

Academic Senate Minutes
Wednesday, April 27, 2005
(Approved)

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Lane Crothers.

Roll Call

Secretary Paul Borg called the roll and declared a quorum.

[Attendance and Vote on Motions](#)***Approval of Minutes of April 13, 2005***

Motion XXXVI-72: By Senator Koutsky, seconded by Senator Plantholt, to approve the Senate minutes of April 13, 2005. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chairperson's Remarks

Senator Crothers: This is the last meeting for this year's Senate. The new Senate comes into effect as of the first meeting in May. I would like to thank everyone who has worked hard to make this last year a success. This is a remarkably important transition. With the exception of Josh Garrison and Barry Tolchin, with the normal of turnover of students, we are also seeing an extraordinary turnover of faculty on this Senate. There are a 31 faculty members on this Senate, 17 of which will be leaving for various reasons. With those 17 faculty, we are losing an extraordinary amount of experience, talent and hard work. We are losing Mike Plantholt, Harry Deutsch, Jim Reid, T.Y. Wang, Hassan Mohammadi, Lou Perez, Ramaswamy Radhakrishnan, Emily Schlenker, Ken Jerich, Bill O'Donnell, Roslyn Wylie, Mary Jo Adams, Vic Devinatz, Frank Waterstraat, Rick Boser and Dan Hammel. I want to make particular note of Dan's leaving, since he is leaving the University to take an opportunity at another institution. We do thank you all for your extended years of service.

The Chair's comments were suspended with the arrival of Representative Brady.

Presentation: State Legislators

Representative Dan Brady: Thank you for the opportunity to appear before you this evening. I think that this is my second or third time of appearing before the Academic Senate and we appreciate the opportunity. I first want to note the loss here at the University of Officer Hosey, who died Monday evening. I knew him personally and I know what a loss it is going to be to the University and the special area that he was in, which was the undercover narcotics division. I know that he will be terribly missed and my sympathies to his family.

I think that I was basically asked here to give you an update from Springfield. I left our capital city to come here to visit with you because I feel that is important that we stay in touch, especially in this time of the touchy area of budgets in Springfield. I serve on Appropriations Committee for Higher Education in Springfield. We will convene tomorrow and we will be hearing budgets for two universities, the University of Illinois and Illinois State University. I know President Bowman, Mr. Adams, Steve Bragg, Provost Presley and many others. I will definitely be there in the morning for that. The Board of Higher Ed had recommended to the General Assembly a 1% increase for our nine universities. I think that that will be even in itself a feat the way things are right now in funding for higher education.

There are a number of issues that are challenging and plaguing state government; the lack of revenue and the demand on the state's budget. There has been a lot of speculation that we will be in an overtime session again. Last year, we were in an overtime session until July 24th. I am not painting you a very rosy picture; I am

cautiously optimistic, but I can assure you that I will advocate on behalf of Illinois State University for what you do. I can't give you any assurances. We are hoping to hold the line; in other words, prevent further cuts. There is discussion about the administration looking at the Income Fund, the fees that have been raised from tuition, and how at times it may appear that because of certain accounts there is a large amount of money there, somewhere in reserve. It is the way that the universities are paying their bills right now, minus in the equation what the State funding should be for them. We have to make sure that we protect those Income Funds and keep them in the hands of the local universities. It will be a very challenging time, to say the least. We are a long way from not only coming up with a budget, but balancing a budget. I will just tell you don't put a lot into what you read or hear right now because nobody in Springfield can give you a guarantee of what is going to happen when it comes to finances to higher education.

Senator Crothers: Later on in our agenda, we are dealing with a letter to the Governor regarding the pension system that we will consider endorsing. Are there any other persons to whom you would recommend it being cc-d?

Representative Brady: I think you should cc it to Speaker Madigan, the Republican Leader, Tom Cross, Senate President Emil Jones, the Minority Leader in the Senate, Senator Frank Watson. I would suggest that all of those individuals receive a copy of your letter.

Senator Wang: I appreciate your coming and your continuing support for the University. A couple of days ago, the *Pantagraph* reported that the state government is thinking about asking universities to pay for car insurance for university vehicles. Can you give us an update on that information?

