**Academic Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 25, 2019
Approved**

***Call to Order***

Academic Senate Chairperson Susan Kalter called the meeting to order.

***Roll Call***

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

Senator Kalter: Good evening, everybody. Our main event tonight is a presentation of the Operating and Capital Funding Request to the State of Illinois. So we’re going to hear that presentation tonight, and then vote in two weeks on approval of those requests. Before I hand it over to Vice President Stephens, I just wanted to let our student and staff Senators know that, later this evening at the Faculty Caucus, we’re going to have a focused discussion among the faculty on the proposed Engineering programs and building. We felt that it would be appropriate for faculty to have a concentrated discussion of those items. If you like, you’re welcome to stay to observe that discussion, and learn more about where we are with respect to Engineering. Then two weeks from now, the Senate as a whole may wish, and will be given ample opportunity, to ask further questions about the same topic. So tonight at Caucus will not be the only opportunity to hear updated information about Engineering. Vice President Stephens’ presentation may raise questions about that topic, and please also feel free to ask those questions after his presentation, but we may need to put some time limits on that to ensure that questions are focused on the Operating and Capital Request, specifically, to the State, and on the entire draft of the Operating and Capital Request, rather than merely on one portion of that. So keeping all of that in mind, I’ll turn it over to Senator Stephens, who is here with Assistant Vice President for Budgeting and Planning Sandi Cavi, Director of University Budget Office Amanda Hendrix, and Associate Vice President of Facilities Management, Planning and Operations Chuck Scott. So take it away, Senator Stephens.

***Presentation: Operating and Capital funding request to the State of Illinois by Vice President for Finance and Planning Dan Stephens, Assistant Vice President for Budgeting and Planning Sandi Cavi, Director of University Budget Office Amanda Hendrix, and Associate Vice President of Facilities Management, Planning and Operations Chuck Scott.***

Senator Stephens: Okay. Thank you very much. I appreciate the opportunity to spend just a few minutes with you to share. We just spent a little over an hour with the Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee prior to this meeting so I’m just going to concentrate my conversation on these two slides. They are… At this time of the year, we seek permission through our Board on October 18th (at the October meeting) to request permission from the state for next year’s budget. This is FY21, and it’s two types of budget requests. One of them is referred to as an Operating Request and the other one’s a Capital Request.

If I can direct your attention over there. Currently in our fiscal year, FY20 budget (the fiscal year that we’re in now) our appropriation, if you see at the top line, is around $69.6 million. What I’ve highlighted in yellow there is a dollar increase. We are actually, in working through the cabinet and speaking with President Dietz, we are requesting through the State, we are asking for a 10% increase to our Operating Budget. Now these are the funds that we refer to as GR. If you remember from a couple of weeks ago, when we had the conversation on the color of money, the state appropriation, and the tuition, and certain fees are the sole funding source for the academic expenditures of the school. These appropriations cannot be used for anything in the AFS system, Bone Center, for example, has its own fee structure. So when we talk about this, this is an Operating Request in order to further request funds for essentially a major portion of our organization, the academic side. So the 10% calculation works out approximately to be about almost $7 million. What we also include in the request that the state asks us, if you were awarded that amount what would you use that for? Well, we traditionally categorize those in two key areas. Obviously, our university tries to continue to maintain a high quality life from a compensation perspective, and so we’ve factored in what you see here is around $3.9 million. That is roughly, what a 2% is from a GR funded of a merit increase. Our overall merit increase when you look at all funds is a little over $4 to $4.5 million. Well, the amount that is attributable to the GR funds is always approximately around $3.9 million.

And then the other category that is also very critical to our success here is we continue to offer as much student financial aid as we can. We had a very successful year in recruiting this year, and we’re also continuing, it’s a very competitive environment, and we asked the state not only to provide funds through MAP resources, but we also use in the appropriation request, we also ask them to help in situations to help fund some of our student financial aid that we would otherwise have to fund ourselves. So when you add that together, you’re at around $76 million. The one small amount there that’s $30,000, it’s got a fancy name called the State College and University Trust Fund. At the end of the day what that is is license plate revenue. So, if you went out today, or next year, and you’re changing your license plates tag, and you actually buy a ISU tag, it’s going to probably cost you five or ten dollars more, that revenue that you pay at the tag office is held at ISU hands, and we request for it from the state, and then that $30,000 actually by law has to be spend of financial aid scholarships. So we have to just request that separately. So the overall Operating Request, we’re going to bring to the Board in October is right at $76.6 million. So I can stop there, if you want to ask questions on that, or I can move on to the Capital Request.

Senator Kalter: That’s not a bad idea. Does anybody have any questions about the Operating Budget Request?

Senator Campbell: We have to request the license plate fund from the state you said?

Senator Stephens: Yes.

Senator Campbell: Does anything ever come of that? Do we ever get turned down or denied on that request?

Senator Stephens: No, no, no. It’s by law. Those funds cannot be used by any institution that is designated, because you as a taxpayer that paid that fee is designated to the institution. We just have to request from it, because it goes to another state agency.

Senator Campbell: Thank you.

President Dietz: Just to comment, this is what we requested last year basically was a 10% increase and we got 5% overall, all the public universities got 5%. I had a meeting today with the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and within the context of that meeting, they were talking about doing some simulations on budget for 2021, and they were looking at probably a 5.9%. So that’s encouraging. But we think that we could justify 10% request, and if you don’t ask, you don’t get. And so if we get 5.9% next year that will be better than what we’ve been getting so.

