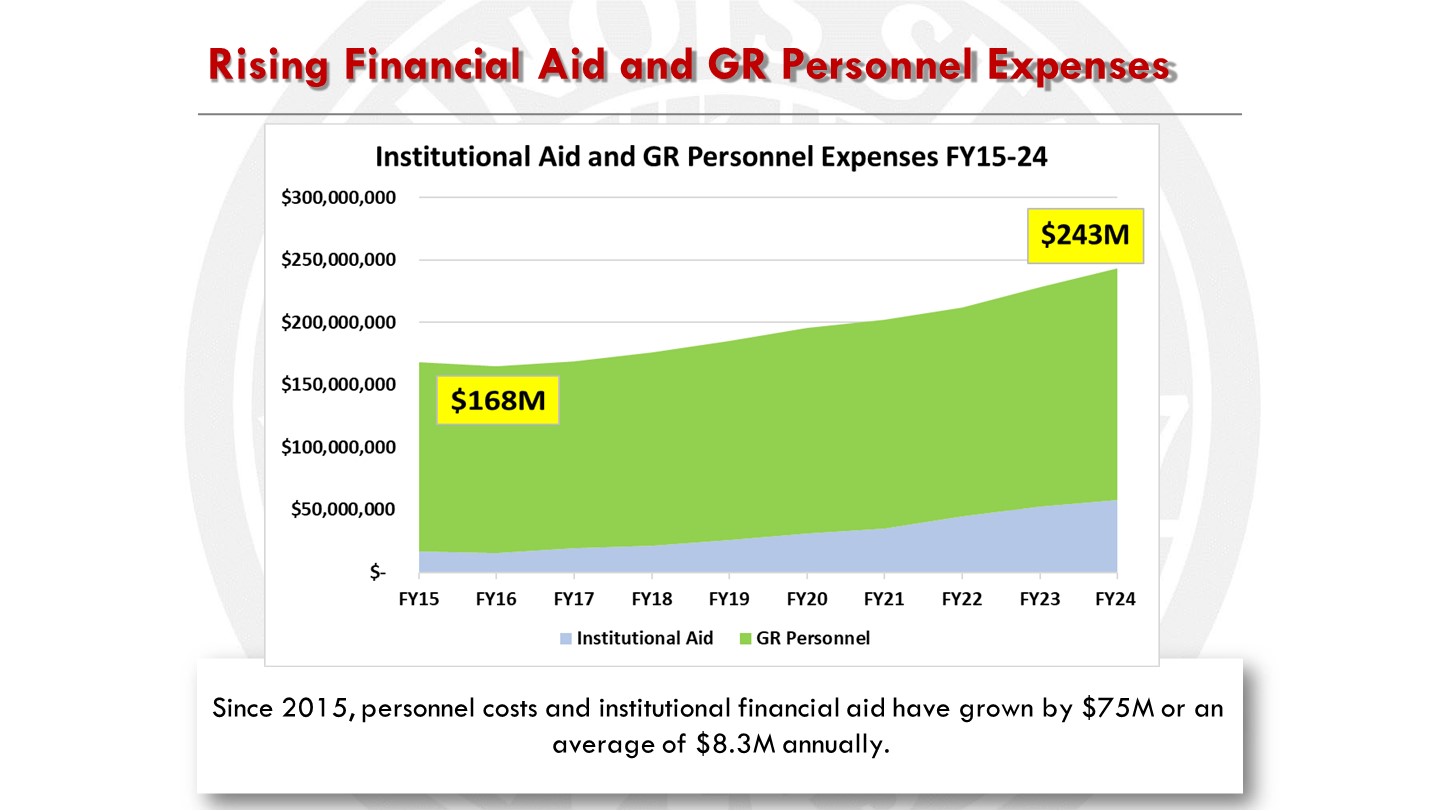
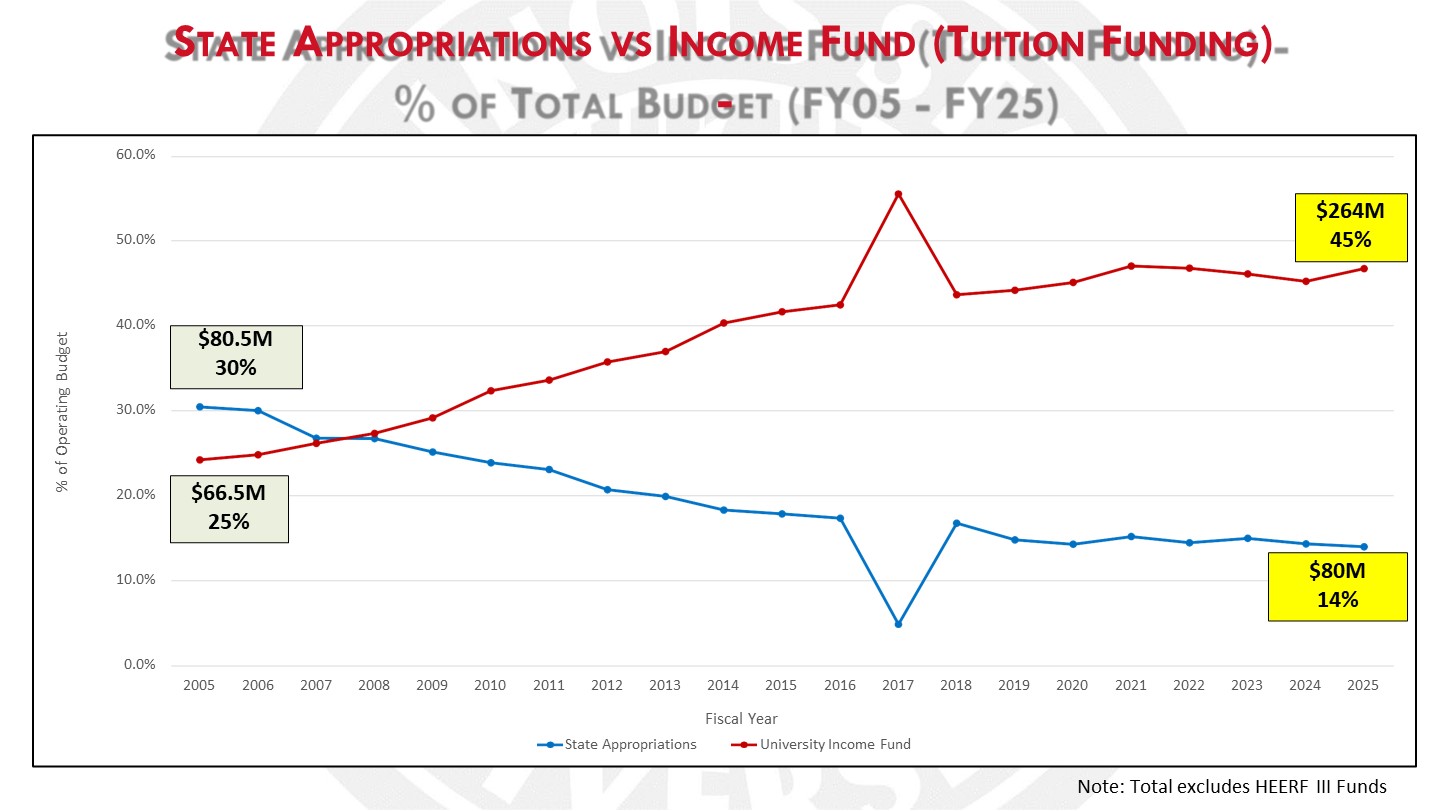