Representative Brady: The situation you are talking about relates to vehicles, or any type of state of equipment, and the insurance carried on that apparatus by the State of Illinois. Right now, in my district, two of the very first incidents have occurred involving the state vehicle situation. The claimants are being directed to go through their own self-insurance. There are those who are simply holding out to see if the state government committee that has asked for emergency appropriations for funds to pay those claims will be successful in doing that. So, right now, where the matter sits is the State is recommending that individuals go through their own insurance carrier, which is unacceptable as far as I am concerned, and then wait for reimbursement from the State. My hope is that there will be some form of emergency appropriation to carry us through so that we can pay these claims as quickly as possible. That has not occurred. I do not see us turning around and saying to Illinois State University, 'pay the claims out your own insurance or other funds within the University' at this point.

Senator O'Donnell: Representative Brady, could you expand a bit on the notion that the legislature is looking at about touching the Income Funds? How serious a threat is that?

Representative Brady: It is not the legislature; it is some discussion that the Universities are getting by on their own Income Fund. We make it very clear to the administration in Springfield, the Governor's Office, that whatever we do, we do not allow the Income Fund to be touched and to remain in the hands in the local universities. We will guard that with our lives.

Senator Holland: With the lack of income, is there any notion to do something heinous like raise taxes, even a small percent?

Representative Brady: There are all kinds of proposals for revenue enhancements. Most of those proposals are aimed at business, i.e. canned software, where there is a proposal of about \$65 million to pump into our GRF that would put a tax on preordered software for companies that don't have the fee/tax assessed to them in software as they purchase it right now from the vendors. That is something that is not going to be very warmly embraced by businesses. There are other proposals that are out there. One of the areas that President Jones is very serious about

is a form of income going directly into education, primarily elementary and secondary.

If there is a proposal right now that is looming in committee somewhere to raise the personal income tax in the State of Illinois, I am not aware of it. It would have to have the votes to support it. That means that we will continue to cut and come up with other forms of revenue to get us through this. That is simply it. The Governor has made it very clear, 'Do not send me anything with an income tax increase and do not send me anything with a sales tax increase, because I will veto it.' So whatever goes to his desk better go with a veto-proof majority that we can come back and pass.

Senator Crothers: Part of what Senator Holland may have been going after was House Bill 750—that we increase income taxes and but swap down property taxes.

Representative Brady: HB750 is a proposed bill that would raise personal income tax and would then have a reduction in your property tax, not an even swap. Right now, that proposal I don't believe has the votes to get through or whether it has even been called. The only thing that that is doing successfully is generating spin-off proposals. Senator Winkle in the Champaign-Urbana area has a proposal in which the percentage of the income tax would not be as high and some other changes concerning a tax on personal pensions over a certain amount. It also had actually created a direct line of any excess funding from elementary or secondary education into higher education. We may see something, but there is nothing there right now that is just waiting to be voted on.

Senator Borg: Thank you so much for coming here, Representative Brady. We have been talking about taxes and there are those of us citizens who would not mind paying more in the income tax. Would you ever consider sponsoring a bill that would raise taxes somewhat to help alleviate the crisis that we seem to be in?

Representative Brady: Both of the bills that have income tax and other tax increases in them have sponsors, so I wouldn't want to take that away from those individuals.

Senator Borg: Would you ever consider, yourself, independent of anything that is out there now, consider offering or encouraging the citizenry to raise their own taxes?

Representative Brady: Not without hearing from my constituency first and until I am thoroughly convinced that we cannot continue to make priority cuts in Springfield and direct funds where they need to go.

Senator Reid: Is there any consensus growing on what changes might be made to SURS benefits?

Representative Brady: I am not sure that there is any consensus.

Senator Rackauskas: You said the budget for higher education has not been created. What would you recommend to students and our faculty as an effective way to lobby Illinois for appropriate funding?

Representative Brady: There were some ISU students in my office not too long ago lobbying in a very professional way and I commend them for giving a personal view of how it's affecting them personally here at the University. Students obviously are welcome to lobby, to call or e-mail me. I would suggest directing your comments straight to those on the Appropriations Committee for Higher Education. We can get you those names and they are on the internet on the web page for the State of Illinois under the House Committees (<http://www.ilga.gov/house/committees/members.asp?CommitteeID=150&GA=94>).

I would say contact those people. We have a new chairman, Representative David Miller, in the House Appropriations Committee. He needs to hear from any of you as to your thoughts so I would encourage that. I would say that any contact that has been made to my office in whatever form dealing with higher ed has always

been from individuals who have presented their views very respectfully and proposed some good ideas. Don't think that they don't get carried back to committee and discussed because they do.

Senator Tolchin: I was one of those students who met with you in your office and I want to say thank you for having us. Are there any issues coming before the House about potential state aid for students to help students finance their education?