Senator Stephens: If I may, I had another chart earlier, I think this will help. I think it was very telling. I won’t bore you with all the rest of these slides. Okay, right here. This is our appropriation overall, if you look at our institution compared to the rest of the institutions, and why we do feel the need to also continue to ask the state. The way this chart reads, if you take our appropriation level, this was FY19, because we’re always typically living with data from a prior year, our appropriation was $66 million. Our student FTE counts, not our head count, but it’s our full time equivalent, around 18,000 we’re getting around $3,600 per student that we’re trying to serve in that $66 million. If you look down the rest of the list, a lot of the other schools are getting a substantial amount more per student. So the point of this slide is we continue to ask, through the President’s office, through the legislative when talking with Dan Brady, our Senators, and the House, something needs to be done about this because the institution continues to perform at a very high standard, but we somehow just don’t get that recognized. And I just did some math earlier today, if we just simply ask them to move us from simply being the bottom with $3,660 and move us to the NIU level (Northern) at $5,827, they just simply did that, it would add $39 million dollars more. So I think we’d be able to do a lot more things, not only in academic initiative, student services issues, and we would just simply be placing us to the next lowest level. So we’ve talked to them about that. Hopefully, there will be some more traction in that area. It is a difficult thing to do but we continue to, as President Dietz will say, we continue to ask and work with our alumni and work with our legislators to continue to pound on this drum, to recognize that ISUs doing an incredible job, despite being funded at the lowest level in the state by a substantial amount.

Senator Kosberg: This might be a naïve question, but is there a reason why we receive like so little compared… Like why are we receiving like half of what Eastern is? Historically, is there anything, yeah, like why are we receiving so little compared to the other universities?

President Dietz: This whole scenario begs the question of what’s the funding formula for all institutions, and there is no funding formula. I’d say decades ago institutions through a political process got assigned a dollar amount and it was just a dollar amount, it wasn’t necessarily a per student dollar amount. And then every year since that time there’s been either incremental or decremental additions or subtractions to it, mostly decremental. But what this is reflective of is that in the last several years when we’ve had really tough budget years, many of the institutions on the left side that you see over there, really all of them, with the exception of the University of Illinois Chicago, University of Illinois Champaign Urbana, some years SIU Edwardsville, and ISU have been the only ones that have had enrollment stabilization or minor growth. All the rest of them had major declines in enrollment. As those numbers have gone down, they’ve kept their relative amount of state appropriation. That has not been reduced at all. So you end up going from us at the low end of the spectrum, because our enrollment has maintained itself and grown modestly, our appropriation though has not grown with that. And so you see the range going from what Senator Stephens talked about in the $3,300-$3,600 level, all the way to the other end of the most dramatic per student appropriation at Chicago State, and they’re close to $14,000 versus our $3,300 to $3,600. So I was sharing with the cabinet this week, similar situation in Missouri. Missouri State University who’s… We’re in the Missouri Valley Conference with (Athletic Conference), I know their President really quite well, and he and I’ve had conversations back and forth over the last few years, and they were in the same boat in Missouri that we are in in Illinois, in terms of getting the least amount of appropriation. They finally convinced some local legislators to go to bat for them, and they have had a one-time budget adjustment. For them it was a $10 million to bring them up to the next level. So I have a conference call scheduled with him, I just got their alumni magazine, and that article was in the alumni magazine, so I have a conference call scheduled with him early part of next week to say how did the politics shift to allow you to get there? Because it’s both a fiscal issue, but it’s grounded in a political issue. So we’re not giving up on this. We’re going to continue, as Senator Stephens said, we’re going to continue to pound the drum on this deal and try to make notice of it.

Senator Kalter: Any other questions on the Operating Budget request? If you think of any while we’re listening to the Capital request don’t feel like you had to just wait, you can say those.

Senator Stephens: Now I’ll move over to the last slide, again from an appropriation request, Operation is predominately used for personnel cost, supplies cost. What Capital Request is essentially major infrastructure costs. And so every year every institution, along with all the state schools, provide a request of the need to either renovate existing buildings or build new buildings, and also ask for funds to repair. Before I talk to each of the individual amounts, if you see what I’ve highlighted to the left, what’s called Regular Capital versus Capital Renewal. The state’s definition when you’re requesting for either, for example, DeGarmo Hall rehabilitation $38 million, that is a major renovation request, same thing as Williams Hall, or University High, or even the Nursing building. When you’re requesting those, that goes into a separate category called Regular Capital Request. Capital Renewal, which is the other category, which is around $32 million, that’s another way of saying, essentially, repairs or maintenance dollars, you’ll see $32.4 million. That represents 3% of our replacement value of our academic buildings today. We have 24-25 major academic buildings, and a few administrative buildings that are considered state funded. Again, they’re not Bone Center. They’re not the Athletic Facilities. They’re not the Housing facilities. They’re in the what’s called state supported. We have a very detailed list that we present to the State every year of our continued deferred maintenance. What the state IBHE has requested us to do is rather than simply send them a list, a laundry list, because all the schools are sending exactly the same thing, we prioritize our highest major repairs, and put them in priority order from a life safety issue, how to keep the doors open, how to keep the building dry, and it’s called Capital Renewal. One particular item in there, just to give an example, would be in the Science buildings, because of dealing with the chemicals in there we have to have special heating and air infiltrating systems to make sure that those chemicals are dealt with from an exhaust perspective. That type of heating and air system and exhaust systems is rather expensive. One single item in Felmley Hall (it’s either Felmley or the Science Lab building, I forget which one it is) is $6 million just to simply replace that. Over time, if the state doesn’t do that, we’ll have to figure out how to do it ourselves, coming from those funds. So we’d rather not do it from those funds, but either that or have them do it. So anyway, in total what this particular list is is the top section is the major capital infrastructure that we have, it’s about $403 million, you can see the listing of the names. The actual $32 million, it adds up to $435 million.

