Guest Speakers:
- Chancellor Micheal Amiridis- Here to engage in discussion. Busy time for UIC, students finish up their studies and for the university to recognize achievements and contributions of students and faculty. This is a time of uncertainty, as high school seniors are making up their minds, as to making their decisions. The number of Illinois high school students who leave the state has been increasing, so it is nerve wracking for universities. However, UIC enrollment continues to increase. A sense of optimism with the new governor and administration in Springfield. This administration is talking about a “Capitla Bill”, a portion of it could be diverted for higher education. Amiridis is advocating for UIC to be included in the consideration. Regarding the strike, he is not 100% sure. Some agreements have been made. A number of non-economic issues have been settled. Regarding the economic issues, the University cannot raise salaries by 9% a year for the next few years. An agreement has been made regarding the health care cost of graduate students. Do not think students need to be concerned about the long term effects of a strike.

Ritu Parikh- Professors said they would strike, regarding economic issues.
Chancellor- The UF has not made a decision to strike because the school has not received notice.

Bowen- What is your opinion on the cost of housing at UIC?
Chancellor- Tuition has not been raised during his tenure. The same was not able to be done with the housing fees. Housing is paid for by bonds. It is an auxiliary agency. The rates are decided by whether they have enough to pay for housing?

Vice Chancellor- The university does not receive any funding to service housing. It falls upon the students. This new housing is a P3, public private partnership. Some of the buildings still have debt because the university refinances the buildings. Added 1 million dollars to housing scholarships, for upcoming year. They are actively taking measures but still have retraits
Bradley- Lack of understanding of students, what can we do to involve students
Vice Chancellor- Facility rates/fees do not become available until the school year starts. The housing this year operated in a deficit. They are constantly playing “catch up”.

Ritu- Can UIC divorce from themselves from food options on campus for housing students?
Vice Chancellor- That will raise the price overall for housing. Specialized diets are more expensive.

Koertgen- Previously had a block plan of meals for freshman students, can that be expanded
Vice Chancellor- Completely agree. The company that manages the plan reevaluated the team, and they have new ideas that we have to consider.

Bowens- TA’s believe Direct communication is being avoided.

Chancellor-There have been 21 negotiation sessions. And the dean of the graduate college was there and the Vice Chancellor for Human Resources.

Zaba- IS the principal of the bonds for housing being paid off? And if the principal of bonds are paid off is there more opportunity for scholarship?

Chancellor- Housing for students during first year increases retention. The buildings being demolished still have debt attached to them. We have to focus on quantity.

Mohammed- What are the goals of sustainability?

Chancellor- We have a set of commitments. And we are meeting with that office tomorrow. Emission, Water and Waste management.

Koertgen- Is the funding the same as it was before the decrease in funding?

Chancellor- The budget this year is approximately the 2015 budget. Another factor is important. We operated on the same budget for 4 years. We have agreements with the pipefitters and other unions that account for salary increases. The same needs to happen, and we want to happen for our faculty.

Koertgen- How do we put the spotlight on UIC?

Chancellor- We try to give spotlight to UIC in newspapers and appointments. We are in an uphill battle with UIUC because they are much larger. It makes a difference when you spend money. We get roughly the same amount of money as UIUC, but we offer more scholarships. We are proud of the students here at UIC, even though they come from lower-income housing, compared to the well-off students in UIUC. Going to put up billboards to advertise UIC, especially on the road to UIUC. For UIUC we the second largest competitor. We have the same quality of students.

Odueyungbo- What are examples of things accomplished for sustainability in the last two years?

Chancellor- We are trying to improve UH, with lighting and electricity. The parking lot between the social science building is able to absorb water.

Mohammed- Can UIC income be raised without raising the tuition for UIC students?

Chancellor- We have cut the budget for many departments on campus. In 2016 we had to get an internal loan to pay for operations.

Bradley- Addressing the Mental Health Task Force, what was the logic behind the selection of those on the force, as there are no undergrad students? And what was it in response to?

Chancellor- We have had 3 students who lost their lives, in a short time. The task force was put together immediately given a month to give recommendations. Student Trustee was the student voice, then they appointed a student from the West Campus to address their needs. They recommended that we have a 24 hour hotline and they recommended that we should have a standing committee to address this issues.

Turner- If the graduate students still feel dissatisfied, how can we not damage the education of undergrad students?