Representative Brady: I am not aware of anything new; we are trying to hold on presently to what there is, which are primarily the MAP (Monetary Assistance Program) Grants. Those are suspect for reduction. We want to hold the line. We have been very successful in holding the line in the last budget cycle and not slipping and that is what we are going to continue to do.

Senator Koutsky: Are there any legislators that represent the other universities in the state that don't seem to be on board, who could use a little pressure from students that attend those universities?

Representative Brady: I think that we have been approached by just about every university that there is. Any contacts that you have, tell them to continue letting us hear their concerns. I can't think of any that we are really missing; all of our nine state universities lie within Republican districts.

Senator Crothers: We wish to thank you very much, Representative Brady, for coming here from Springfield for this discussion.

Representative Brady: Thank you all very much for the opportunity and, obviously, we will keep in contact with the University's administration. We will be happy to come back anytime.

Chairperson's Comments Continued:

Senator Crothers: In addition to the losses sustained to the Senate itself and the challenges to shared governance that that is going to pose, I did want to mention that the Council of Illinois University Senates met on April 18th. We had six of the public university Senate Chairs here; also Professor Curt White, our FAC representative, was there for much of the meeting. We had a wide-ranging discussion across most of the issues, pensions, admissions and all of the other kinds of things that are going on here. Indeed, we have even seen some language that perhaps this body would want to take up; there are apparently states that have independent boards that recommend trustees and things like that. That is an issue that we talked about at the CIUS meeting two weeks ago, prior to anything that is on tonight's agenda.

Student Government Association President's Remarks

Senator Garrison: I want to thank the senators that are outgoing, especially the Student Government ones. I appreciate all of your hard work. SGA, for the last two weeks, has been focusing internally and we are about finished with all of our internal appointments. We have unrepresented senator positions left open. The interviews are going on as we speak and they will be filled by the first meeting of next year. We are currently trying to get nominations for a program that Senator Tolchin started called "Redbird of the Month". It is to recognize anyone who has done something exemplary for the University. If you have nominations, please talk with me or Senator Tolchin after the meeting.

Administrators' Remarks

Provost's Remarks:

Provost John Presley: With the final week of enrollment deposits coming up, we are 362 deposits ahead of last year. We think that we are looking at an incoming freshman class of about 3,050. The usual statistics that indicate the academic preparation of this incoming class are just about level with last year's, so this class, too, is an

extremely well-prepared class academically.

Tech Zone is in its third of three nights of “Tech Nights”. They are working to smooth the completion of the requirement for students to bring a computer to campus. We have many vendors there, IBM, Dell, the local and national folks, and Apple representatives. They have been extremely impressed with the interest that our perspective students and their parents are showing. I think that there is a great deal of gratitude that we are being very explicit about the kinds of computers that they need to bring and that we are helping students with the prices, as well as that the Senate responded to, two years ago, the requirement of a computer, which allows students to be “aided” for the price of the computer.

President's Remarks:

President Al Bowman: We had a good week; we continue to raise private funds and a donor is unwrapping a trust fund that will bring a million dollars into the institution. As Representative Brady mentioned, our Senate Appropriations Hearing was in Chicago on Monday and we talked about the accomplishments of the institution over the past year as well as quite a bit on the challenges that we have faced. There was also discussion about how the Governor’s budget, if it were enacted, would affect us. We talked about our highest priority being the faculty and staff salaries. We received some pointed questions about that. We talked through why that was a critical priority for the institution.

We introduced a new Athletic Director, Sheahon (SHAY-UN) Zenger, yesterday in a really well-attended news conference. I am very happy with the quality of the finalists and I think that the selection is a good fit for Illinois State University. There are probably not many Athletic Directors in the country who have an undergraduate degree in English, a Ph.D. in Education, has had experience as a Division I assistant football coach and who has raised close to \$63 million. Our Strength and Conditioning Center opened on Saturday in Redbird Arena. If you are in the lower level of the arena, take a walk by; it is probably one of the top 20 facilities in the country—just remarkable. A couple of our alumni were involved in supplying equipment for the center and of course the entire project was funded with private money. Both the men’s and women’s golf teams have won the Missouri Valley Conference Championship; I want to extend my congratulations to them.