Before I actually start to take questions, I do have one slide that may bring things into light, it is right here. FY20 in the last legislature when Governor Pritzker was elected and was his first budget was this past year. You’ll see FY20 six year major capital appropriation approved by the state this past year (it’s a six year plan). So ISU, from a capital perspective, from that list that we had that we’d been sending in prior years, we were awarded--at least in the legislature--we haven’t received the fund yet, but we were awarded $197 million. Now that award is identified by the state to be covered over six years, not one year. The state doesn’t have the funds. But Governor Pritzker has said he’s shooting for to try to provide this level of funding at least over the next six years. What you see on the list is you’ll see two real key properties (campus buildings) Fine Arts Complex $61.9 million. We actually asked for that ten years ago, got approved for it ten years ago. We’re still waiting to get the funding for that. We’re actually hoping under Governor Pritzker we’ll actually get that. Milner Library. Milner Library was our number one item on the Capital Request list for well over probably a decade, once capital for the Fine Arts was appropriated, Milner was first on the list. This was the first year in a long time when they actually not only re-appropriated an amount that had been appropriated years ago, they actually added to the list. So Milner Library has been identified with funding of almost $90 million dollars. See the Capital Renewal line of $40 million? That is what the state said they would like to fund for us for our repairs and maintenance. We’re hoping that they’ll be able to do that over the next few years, along with finding some of Fine Arts. The bottom two items below are actually funds we’ve already received, and the work is currently going on. There’s a couple of roof projects that the state has funded, a couple million dollars, and there was some $3 million provided to us this past year that was being used to help keep the Fine Arts Complex dry and operational. So we did get an appropriation. We’re actually hoping the state will honor that. But every year they continue to ask us, we’ve appropriated that but what else would you like, and so this is a report we produce every year and this is a request every year it just happens to be this year Milner’s no longer on the list because it was actually placed into legislation and approved. So I’ll stop there and hopefully answer questions.

Senator Kalter: All right. Do we have questions about the Capital Request to the state?

Senator Campbell: So the list up here, is this in a priority order?

Senator Stephens: Yes, it is.

Senator Campbell: Oh sorry, I didn’t see that there.

Senator Horst: I was wondering if you could comment on Cook Hall. I know there’s a lot of problems with Cook Hall that might fall under one of these two categories, but it’s one of the oldest buildings in the university, and I was wondering if you at all considered doing a renovation, and requesting major capital for renovation as opposed to doing some maintenance on it?

Mr. Scott: A million dollars of the $32.4 million Capital Renewal Request has been identified for Cook Hall.

Senator Horst: Did you at all consider doing a request to have it renovated?

Mr. Scott: Not at this time. We thought that the million dollars would take care of what we needed at this time.

Senator Kalter: Other questions about the request?

Senator Mainieri: I wonder if you can just speak to the process on how the priority list is made up. How the different projects are determined to be in that order.

President Dietz: I’d be happy to address some of this, and then other folks can fill in here. Obviously, the newest one and the biggest one is the Engineering building. I don’t want to have the discussion that we plan to have in Faculty Caucus here right now, but I can give you some highlights as to why that is where it is. There’s a workforce need within the State of Illinois for more engineers. There’s a number of Engineering programs at various institutions in the state, but they’re not meeting the workforce demand for people that want to hire engineers. So there’s a huge demand for that. I won’t get into the particulars of where we ended up on that, but that’s really the context in terms of that. There’s a big demand for Engineering programs in the state and the dollar amount that you see there, we’ve been encouraged since we’re moving in that direction, and have been moving in that direction for a couple of years, we’ve been encouraged by IBHE to put this on the list. None of these figures that you see on the right are exact figures, they look somewhat exact because they’re not rounded numbers up there, but the bottom line is that we’d have to get a little bit more into the planning before we would know exactly the dollar amounts that are there. But the Engineering building we’ve done some simulations on that, and that’s what we think we would need right now, that could be changed. The order of the rest of them are pretty much the order that they’ve been submitted really for the last ten years. And the good news is that we’ve been able to take some things off and into another category, and that other category is Fine Arts, other category is Milner, and so we needed to replenish the list and that’s essentially what we’ve done. But that order beyond the Engineering building is the same order that they’ve appeared in for ten years.

Senator Stephens: If I may talk a little bit about the Engineering building, I’ve been working with Chuck and his team, we’ve been visiting a number of schools looking at cost estimates, internal estimates. We’ve got some additional work to be done. We’ve got a consulting firm that’s coming in and helping with further design in that area, but to keep it simple that is a building very similar in size, estimated around 125,000 square feet, which is very similar to the size of the Science building. So if you think of the Science Building, and the cost per square foot, which is fairly generally easy to determine when you’re looking across the nation at a variety of Engineering buildings. It runs from anywhere from $600 a foot to $700 a foot, so I used $700 a foot, that gives you about $85 million, and then I added $15 million for specialized equipment that would be needed inside that area. So, is that a perfect number? No, it’s not. If we ended up building a building that was only 50,000 square feet it would be substantially lower. If we ended up in the analysis determining that it was, to serve this need and even greater need, and it was 200,000 square feet, it would be even substantially higher than that. But $700 a foot is not uncommon in the State of Illinois, and it’s not uncommon in specialized engineering buildings. There’s a lot of extra equipment, a lot of specialized heating and air systems in order to handle some of the research that’s done inside there, some of the teaching labs that are in there. That’s where that number comes from.

Senator Kalter: Other questions about the Capital Request?

Senator Jones: I’m not sure if it was said, but is there a timeline of when we could receive these funds or is it just up in the air?