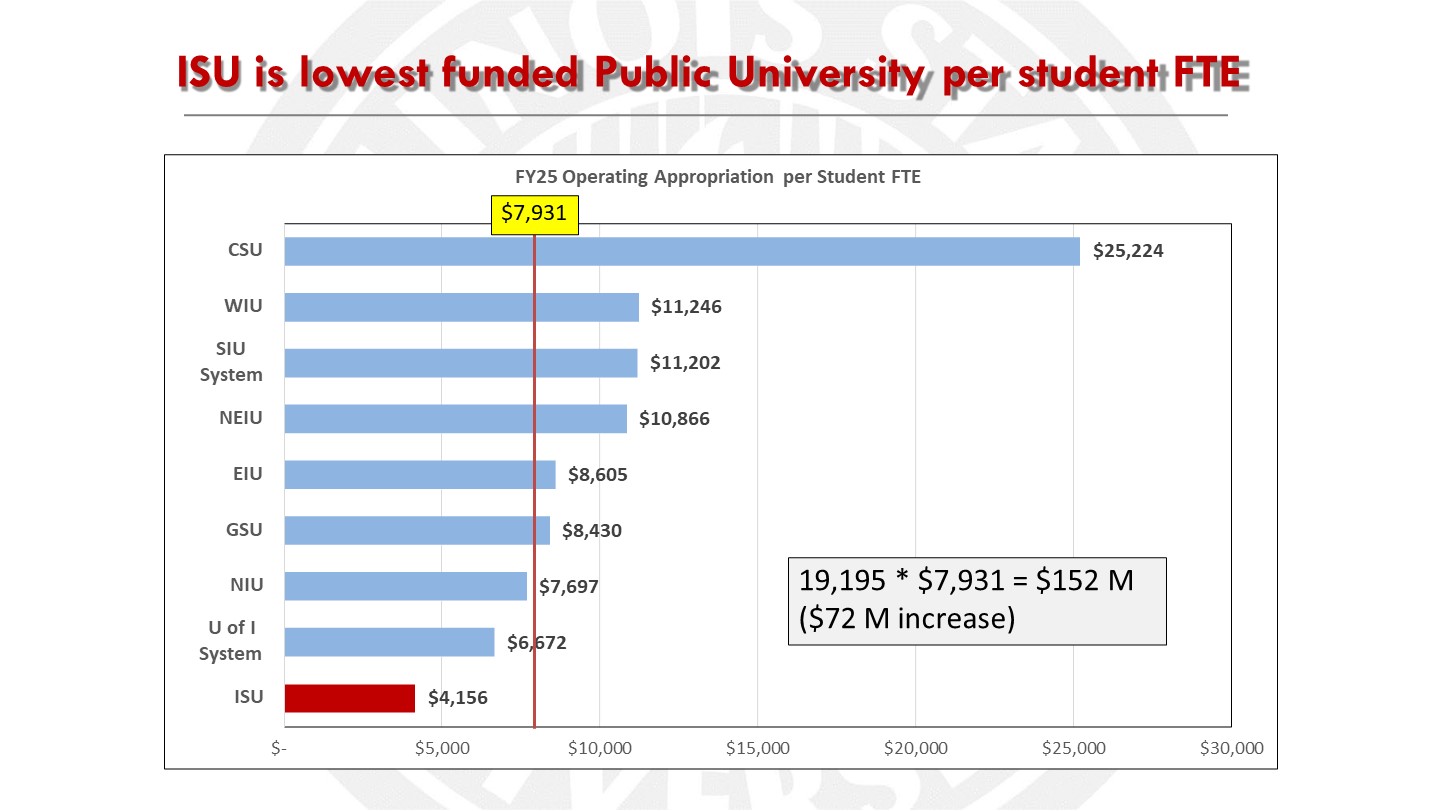
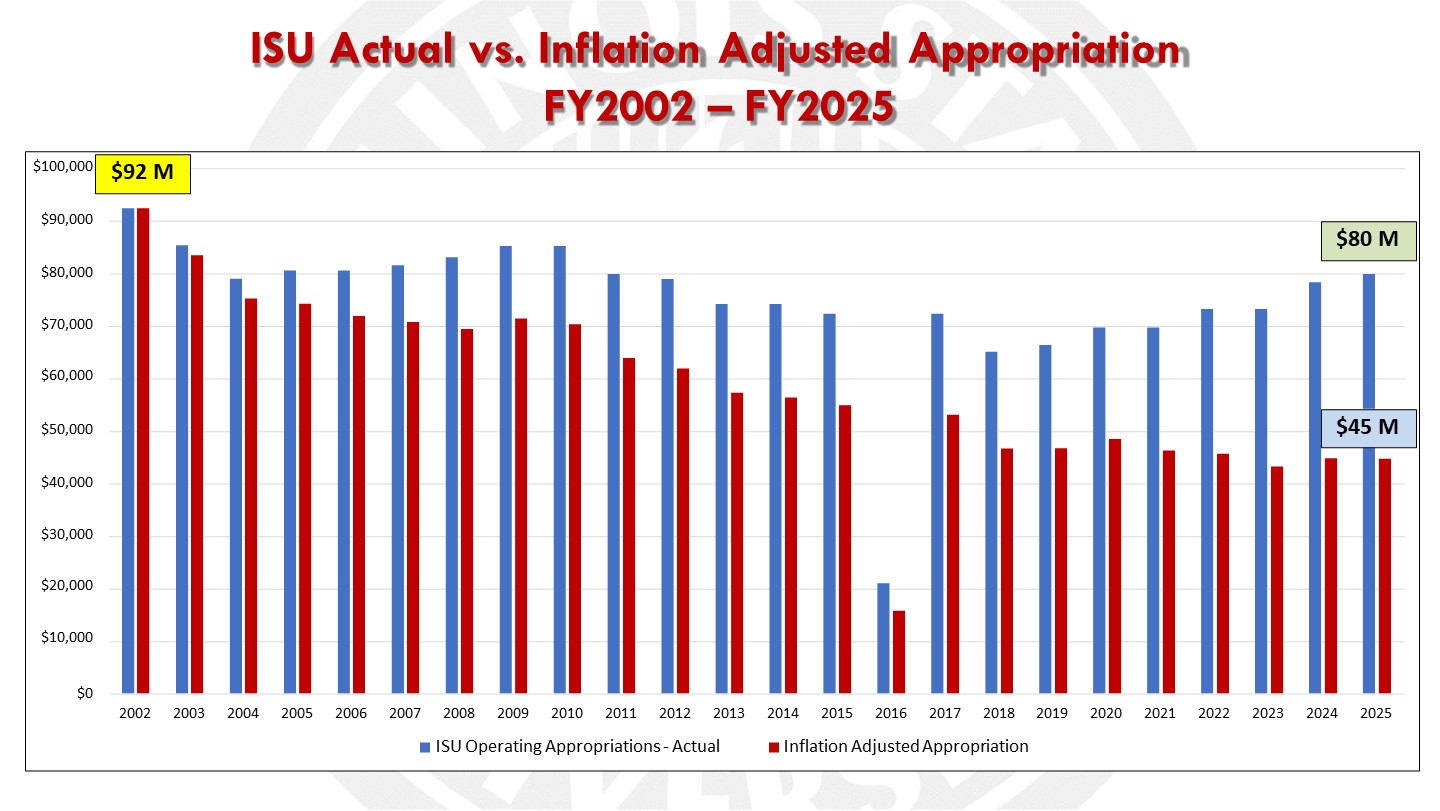
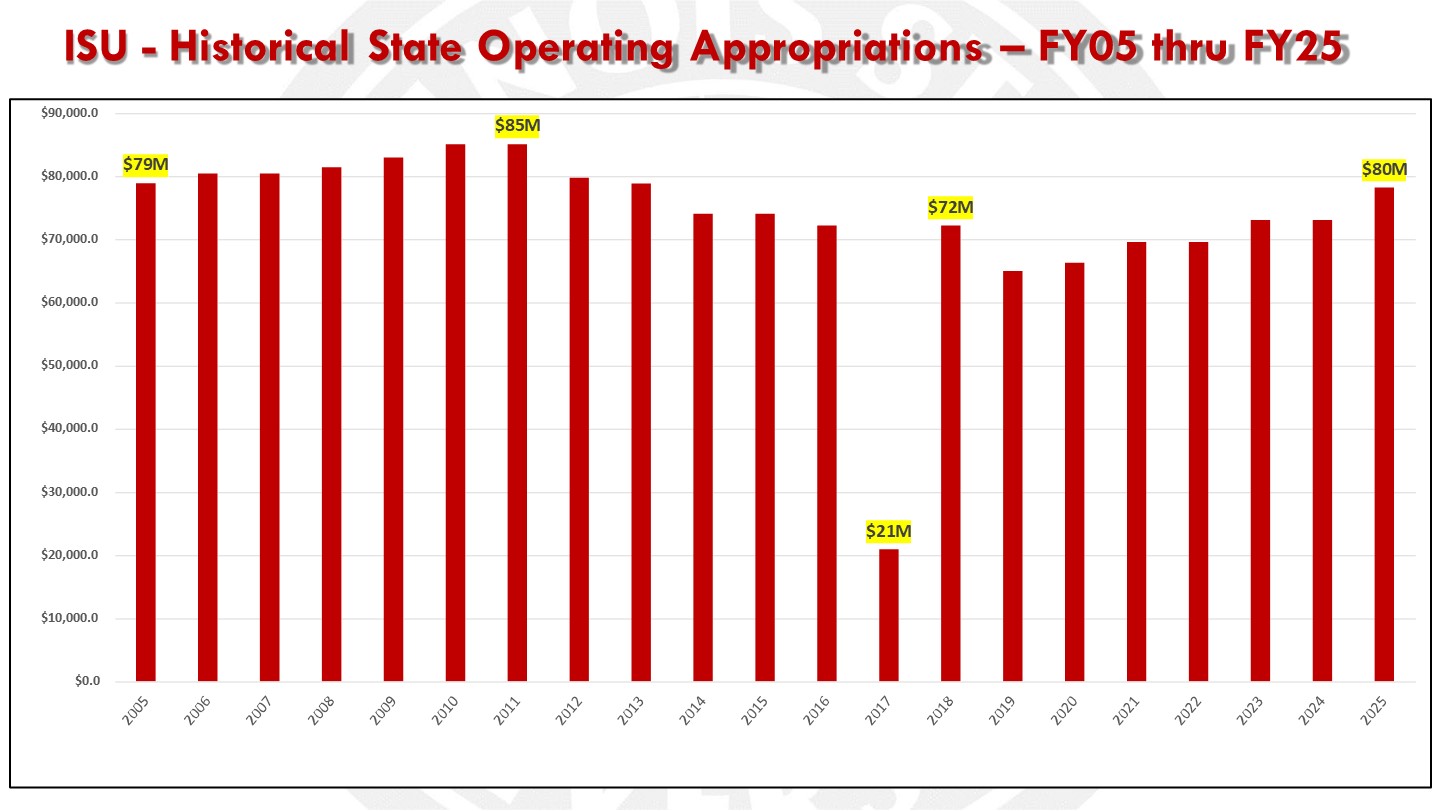