Vice President of Student Affairs' Remarks:

Vice President Helen Mamarchev: The Private Dining Room in McAllister’s has reopened; you can call the Scheduling Office in the Bone Student Center if you are interested in reserving it. This week, I am happy to announce that we signed a contract with Burger King, which will be going up on the second floor. We will get that installed this summer. Within the Division of Student Affairs this year, we had comprehensive program reviews, which we have just completed, for both the Office of Disability Concerns and the Career Center. The final report should be to me by May and then we will be posting it on our Student Affairs’ assessment web site.

Vice President of Finance and Planning's Remarks:

Vice President Stephen Bragg: As you heard from Representative Brady, there is very little budget news. Hopefully, this will be resolved soon. I appreciated his comments about protecting the Income Fund; I can’t emphasize enough how much the flexibility of the local control of that fund has saved us over these last four years. I also appreciate Representative Brady mentioning the tragic loss of Detective-Inspector Hosey in the Police Department. It was a terribly tragic accident; he was a young man, 37 years old, who leaves a wife and two small children and a big hole in the Police Department as well. I know that you will join me in expressing our sympathy and condolences to his family and colleagues.

We opened bids on the remodeling for Haney Hall. Those bids came in just about \$45,000 under bid. Wilkins is scheduled to open this fall. Schroeder is moving forward. The second phase of Schroeder is moving forward even faster than the first phase. We will have that next wing open ahead of schedule as well. We are in the process of finalizing a contract for new electrical service. We did not have many respondents to our requests for proposals,

probably because everyone is waiting to see what the final fallout will be for phased-in deregulation, but we are confident that we will get some attractive rates from our current carrier.

Thanks to everyone who is participating in getting your new ID cards with the substitution of a user ID for your social security number. It is moving very smoothly and we are getting a lot of good press from around the country about the way in which we have managed the process.

Committee Reports

Academic Affairs Committee

Senator Reid: The committee only had one item left on its agenda, enrollment management. We were unable to finish the item this year. Essentially, what we have determined from the statistics that we have so far is that it would appear that most of the students, who come in as freshman and have General Studies as their major, do get a major, if not by their senior, by their fifth or sixth year. The problem appears to be with transfer students. We are going to have to get more information on that and pass it on to the chair of the new Senate's Academic Affairs Committee. I would like to thank my committee; we worked really hard and got a lot done.

President Bowman: I want to publicly thank Dr. Reid for his service on the Senate, particularly during the mid 90s when the University faced what most of us considered an unprecedented crisis in senior leadership. Dr. Reid and many of his colleagues were at the center of dealing with the problem head on and I just want to express my appreciation for how the matter was handled and for the outcome. The University owes you a debt of gratitude.

Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee: No report.

Faculty Affairs Committee: No report.

Planning and Finance Committee: No report.

Rules Committee: No report.

Action Items:

04.21.05.01 Disestablishment of Academic Units Policy-Revised (Administrative Affairs Committee - Senate Information Item on April 13, 2005)

Senator Brockschmidt: The changes that the Administrative Affairs Committee made to the Disestablishment of Academic Units Policy were in response to the Senate's recommendations on April 13. At the end of the document, in the President's recommendation to the Board of Trustees, we changed section B to include that the Board must approve the disestablishment of existing academic units as it is Board policy. In the final section, it was brought to our attention that a unit's disestablishment is not completed until it has been referred to and approved by the IBHE, so we made that revision.

Provost Presley: On page 2, the second marginal note, disestablishment is spelled incorrectly.

Motion XXXVI-73: By Senator Brockschmidt to approve the policy as revised. The motion was unanimously approved.

04.21.05.02 Amplification Policy-Revised (Administrative Affairs Committee - Senate Information Item on April 13, 2005)

Senator Brockschmidt: The Administrative Affairs Committee made changes for clarification to the Amplification Policy. In the activities between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. section, we changed the language to read, activity that "interferes with classroom instruction", which was recommended by the Senate. For activities after 5:00 p.m., there was some confusion. It has now been revised to read after 5:00 p.m. on weekdays *and* on

weekends. There were some minor changes to the numbering. All changes were recommended to us by the Senate.

Motion XXXVI-74: By Senator Brockschmidt to approve the Amplification Policy as revised.

Senator Crothers: There is a minor numbering problem in the policy for activities after 5:00 p.m.; the last number should be “4”.

Senator Elzy: At present, the Dean of University Libraries signs off on every request to use the plaza between the Student Center and the library. Is there a reason for excluding the library dean in the policy, specifically at the top of page 2?

Senator Brockschmidt: The committee was unaware of that and will accept such a change as a friendly amendment.

Senator Crothers: What specific language and where specifically would you like this revision?