Senator Stephens: This is the request. Let me go back to the list that we’ve been approved. This particular list (one second, so I can at least say y’all saw my presentation), Jan will just be glad that she didn’t have to sit through it. It’s interesting if you look up at the top, I didn’t get a chance to speak about this earlier, see released January 2019. Actually this past year we did receive information from the Governor’s office that $9.6 million of that was earmarked to be sent over to the Capital Development Board, which is the agency by which all state institutions when they have capital, those funds go from the state comptroller’s office, or the CDB, and then they come on to the campus, work with our facilities team and they help project manage this. Those funds have been earmarked and sent over to, we believe over to the CDB, but they control the activity of that. We have not received any notice yet of the Milner Library or the Capital Renewal. I will tell you this, that because of the way the state’s budget process works, a lot of the capital projects you might see with roads, that you see road repair, that’s typically handled in gas tax and probably some of the state’s sales tax revenue in certain ways. These types of Capital Funds tend to be what is referred to as vertical or buildings. We’ve been told by the IBHE and the Governor’s office that this will require likely a bond offering. So until the state actually begins to execute a bond offering in order to raise capital, to not only provide for our request here, but any of the other agencies who are typically this type of vertical, that is when you’ll hear it on the news the same time I hear it, and so that will be positive news. We are talking to IBHE frequently. The IBHE is working with the Governor’s office. They are trying to put together a capital bill, but it does require a lot of analysis from a credit rating agency perspective. And so, but we are optimistic Governor Pritzker is going to honor his obligation and say, over this six years, we’ll do it. And we suspect that any funds that do come forth will probably come first for Fine Arts. We may get some funds for the Capital Renewal line. Probably from a priority order will be those two first, maybe not all of the Fine Arts, but we believe they’ll do a combination of that, and then likely Milner Library because it was just approved, chances are it will probably sit in a pecking order over the next several years and not jump in front of the others.

Senator Horst: At one point, I recall that somebody discussed that when you make a request you can also incorporate a raise because the cost of the building will increase. I don’t know when that $61 million was proposed but I think it was now two years ago, and if the state is going to roll out this money over six years, will there at all be a consideration that the cost of the building as we speak?

Senator Stephens: No. Sorry. I mean I hate to be pessimistic but at the end of the day, it’s an approved fixed number. What we would do is what any organization would do, you simply take those funds and you engineer (through your architecture and engineering firm) you engineer to maximize the value of those resources and so they don’t simply sit there, and look at the architectural plans that were designed ten years ago. They actually did, what was approved ten years ago, was actually only $54 million, so it did move through the approval process year after year up to $61, almost $62. But what we would do is value engineer that, and try to maximize working with the dean, working with the faculty in the building, all the buildings that we’re renovating, and try to make sure we maximize the use of those funds in the best way that we can.

Senator Horst: Thank you.

President Dietz: My sense is that somewhere this $9 million that’s already been spent is going to factor into this, between the $54 and the $61. But there’s not an automatic escalator in these. We are asked sometimes about, well, what are the costs of construction gone, particularly since it’s been ten years, and so they’re knowledgeable about that. But my sense is that this $9.6 will get factored into that someway. But anything we get close to the $61.9 obviously will be a lot more than we’ve had, and we’ve been waiting for a long period of time. Many of you probably also, when you look at this six year major capital appropriation, and Governor Pritzker’s been helpful on this, but anybody in Poli Sci knows, and probably all the rest of you too, that Governor Pritzker’s been elected for a four year term, and so there’s a couple more years in there. But we hope that if he’s reelected that he’ll continue to remember this plan, and if he’s not that somebody else will. So it’s all a little dicey yet.

Senator Miller: Yes, as Dean of Fine Arts, I just wanted to say that we’re presently in the planning stages for the $9.6 million. We are meeting monthly with the Ratio architects and facilities planning and construction on campus, and others. So that’s a very happy thing for us. And right now we’re looking at two new dance studios, woodshop, some of the 3D fire arts areas, so that was the original phase 1A of the Fine Arts Complex. So we are encouraged. I’m fully aware about the issues we have with Cook Hall. You know, it’s not appropriate to the discipline, to Music, and also there’re just many issues that come up weekly in Cook Hall. But I was thinking this summer that the one thing that President Dietz has said to us is that you need to plan the work and work the plan. And although we don’t have the funds to apply to Cook Hall for a major construction project at this point, we need to know what we have in front of us, so at least we can think about the future, and perhaps we’ll get parts of money somewhere, and we’ll apply it appropriately, and improve it over time. So that’s the best we can do right now, besides just putting Band-Aids on the obvious problem. So we are working on it, I’ve put a work order in last month, and David Gill in Facilities Planning and Construction said good idea, let’s take a look at Cook Hall, and really see what we need there, and make some plans.

President Dietz: Just one more comment. We’ve been referring to the Fine Arts Complex which is an appropriate description, but of course we know within the Complex, it’s the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts, just for the record.

Senator Kalter: Other questions about the Capital Request? I have a few. For those of you who have been on the Senate for a while, you will notice that one major change has happened, and that is that, in the past, we’ve had fairly specific dollar figures, and then now we have them basically in the millions. I was wondering if you could tell us a little bit about what’s going into that, is that coming from IBHE to us? Is it coming from us to them? What’s our reasoning about that kind of request, changing it that way?

Senator Stephens: That’s a Dan-ism, I mean jokingly. At the end of the day when we were cost escalating original designs, and when you do an architectural estimate, and we come up with something very specific just like Julian Hall, for example. We did Julian Hall. We did bids on that. We’ve actually got it approved. We know exactly what that number is. Every year each of these projects get escalated by a two or three percent factor. At the end of the day, when you end up bidding those out, you end up getting a pricing factor either depending on supply and demand. In some cases, depending on the amount of construction demand going on in the state, you can actually get a lower rate. In our case, most of the bids that we’ve been getting in the last few years, if we even get bids, are substantially higher than what we originally thought even a year to two years ago. So I introduced the idea, to put in a very specific amount indicates that you have very specific plans, very specific architectural plans, and the reality is we don’t, even with the $61.9 million, if we were sent that today. We’re actually working with the engineers. So at the end of the day the state rounds the number anyway. It’s a lot easier to say, I request this $403 million, not $403,212,312.04. That’s about that.

Senator Kalter: So it sounds like you’re fairly confident that if we put that in and other universities in the state put in specific ones that we’re going to be able to defend ourselves to that, to any challenge that would come from the state or the legislature about that?

Senator Stephens: Yes. Those are just rounded numbers off of, if we looked at last years, I think Metcalf may have been $56.725 million. We know we’ve got cost increases, why don’t we just call is $57? And if you’re asking the state for money, you’re better off asking for a higher amount than you are to ask for a lower amount. So if you’re going to escalate, you want to escalate to what you’re seeing based on your experience with the bidding environments, and we’re seeing, unfortunately, a lot higher cost occurring in a lot of the projects that we’re able to do.