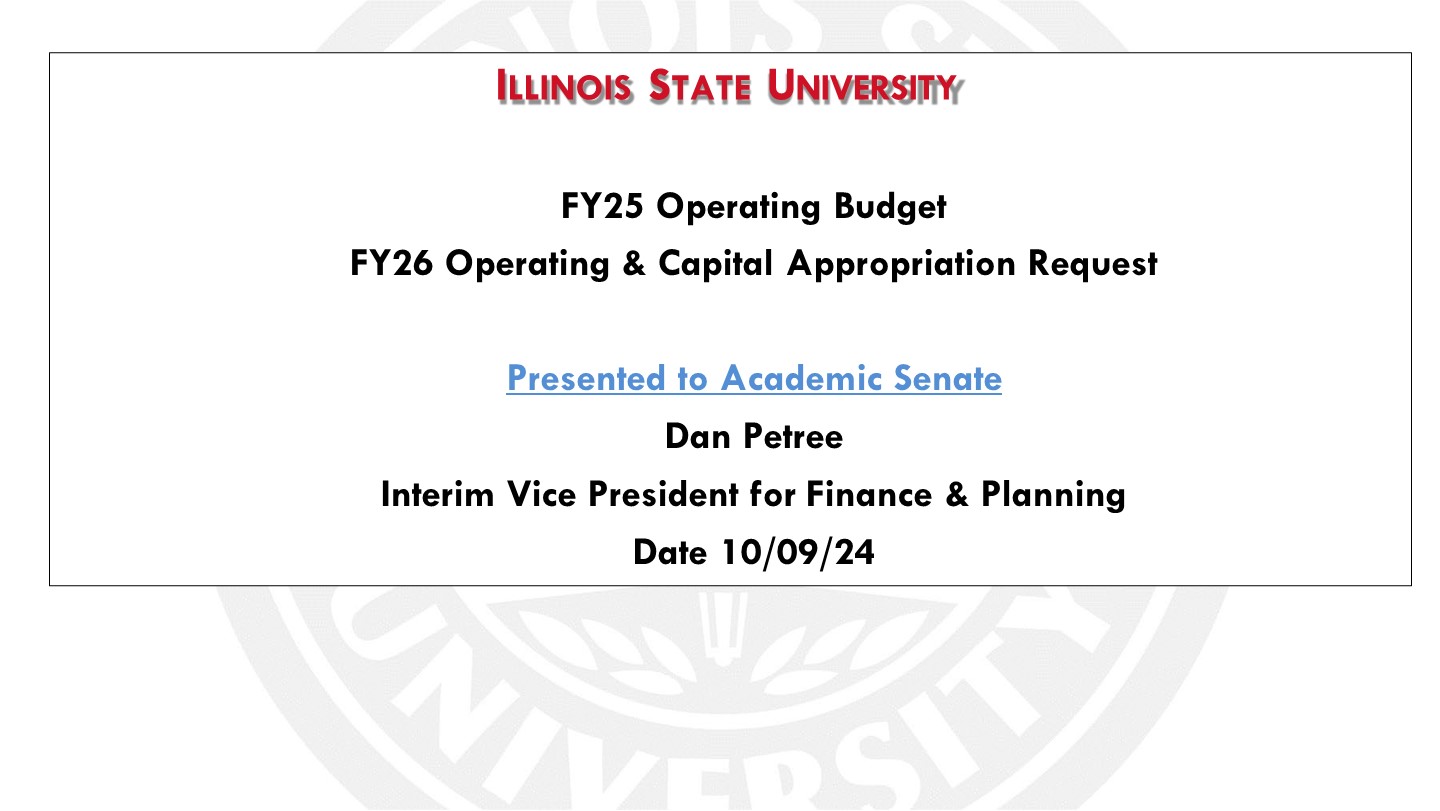
Providing consistency in reference to policies, clarifying language, and simplifying some

language. We have at least one more meeting to work on it.

***Communications***

***Adjournment***

**APPENDIX 1**

****

****