Senator Elzy: On the second line, after "Dean of Students Office", add “Dean of University Libraries”.

Senator Crothers: You would also then indicate a sign-off right for the University Quad. I suggest something like “for the Student Center Library Plaza, with consent of the Dean of University Libraries” and that will separate the University Quad structurally.

Senator Mahoney: Page 2, part C, under “Other General Policy Provisions”, it looks like there are two words in one space.

Senator Brockschmidt: The correct words are “Services” as the last word in part B and “Appeals” as the first word in part C.

Provost Presley: In that same section, is the language that begins, ‘Appeals, complaints and general input should be directed to the appropriate office’, intended to be an answer to the question I raised at our last discussion, which is, after one has received 25 complaints about a noisy event, who goes and pulls the plug, or does this imply that no plug can be pulled if a group has a piece of paper that says they have permission to disrupt the usual University business?

Senator Brockschmidt: The committee felt that it could not be specific about on whom to call, primarily due to the variety of areas where events may take place. On the same note, we felt that if there was a major complaint, the University police or the planning office would be the ones that you would call, either for that day or for future reference.

Provost Presley: The Planning Office?

Senator Brockschmidt: Whatever office would be in charge of setting up events for that area.

Senator Crothers: I believe that this section was in the old policy. It is not intended to be a response to your question. As it happens now, the specific problem that you are concerned about, the drumming on the quad, appears to be a spontaneous act of people enjoying the warm weather. I doubt that it has been scheduled formally. At that point in time, a phone call from the Provost to the School of Music would probably get the point across. At a certain point in time, University Police can be called and the President can be called.

Senator Mwilambwe: Under Other General Policy Provisions, item D, what is the Scheduling Office and

Conference?

Senator Brockschmidt: It is supposed to be Conference “Services”.

Call of the Question: The question was called by Senator Borg. There were no objections.

The motion to approve the policy, as amended, was unanimously approved.

Information Item:

04.15.05.03 Institutional Goals and Priorities (Planning and Finance Committee)

Senator Plantholt: The committee has been working most of the year on the report on the institutional goals and priorities of the University. The first page is a summary of the committee’s charge. We were to analyze policies and trends at the University in budgeting and financing, analyze trends in state resources, and make an annual recommendation for the University’s priorities. On the second page, there is a summary of the people that we talked to. We met with the vice presidents of each of the four areas and a number of other people trying to get the background and an understanding of what the effects of budget cuts have been and how we can deal with those better in the future. At the bottom of the second page is our recommended administrative action. The goal there is to actually have this report looked at and reported back to us if people disagree with some of the priorities that we have set.

Page 3 is a quick summary of what has happened in the last few years. In the last three years, our appropriated fund from the State has gone down about \$15 million. It talks about what we have done to handle that situation. The last report from this committee of this type came out in April of 2003. It was endorsed by the Senate. At that time, there was a clear number one priority. The immediate short-term priority at that point was to raise faculty and staff salaries to attract and retain top people in those areas. In that report, we included three to five year recommendations. We kept those same priorities, but also added a number of priorities that were related to the general goal of seeking students who are academically talented, motivated learners.

The previous report was tied pretty directly to *Educating Illinois*. The priorities this year, on the last page of the report, are not set up the same way. We did not break them down into short-term and long-term and we did not tie them directly to items in *Educating Illinois*. We broke it down into content priorities and procedural priorities. The four content priorities are: restore resource bases; continue the efforts to improve competitiveness of faculty and staff salaries; continue efforts to recruit high-quality students; increase operations budgets. The procedural priorities deal with reorganization, studying and rearranging the way that we handle things at the University; trying to make a more organized budget process; and trying to get the Senate involved a little earlier in the process.

Motion XXXVI-75: By Senator Plantholt, seconded by Senator Wang, to move the Institutional Goals and Priorities Report of April 2005 to action. The motion was unanimously approved.

Motion XXXVI-76: Motion by Senator Plantholt for the Senate’s endorsement of the report. The motion was unanimously approved.

Communications:

04.15.05.02 Pension Cuts Memo to Governor – Presented for Senate Endorsement (Senate Executive Committee)

Senator Crothers: If you recall, two weeks ago, the Executive Committee brought to your attention a memo from Eastern Illinois University’s Faculty Senate to Governor Blagojevich regarding the pension system. One of the questions raised was whether we wanted to simply re-endorse that letter or wanted it rewritten. A decision was made for it to be rewritten. What you have before you is a version of that letter that includes some additional information from some other places and a fixing of the kind of mathematic moment of incompleteness that the other

letter had. We bring this to you for endorsement. I would also seek approval to send copies of the letter to the individuals that Representative Brady indicated.