Senator Kalter: Okay. My second question had to do with the Nursing building. So there have been, sort of, floating around there, talk about whether we were going to have some sort of Allied Health type of set of programs from at least two colleges, maybe three. And I’m wondering, I’ve been watching this list for over ten years, Mennonite and DeGarmo and you know all of those have been on it that entire time, so I don’t really expect any of these to actually get money next year, or the year after, or the year after that. I have low expectations. But I’m just curious where that conversation is? And whether or not at some point we would need to revise that into rather than the Nursing building into the Allied Health building, or if we’re not going in that direction?

President Dietz: Those discussions are ongoing. We’ve started those probably close to two years ago, but it really was more about trying to get some public private partnerships going around Nursing. And then that has morphed into more of a conversation about Allied Health, as you’ve mentioned. But the commitment from our, what we hope to be our partners, has not been there yet. I’m not sure we’ll get there, but I would say the discussions are continuing.

Senator Kalter: All right. Thanks. And then the final question has to do with the Engineering building. So, as probably everybody knows, we don’t have solidified plans yet, in terms of having a curriculum or programs for most of what’s going to go in there, and there is a possibility, I think, that we could find out that an Engineering building, once we do the cost analysis, and the site analysis, and all that, could be more than $100 million…

Senator Stephens: Or it could be less.

Senator Kalter: Or it could be less. So if for some reason we don’t move forward with it, either because of the curriculum or because of the affordability, or for some other reason, but we’ve got a request into the state for a building for it, where do we go from there?

Senator Stephens: I appreciate you asking that question because as we were trying to figure out at this time, do we place this concept, you know, it’s not a concept to us, but to see what others, so we actually did reach out to IBHE. I personally called the interim director, and posed that particular question, and said, university’s spent the last couple of years, it will continue to spend a lot of time and energy focusing on this. We believe that adding engineering to our university would do a lot of tremendous positives everywhere, but I said we’re caught in this chicken and the egg question, do we place it on there yet or do we not? And actually Nyle Robinson said that’s a perfect opportunity for you to do that. That we actually encourage that, because this is a series of degrees that at the end of the day it enhances jobs, and this is something that shows to the state legislature that we’re actually thinking ahead. And he said, would it get funded in this year’s plan (request next year), likely not, but you’re introducing the topic, and it gives us a chance to continue to research this issue. But I do know this, if we don’t ask for the funds, we won’t get the funds, and so the last thing we’d want to, need to, not do is to not ask or not even give Governor Pritzker the opportunity to say if you want to serve the engineering needs of the State of Illinois, that’s not being served today, because way too many of those students are leaving the state, and Illinois State wants to invest in that, and they will partner with us. Then that could actually be the catalyst by which it gets selected. So I’m actually somewhat optimistic that he may, in his office, may look at this and say, we like that idea, and we may even get a special appropriation that puts this onto the list just like Milner, and actually may even get funded even before that.

Senator Kalter: Yeah. So the question had more to do with sort of the timing of when we put it on than anything.

Senator Stephens: That’s exactly what I told him. I said we don’t have the curriculum approved, we’ve got to bring that through that, but we’ve been doing a lot of work with that. And he said, no, that’s fine, actually it’s encouraged. He goes, you don’t want to wait on requesting capital, because of how long it takes to do that. If you’re in that planning process, it’s actually very positive for the institution to introduce these ideas, even if you haven’t got all of the curriculum instruments decided, because it’s got to go through them anyway. He said we’d be very supportive of that, of adding that curriculum, and be even more supportive if the state says we’re willing to help fund that type of initiative. So it’s just a win win for everybody.

Senator Kalter: Gotcha. Any other questions about the Capital Request?

Senator Torry: So, to follow up on that a little bit, in terms of the strategy of asking for the money. There’s two items on there worth 25% of the budget that have nothing to do with a bachelors, master, or PhD degree. What’s the justification for supporting Metcalf and U-High in our state budget, when we want a College of Engineering for education? And I’m being devil’s advocate because I know the value of those schools to our community, absolutely. But I’m looking at appropriation committees who don’t know what U-High and Metcalf do for our community, and why we should put it on our budget, when we could put in the College of Engineering, get degrees, as a strategy question.

President Dietz: I would say you’ve asked a very good question. It’s there more as a historical artifact, frankly, than anything else. It’s been on the list for a long period of time. I don’t think anybody really thinks that we’re going to get anything for those, because of it also, I’m going to beg the question of, if you’re going to do that, you’ve got to move them, and most folks like where they are right now. Because the only other place where we have land where we could potentially move them is out on Gregory Street, and a lot of folks thinks that’s way too far from the campus. So.

Provost Murphy: The only thing I would add is I would disagree and say that they are part of our university. That those two schools are part of Illinois State University. The faculty of the lab schools are our faculty associates. And they do, I think the College of Education might disagree with saying they don’t add to bachelors, masters, or doctoral degrees. They actually are a very inherent part of this institution and the College of Education.

Senator Stephens: If I may add, I guess I’ve only been at the school three years, and my curious question to this is traditionally schools, and I know the answer to this is because it is a school system embedded within ISU, but the larger question is why is this not introduced in the overall K-12 budget. We are requesting it through there, there is a separate funding source, separate bills are related to K-12 initiatives, which is what those schools are. But at the end of the day they’re such an intregal part, we’re not the only school in the state that has lab schools, but at the end of the day, unfortunately, the way the budgets are set up today, these schools don’t land themselves in the K-12 system. They land themselves in the higher education system, because they are a part of a fabric of our institution. But we would actually appreciate support from the K-12 budget, if we could get traction there.