Motion XXXVI-77:

Senator Borg: I would like to suggest that the Senate endorse this and ask the Chair of the Senate to forward this to the Governor and the various legislators as mentioned earlier. I would also like to thank the Senate Chair for doing such a good job of revising the former letter.

The letter to the Governor, and the request to send copies to legislators, was unanimously endorsed by the Senate.

04.22.05.02 *Letter from Trustee Bergman (Previously distributed by e-mail)*

04.22.05.01 *Academic Senate Sense of the Senate Resolution: Environmental Stewardship (Senators op de Beeck and Reid; distributed in Senate packets)*

04.25.05.01 *Academic Senate Sense of the Senate Resolution on Civic Responsibility (Senators op de Beeck and Reid; distributed at Senate meeting)*

Senator Crothers: The letter from Trustee Bergman was sent to you by e-mail and you also have a copy in your packets. The letter is in regard to comments in regard to SEAC. This letter is simply a communication item to the Senate, so there is no reason for us to debate it. What you also have in front of you are two separate resolutions; one that came in your packets and one that came this evening regarding what, if any, action this Senate chooses to take in response to Trustee Bergman's comments of I believe April 7, 2005. Let's first address the resolution distributed in the Senate packets for promoting environmental stewardship. Senators op de Beeck and Reid drafted these resolutions.

Senator Reid: The proposed resolution reads as follows,

**“Academic Senate Recommendation
for Promoting Environmental Stewardship**

WHEREAS our Educating Illinois document advocates, as Action 10, “the continuing existence of a healthy, safe, and environmentally sustainable campus that advances individual health, community well being, [and] a climate that fosters positive teaching/learning experiences, and supports and promotes environmental stewardship” (17) and

WHEREAS, according to Educating Illinois, good environmental stewardship includes campus-wide cooperation with “current and future committees (such as the Green Team, Student Environmental Action Coalition, and Student Environmental Health Association)” (18) as parts of the ISU community,

BE IT RESOLVED that efforts to promote environmental stewardship and ecological sustainability will be treated with respect and granted a hearing at all levels of the ISU campus community.”

Motion XXXVI-78:

Senator Reid: I would just urge you all to endorse this resolution.

The resolution, without revision, was unanimously approved by the Senate.

Senator Crothers: You then have a second resolution before you that has an option A and an option B.

Senator Reid: We went through many versions of this, even before we received the letter from Trustee Bergman. The initial part of this is essentially to remind the community that *Educating Illinois* calls for creating the most supportive and productive community possible to serve the citizens of Illinois and that it should prepare students to be fully engaged participants in a global society.

The resolution reads as follows,

“Academic Senate Resolution on Civic Responsibility

WHEREAS it is the mission of Illinois State University, according to *Educating Illinois*, to “devote all of our resources and energies to creating the most supportive and productive community possible to serve the citizens of Illinois and beyond,” and

WHEREAS a central value of Illinois State University, according to *Educating Illinois*, is to encourage community “by fostering an inclusive environment characterized by ethical behavior and social justice that prepares students to be fully engaged participants in a global society,”

BE IT RESOLVED that Illinois State University will encourage students and student groups

- to be responsible and engaged members of the national and global community
- to become educated on and passionate about issues of national and global interest
- to take a proactive stance on national and global issues and
- to enter into a rational, constructive and respectful debate on national and global issues,

(Option A)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Academic Senate of Illinois State University expresses its appreciation for Trustee Bergman’s letter of April 22, 2005, in which he admits his responsibility to uphold the values embedded in *Educating Illinois* and apologizes for the failure of his comments, reported in the April 9 edition of the *Pantagraph*, to live up to that commitment.

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or

(Option B)

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Academic Senate of Illinois State University expresses its appreciation for Trustee Bergman’s letter of April 22, 2005 in which he expresses his support for the mission of Illinois State University to respect and teach the civic values embedded in *Educating Illinois*.

Senator Reid: The question arises regarding the appropriate response to Trustee Bergman. Given that he has given a very credible apology for his statements, the options are of different tones. Therefore, I brought them both forward to get a sense of what the Senate felt would be the most appropriate. The first option expresses its appreciation for the trustee’s letter in which he admits his responsibility to uphold the values embedded in *Educating Illinois* and apologizes for the failure of his comments to live up to the commitment. The second option simply expresses our appreciation for Trustee Bergman’s letter in which he expresses his support for the mission of Illinois State University to respect and teach the civic values embedded in *Educating Illinois*. If we are asking for Trustee Bergman to, which I think he did in his letter, enter into a respectful dialogue, I think we have to decide on the spirit of our response, given those same criteria.