Senator Torry: There’s still my question of the strategy of placing these items on this budget versus a different budget. I’m not arguing, Senator Murphy, the value of the schools. We know the school, but the appropriations committee who are from Chicago and Rockford do not know the value of Metcalf and U-High to Illinois State or this community. So I agree 100% with what you said, I’m just talking about the strategy of this line item versus another line item for that $120 million, which is what all appropriations are going to see, not what value it has to Illinois State, and our faculty in the College of Education. And I don’t know, do we go there, and do we justify these line items when we ask for the money, or is it just read? Because I can imagine a lot of the appropriations committee just look at that and say, exactly what I said, why are we funding this, without knowing the story.

President Dietz: I would say that the first issue is that nothing’s happened on this for ten years. So we haven’t had a Capital Bill in ten years. So this is great new turf to be in, of sorts, and so I think your points are well taken, but there really aren’t many lab schools like this in the State of Illinois. University of Illinois, I think, Champaign Urbana has a high school and this may be the only other two, so it’s really part of our proud tradition to have that. But I would also say that my experience in the six years that I’ve been appearing before appropriation committees, very little has been spent on capital because there’s just been no bill. It’s all been on the operating side, so not much has been talked about, and when they have talked about capital, they limit it to the top one or two.

Senator Kalter: All right. Further questions? All right, seeing none. We will move on. So I’ve already made my only Chairperson’s Remarks, unless there are any questions for me, we’ll move to Senator Solebo to Student Body President Remarks. And thank you so much, Senator Stephens for your presentation, and to Mr. Scott for helping with that.

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

Senator Solebo: Hi everyone. I hope everybody’s having a good week. Just a couple things. Yesterday was the internship fair, and it was a really good fair. I would encourage you to encourage students to go to future fairs in the future, and to help with professional help. Because I think that some departments focus in on professional help more than others, and I think it should be equal amongst different department and colleges, just because either if you’re going to a grad school, or law school, or whatever it be, or the workforce after undergrad, I think it’s really important to focus on that, because at the end of the day that’s why all students are going to college, to get that degree, and go into whatever they decide to go into after.

And then SGA is also, with professional help, focusing on a Career Closet. So Jada, who is the Vice President, has been heading this. So we’re looking at different locations on campus to have a Career Closet, so we can have more affordable clothing for students on campus because we all know that professional clothing isn’t exactly the most affordable thing to buy, especially when you’re a college student and you don’t exactly have those funds.

And then I wanted to also mention about financial aid and fees. So I think we mentioned this last time, but I’m not 100% sure. So there is some committees and different fees that students have access to on campus, that I don’t think a lot of students know about. So one thing that SGA is going to be doing is focusing on marketing those, and making sure those get out to students. So I think that that should be encouraged with all areas on campus. So if you know students that need financial help, so just make sure you’re giving them those resources. With that, I yield for questions.

Senator Mainieri: I’m excited about the idea of a Career Closet, and just wanted to clarify what stage is that in? Like, is it in the idea form or kind of what stage that idea is in.

Senator Solebo: So last Friday, Dr. Davenport, Chief of Staff Woody, and Vice President Turner were able to go to U of I and Heartland to look at their Career Closets. So it’s pretty much in the… It’s past the idea stage, but it’s more in the formulating stage. So just seeing where it can be on campus and where to locate those clothes from.

***Administrators' Remarks***

* ***President Larry Dietz***

President Dietz: Thank you very much, and I have four quick items. Last week I delivered the State of the University Address, and I will not do that tonight. That was about 40 minutes. It is on the website if anybody wants to read that and the videos on that as well. A few highlights from that, one is that the week before we announce the $12 million gift to rename the College of Fine Arts the Wonsook Kim College of Fine Arts, and the Wonsook Kim School of Art with the $12 million gift, which is just phenomenal. Also, I mentioned last week that we’re establishing a Multicultural Center on the campus that will… We’re moving the CTLT area into the Williams Hall (a temporary location) as we’re planning for a new location for them within the Milner Library newly renovated space. But the Multicultural Center will be in that space on Main Street, right next door to the Honors Program, and across the street from the Fitness Center. That’s gotten, I would say, rave reviews that we’re going to be doing that. With the help of Chuck Scott and Dan Stephens, I get pretty much weekly print outs as to the progress that’s being made on that, and we appreciate it very much.

Also I’ve mentioned some of our rankings, we again are in the top 10% in the country in our retention and graduation rates. We still are ranking well in our value per the investment. Still ranked in the best colleges to work for in the United States, achieving 11 of the 12 criteria. We’re also, as I mentioned last week, we’re still working on the Engineering program. And then I also announced that we will have another midyear modest salary increase for folks, and so we’ll stay in touch and in tune for that.

Secondly, I had a training session today that I participated in with the Board of Trustee members from all across the state, representing all the public institutions. State law requires that the Board of Trustees go through a training process every two years, and so for new Board members this was their first, for some others that needed to go through to meet that requirement, they were down the hall, and we hosted that here on the campus. I served on a panel, and talked more about the role that Board members could play relative to advocacy for higher education, and particularly for their individual institutions.

Also I met yesterday with the search firm WittKieffer that’s helping us with the Provost search, and also had the first meeting of the search committee for the Provost position, and both of those went very well, and they’re reviewing a position description, and stay tuned on that.

And then lastly, Tony Walesby who had been here for several years serving as the Director of the Office of Equal Opportunity and Access has decided to go back to Michigan. We hired him away from Michigan, and he decided to go back. So we’re in the process of searching for a new director of that office, and in the meantime Jeff Lange is serving as the interim director of that office. And with that I’ll pause for any questions that you might have.

Senator Kalter: Questions for Senator Dietz? All right. Was that just a pause or was it it?

President Dietz: I’m done. Thank you.

Senator Kalter: All right. Well, in that case, let me thank you on behalf of everybody in the room for the midyear salary increase. That’s really wonderful to hear. So we’ll go to Senator Murphy for Provost Remarks.

* ***Provost Jan Murphy***

Provost Murphy: Certainly. I’m pleased to announce the Office of the Provost will be accepting internal applications for the position of Assistant Vice President for Academic Planning. So many of you know Bruce Stoffel, Coordinator of Academic Programs and Policies, is retiring at the end of the month. We have worked closely with HR, and believe transitioning his position from a coordinator to an Assistant VP better reflects the duties and future direction of the position. Senator Kalter has asked my office to provide you with some detail on this particular position, so I’ll take my remarks to do that. The Assistant Vice President, and all faculty should have received an announcement of that on the listserv this afternoon and it also went out to deans, chairs, and directors.

The Assistant Vice President for Academic Programs will continue to report to the Associate Provost. The position will begin to provide even more leadership to the Academic Planning Committee, much of the APC work (or Academic Planning Committee) that is currently done by the Associate Provost will transfer to this position. The person will do some of the same things that Bruce has always done, writing the program review summaries, for example, and they’ll also take responsibility for serving as the Provost rep on the committee. Having two people with this experience, both the Associate Provost and the Assistant VP will be especially helpful for years like 2021 when we have 29 reports to review. So there are certain years where we split that committee into two.

The new Assistant VP will also continue to play a role in supporting Dr. Catanzaro’s work with the University Research Council, and it’s important to ensure that the person in this role has faculty background to continue to provide that perspective to the URC.

A new responsibility that’s been added is the work with the National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (wouldn’t that be fun to work on). There are new and significant reporting, oversight requirements. So at this time, we’re working with the General Counsel to figure out how we’re going to implement this at ISU. These are new federal requirements for us, and this person will be the point of contact and provide oversight. SARA, this work is about all students who take online courses who are residents of other states have to be approved. It also involves our own students who go to other states for internships. There’s also now federal reporting requirements for those.

A portion of this person’s role will be to be more proactive in working with units as they explore opportunities for new program development, helping them in preparing materials, for example. Although we already do this, we believe we can be more intentional in our outreach and help faculty, and chairs, and directors as you start to look for new program, and thinking about how the curriculum fits in, how to prepare all those reports. And the search was just posted, so a review of applicants will begin October 13. A Panel of Ten member, Professor Andy Rummel from the School of Music will serve as search committee chair.

Required qualifications for this position. So we’re looking for a doctoral degree and/or a terminal degree appropriate to the individual’s discipline, experience as a tenured faculty member at ISU, evidence of commitment to diversity and inclusion, ability to manage large projects involving multiple units, demonstrated leadership and ability to work collaboratively with campus personnel at all levels.

Preferred qualifications would include experience with academic program planning, and familiarity with ASPT processes. So I encourage all of you who are interested or know somebody who might be interested in this position to please look online, the position description you can also get a link to that posted off the Provost website.

Susan also asked me to describe to you the role of the Associate Provost, so you can kind of think about those two together, since this position we’re searching reports (it’s Bruce’s position) to the Associate Provost. Dr. Ani Yazedjian currently serves as the Associate Provost at Illinois State University. The Associate Provost serves as the Provost Consultant and Manager for day-to-day operations, coordinates strategic planning for the division of Academic Affairs. The Associate Provost also supervises the Director of University Assessment Services, the Office of International Studies and Programs, and the Center for Community Engagement and Service Learning, in conjunction with Student Affairs. The Associate Provost serves as curriculum and new program liaison to the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and as the University’s liaison to the Higher Learning Commission, monitoring university and program accreditation with regional specialized accrediting bodies. In addition, the Associate Provost guides and supports the Assistant VP of Academic Programs (the position that we’re searching, Bruce’s replacement) as that individual coordinates Academic Planning Committee responsibilities for the annual five year plan, and program reviews as mandated by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The Associate Provost also handles student concerns that come to our office, ensuring a response is provided, and appropriate direction is given to those students. I’d be glad to answer any questions about either the position that we’re searching (to replace Bruce), or the Associate Provost position.

Senator Kalter: All right. Are there any questions for Senator Murphy? Terrific. And do you have other items?

Provost Murphy: Nope. That was it. I thought that was probably enough. So thank you very much.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. Thank you very much. And we’ll move on to Senator Johnson for Vice President for Student Affairs Remarks.

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

Senator Johnson: Good evening, everyone. This week marks our inaugural Student Affairs week at Illinois State University. But it’s also our Healthy Campus Week, and it’s Healthy Campus Week nationwide. This afternoon our community of practice held a kickoff event for Healthy Campus Week. That included tables with health and wellness information, as well as a campus walk around the Quad. Our community of practice is comprised of our health and wellness departments that includes Campus Recreation, Health Promotion and Wellness, Student Counseling Service, and the Student Health Center. They also had an opportunity to launch their new Eight at State marketing campaign. If you actually came through, you would have actually received one of our new tee shirt out there, and you’ll see this logo, and this branded material on a lot of materials that we will send out, from this point on, to commemorate this week, as well as our new programs in that area.

We are also celebrating our recognition as a partner in the Healthier Campus initiative, and our commitment to campus community health and wellbeing. Illinois State University is among a distinguished class of colleges and universities to collaborate with a partnership on a healthier America, and it’s a first of a kind initiative that’s happening nationwide. So we’re very proud to be involved in this program. As a matter of fact, it’s got about 23 types of programs and initiatives that you have to be involved in, and as of today, we’ve actually completed about nine of those, and have only been involved since April. So we’re very excited about our progress.

Couple of weeks ago you all asked about flu shots, I never ask about flu shots but nonetheless I will have mine as well. We will have our flu shots coming up this coming Wednesday, October 2, Thursday October 3, as well as Friday October 4 for faculty and staff. Times will be from 9:00 am until 4:00 pm and will be right here in the Bone Student Center Ballroom 1. Faculty and staff you can begin signing up via the web back on September the 13th, and we encourage you to sign up as soon as you can before all those slots are filled. The flu shots will be at no cost for all faculty and staff who are covered by State of Illinois health insurance plan, but you must bring your ID and proof of insurance. So please go ahead and sign up. We encourage you to pass that information along to others. And I’m going to stop right there and see if you have any additional questions.