Senator Brockschmidt: Was there consideration of the delay of the response from Trustee Bergman?

Senator Reid: No.

Senator Crothers: I did have some interactions with people who were concerned about what they perceived to be a delay. There may or may not have been. I can say that I never communicated with Trustee Bergman about a timeline.

Senator Borg: If we agree to adopt the first version, the point that you make is implicit by listing the dates within it. My opinion is the Senate ought to consider the seemingly stronger language of the A clause.

Senator Hampton: I think stronger language is appropriate, in as much the letter that he sent to the Senate was not copied to the SEAC.

Senator DeSantis: I would like to hear SEAC’s response to his letter and to the resolution.

Senator Crothers: That gets to the heart of the issue that you got an e-mail about earlier today. On a personal level, one of the things that I do struggle with is how much in the way of presentations that this Senate receives from different groups. I made the decision that we have heard from SEAC and we have heard from Trustee Bergman. That is my decision and it is this Senate's right to overturn that decision. I don't have any prejudice on my part; it was a judgment that I made.

Senator DeSantis: I did not see your e-mail. I was wondering if someone from SEAC was here.

Senator Crothers: They are, but I have told them 'no'. So you need to overrule me, which is fine if you want to hear them. You have to move that the chair's decision regarding hearing from SEAC was wrong. The majority vote of the Senate overturns that ruling.

Motion XXXVI-79: By Senator DeSantis, seconded by Senator Rackauskas, to overturn the chair's decision to allow a response from SEAC.

Senator Boser: Given that Trustee Bergman is not here, I am not sure that it's appropriate that we hear from SEAC.

Senator Holland: We do have a written comment from Trustee Bergman; I have not heard anything formal from SEAC.

Senator Reid: I would like to hear something more formal from SEAC.

Senator O'Donnell: Are we asking SEAC to respond to the two options within the resolution or just general comments?

Senator Crothers: It is my understanding that the motion is for a brief presentation of their response to the situation.

Vote on Motion 79: The motion to overrule the chair's ruling was approved by a roll call vote. There were 24 ayes, 8 nays, 7 abstentions (15 voting members of the Senate were absent; 7 members are non-voting).

Amy Butterworth, SEAC Representative: I am the Student Environmental Action Coalition Co-President. Thank you for allowing me to speak to you. One thing brought up in the Senate's discussion was the letter and whether or not SEAC received it. SEAC actually heard about it today when the *Pantagraph* released the article. After Dr. Bowman released his wonderful statement endorsing SEAC's civic engagement, the *Pantagraph* contacted Mr. Bergman again for his response. At that time, we felt that it would have been a good opportunity for an apology or to reconsider the harshness and insulting nature of the comments. But he did not. SEAC was mentioned in the letter itself, we were not cc-d on it. Whether or not it was the chair's responsibility to give it to SEAC or Mr. Bergman's is debatable and really moot at this point.

Senator Darnell: Do you have a preference for one of the options within the resolution?

Ms. Butterworth: I don't have the letter or the resolution in front of me, so it's really your call. From the tone of the letter, I don't believe that Mr. Bergman fully understands the value of *Educating Illinois* and environmental stewardship. I think he does understand that his comments were out of line, but misses the frame of the debate and what the issue is.

Senator Hampton: I looked at your web site today and I was shocked at the information that I found there. I urge others to do the same.

Senator Brockschmidt: When Trustee Bergman made those remarks, it wasn't just toward SEAC, it was toward the student body as a whole. I would like to remind the Senate that the reason that we are all here is for the students. I feel that this is a good first step, but stronger language should be taken up by the Senate at some point to reestablish the importance of students.

Senator Darnell: I actually think the second option would be a better choice. I agree that the language is stronger in the first; however, it focuses too much on blame instead of the positive aspects of the letter. His dedication to support the mission of Illinois State University and *Educating Illinois* should be more of the focus.

Senator Adams: In all of the bullet points, why is "local and state" not included?

Senator Reid: I meant to include local, which would include state. I would accept that as a friendly amendment.

Senator Tolchin: It may be appropriate to propose a motion to change the language of both options. Also, Senator Reid, have you considered language to endorse Dr. Bowman's comments in regard to this issue?

Senator Reid: I strongly endorse those comments and the language within the resolution implicitly endorses them.

Senator Brinton: I think we should not only endorse the first option, but not endorse the second one. I think we should also include the letter so that in future years, they will understand the context for the resolution.

Senator Riegle: I think that we should pass the second option and ask someone to draft a more direct condemnation, if you will, if that is what is wanted. The first option is like a back-handed compliment. I would rather see a compliment for someone who acknowledges his mistake straight out and then, if we feel that there are further negative sanctions desired, that we have a straight ahead sanction motion.

Motion XXXVI-80: By Senator Reid to approve Option B.

Senator Crothers: We have a motion for Option B, assuming that Senator op de Beeck does not object.

Senator op de Beeck: If you move Option B, does that mean that Option A is out of the running?

Senator Reid: We are first voting on the two options, either A or B. If we vote B, then A is out and then we vote on the whole resolution. My reasons for moving Option B are simple. The first one's attempt is to try to stick it to him, despite recognizing his apology. The main reason for this is to set up standards for constructive dialogue and then we are undercutting the very standards that we are setting up with Option A.

Senator Brockschmidt: I realize that there is a desire for stronger language to come forth from the Senate at some point. However, I remind you that this has already gone on for almost a month. If we delay this any further, it could get lost in the summer months.

Senator op de Beeck: I am wondering about the issue of "sticking it to" someone. Sometimes that is the civic responsibility. I don't see how the toothless B does us any good as a Sense of the Senate resolution.

Senator Reid: It is how civic responsibility is defined by this resolution. It is not defined in terms of sticking back when it's appropriate. It is defined in terms of entering into a rational, constructive and respectful debate. I don't feel that Option A is rational or respectful; politically, it might be constructive.

Senator op de Beeck: I am thinking, at this point, dismiss A and B and just stop at the “whereas”. I feel that bringing Bergman into this and having his name in there suddenly has become a non-issue. Why have a Sense of the Senate Resolution expressing appreciation for a letter?

Senator Crothers: If the Senate decides it wishes to continue further conversation on this topic, then having Trustee Bergman’s name in this resolution is important because it provides a chain of reason.

Question was called by Senator Mahoney. There was an objection to calling the question; therefore, debate continued.

Senator Wang: What if we substituted “expresses its appreciation for” with “recognizes” Trustee Bergman’s letter in which he expresses his support.

Senator Reid: I accept that as a friendly amendment.

Vote on Motion 80: The motion to accept Option B, as amended by Senator Wang, was approved by the Senate by voice vote.

Senator Crothers: We move now onto a discussion of the first three paragraphs, plus the amended Option B.

Senator Smith: Trustee Bergman has not actually communicated with the students after insulting them and we are not addressing that within this resolution.

Senator Crothers: Do you wish to attempt to integrate that into this resolution or would you want to come back in two weeks with a resolution calling on Trustee Bergman to do that?

Senator Smith: I don’t have a sense of the correct way forward; I merely wanted to bring that to the attention of the Senate because that has not been discussed.

Senator Brockschmidt: I agree with Senator Smith that there was no direct apology to SEAC. I feel that this language is in no way strong enough, even as an initial step, either to express the Senate’s or the University’s opinion, as a whole. The apology is only about a line.

Senator Reid: I will read from his letter, the second paragraph:

“First, I would like to apologize to the students of Illinois State University, including members of SEAC, for my remarks in past editions of the Pantagraph. I disagree with many comments made by SEAC regarding Petco, including comments about my ability to serve Illinois State as a member of its Board of Trustees. Unfortunately, the comments I made to a reporter covering this story were unconstructive, unacceptably harsh and certainly not indicative of the way I feel about free speech and action. Although I disagree with some of SEAC’s agenda, criticizing individuals or groups that engage in public discourse is not the proper way to respond.”

Senator Crothers: To those of you who will continue on the Senate, I assure you that on Monday, the Executive Committee of the Senate will discuss what, if any, additional steps it might wish to have the Senate to begin to think about over the summer. In any case, we will now vote on the first three paragraphs of the resolution, which have been amended to include “local” in each of the four bullet points, and which includes Option B, as amended to eliminate “expresses its appreciation for” and substitutes “recognizes”.

Vote on Civic Responsibility Sense of the Senate Resolution: The Senate approved the Civic Responsibility Sense of the Senate Resolution, as amended, by voice vote.

Adjournment