Senator Kalter: All right. Terrific. Do you have any questions for Senator Johnson? I have just one. We had our emergency response annual meeting for our department today and apparently something happened about 10 year ago where somebody was walking somebody to SHS with an emergency and because they didn’t have an appointment they weren’t admitted. Is that still going to be the case, or if somebody has health or psychiatric emergency on campus (a student) and they go to SHS, is there sort of a prompt care or emergency accommodations there, so to speak?

Senator Johnson: Yes. If we are aware, and you present yourself as having an emergency type of situation, you will be represented and allowed to have support at that time.

Senator Kalter: Okay. Terrific. So maybe it was a miscommunication, and it was a long time ago, apparently, according to the faculty member.

Senator Johnson: You said 10 years ago?

Senator Kalter: Probably.

Senator Johnson: Okay. Yeah. Well, I know we have that now.

Senator Kalter: Terrific. That’s wonderful. All right. Thank you.

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

Senator Kalter:All right, let’s see. Senator Stephens has said a lot tonight but does he have additional Vice President for Finance and Planning remarks?

Senator Stephens: I’ve got slides. I’d like for y’all to see them. I didn’t get to show them to the earlier committee as much as I wanted. No, actually I just wanted to echo the sentiments of what President Dietz said, our team is actively working, our number one priority is getting the CTLT building, all the equipment, all the personnel, everything moved out of the building so we can continue to plan. We’re working with Senator Johnson’s team with the design plans on the Multicultural Center, and we’re moving at a very rapid pace, but it is our number one priority. I also appreciate your patience as we continue through this next couple of months, as the weather is still favorable for us to do outside projects. We will continue to do as many as we can until we hit that point in time where some of the exterior projects can no longer be done because of the weather. And then we will be entering into the wonderful stage of snow removal. So I’ll leave my remarks for that point.

Senator Kalter: We’re looking forward to those questions that deal with both parking and snow removal at the same time.

Senator Stephens: I know, yes. I have lots of slides for those.

Senator Kalter: Do we have any questions for Senator Stephens? All right, seeing none.

***Advisory Item:***

***Assistant Vice President for Academic Planning Search Committee memo***

Senator Kalter: We move on to our Advisory Item. I don’t know if Provost Murphy wants to say anything more about this, but we have the memo about the Assistant Vice President for Academic Planning Search Committee. Anything to add to what you’ve already said?

Provost Murphy: No, I don’t think so. Just questions.

Senator Kalter: It’s just announcing that we’re making a search committee.

***Action Item:***

***09.13.18.09 Policy 5.1.13 Hazing And Pre-Initiation Activities Current Copy***

***09.18.19.01 Policy 5.1.13 Hazing Comparison Chart***

***09.18.19.02 Policy 5.1.13 Anti- Hazing Mark Up***

***09.18.19.03 Policy 5.1.13 Anti- Hazing Clean Copy***

Senator Kalter: So our Action Item. Let me preface this, especially because it’s not coming from any committee. As you may remember, we talked about the Anti-Hazing policy last time, and we went back and said that Exec was going to decide whether it was coming back to the floor or not. Ultimately, the conversation in Exec said we need to do a two-part thing here. One is to conform the Anti-Hazing policy to what the Student Code says, because otherwise we have two policies that are saying totally different things, and that’s a legal liability. On the other hand, there were several really important comments about how both of those wordings may need to change, or should change, and so that’s not going to stop, those things will get send to the Student Code Review Committee, and eventually come back to us, but because we can’t do those now, the Executive Committee felt that it was important to move this to Action tonight. So before we start that, or put the motion on the floor, let me ask, does anybody have any questions about either that decision by Exec, or anything about the copy that we’re voting on, that would be more of sort of Information Item type comment? All right, seeing no questions. Do we have a motion to put this on the floor?

Motion by Senator Campbell, seconded by Senator Marshall, to approve the changes to the Anti-Hazing policy. The motion was unanimously approved.

Senator Kalter: Wonderful. And let me say to Wendy Smith who’s been sitting here all night, thank you so much for coming to answer the questions that we did not have for you. Terrific. We have no Information or Consent Agenda items, so we’ll go to Senator Nikolaou for Academic Affairs Committee Report.

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

Senator Nikolaou: In the Academic Affairs Committee this evening we had two guests. We had the Director of the Student Counseling Services Sandy Colbs, and then the Dean of Students John Davenport, which help us give us a bit of a background about the Student Leave of Absence policy. So we finalized this policy, which is going to be coming soon on the Senate floor. And then we continued our discussion on the Repeat policy.

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

Senator Marx: The Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee received the full presentation with all the slides from Vice President Dan Stephens, and his staff, and it was well received. Thank you.

***Faculty Affairs Committee: Senator Crowley***

Senator Crowley: The Faculty Affairs Committee has completed its revisions of the Sabbatical policy and the chair of the committee has been instructed to get on the stick, and have that ready before noon tomorrow, and get it to Cera.

***Planning and Finance Committee: Senator Mainieri***

Senator Mainieri: Planning and Finance welcomed nine guests to our meeting tonight. A panel of chairs, directors, and deans associated with programs that typically have high demand from students to continue our exploration of the idea of enabling more students to get into their desired majors. And we had a great discussion, and we thank those guests for making time.

***Rules Committee: Senator Seeman***

Senator Seeman: Rules met this evening. We talked a little bit more about prioritizing some of the pending and priority issues, as well as delegating some Senate Blue Book items we’re going to look at. And then we restarted our discussion of the College of Business Bylaws for the remaining time.

Senator Kalter: All right. Thank you. Do we have any questions for any of the committee chairs? Okay, seeing none. Do we have any communications for the Senate? All right. No communications.

***Adjournment***

Motion by Senator Solebo, seconded by Senator Hollis, to adjourn. The motion was unanimously approved.