Chancellor- Are the wages for the graduate students fair. The wages are higher than UIUC. We understand the difference in the cost of living, but we have to understand that this is a public university
Aranda-Ortiz- Regarding the anonymous donation of 2 million dollars for undocumented students, how is that going?
Chancellor- It has taken place, it is still in negotiations. The intention is to use it for undocumented students.
Ritu- What is the updates on the counseling center?
Chancellor- We are self-insured. We have had catastrophic events and there was a decision made by students to cover gender-reassignment services (the demand has been higher than expected)
Steve Choi- International Students pay a different price than out of state students. Does that money go to the global office?
Chancellor- That goes to the international services/fee. And differential tuition for each major.
  • Vice Chancellor Rex Tolliver
  • Vice President of Alpha Kappa Delta Phi International, Nikki Panganiban- Requesting funding for convention in summer. $250 per student, about $2,000. It covers fees and guest speaker price. We focus on scholastic excellence, leadership, service hours and Asian American Awareness. From the convention we learn about ourselves, as leaders, and bring that back to campus. The things we learn in convention are things we can bring back to campus.
Steve Choi- Not eligible for SAFC funding?
Panganiban- Did not get approved because we didn’t receive and send information for the convention in time.
Turner- Are you required from the convention to pay for the keynote speaker?
Panganiban- Yes, so is the brother fraternity.
Koertgen- How is the brother fraternity paying for it?
Panganiban- The fraternity is not on this campus.

Ex-Officio Reports:
  • Advisor- Everyone should apply for leadershape, it is a great experience. For those of you who have reached out for appointments after spring break I will open slots for group meetings. Elections are going to be April 9 & 10 and will include pictures of candidates. Debate will be Friday, April 5

Officer Reports:
  • President- LeaderShape is a good experience, everyone should apply. MSA and Cultural Centers had a vigil for New Zealand tragedy that occurred last week. The next week will not be until April 8. The April 1 meeting is cancelled. Rex Tolliver is going to have a meeting that focuses on the masterplan.
  • Vice President- Drop deadline for classes is Friday. Introducing resolution to talk about mental health resources. Thank you to those who came to the gala committee meeting last week. Next meeting is tomorrow at 5 pm.
  • Speaker- Given by Daisy Stancheva, The board games for the social are in the office. If you would like to meet with Jocelyn, meeting times will be included in the ReCap.
• Treasurer- No treasury meeting for this week. Meeting instead to go over agenda and line up for the Climate Change event, in the Monarch room.
• Chief of Staff- Working with Mark on his two events in April. Working with Treasurer on Climate Change event. A resource for all representatives. Will be working on constitution
• Diversity and Inclusion- Will be having Open Mic, Wednesday in the LCC. Need help spreading word and request that you post it on your social media.
• Public Relations- Working on USG board outside of the office. If you have questions, or want to help, let her know
• Student Life- Still in communication with many offices. Julio sent out a FOIA request for campus housing. If you are interested in looking at it, let her know.
• Legislative Affairs- Thank you to everyone who came to vigil. Lobby Day we will be going to Springfield.

New Resolution:
  • 2019-S8-300- Read by Aliemah Bradley
    Steve Choi- Are we going any action steps?
    Bradley- No, it is a supportive measure.
    Bowens- We want their success
    Koertgen- By passing this, the Grad students have tangible support of the students
    President Bowens- moved to make this an executive order
    Voting- Abstain by Representative Zaba
    Voting for the bill- Passed
  • 2019-S8-605- Read by Jack
    Koertgen- What is the standing budget after this resolution?
    Treasurer- It would exhaust our fund. We are funding 3 people. The verbal agreement was that they take the $750 off the top and they support the rest of the students
    Raza Haque- We don’t have to give the body notice for a small amount given
    Ritu- This trip will happen whether or not we fund them?
    Treasurer- They will ask the Asian American Cultural Center. The only other way they could go is by paying out of pocket
    Tolu- If only 3 sisters can go, does that cover their chapter requirements
    Treasurer- Unsure, but we could fund three sisters
  • 2019-S8-701- Read by Kimi
    Steve Choi- What happens if you have a meeting before this is voted on? Will it still count
    Jocelyn Bravo- Still counts for a point and this is a new system that structured and lenient.
    Tolu- Have you been taking attendance during the socials?
    Pu- Yes, but not USG sponsored events
    Julio- Do the desk hours have anything to do with the pending resolution
    Hererra- That resolution will be discussed in the items for discussion
    Udoetuk- If someone completes 3 desk hours they should get more than 1 point.
    Maria Haque- We could make an amendment to the resolution
    Bradley- I agree this should be worth more than 1 point
Treasurer- The point of this system was to increase attendance at general assembly members. Nothing should be worth more than a meeting
Julio- Suggested 1 point per hour, Max of 3 hours.
Ritu- Office hours should not be capped because they might do three hours and then not do them again
Zaba- sponsoring a resolution is only 1 point, desk work should not be of equal points
Julio- Agree with point. Sponsoring a bill takes more time and work, so should not be of equal points, possibly higher.
Bravo- This is to ensure that members do the bare minimum and stay involved
Turner- When you miss meetings, the work to add up to that meeting is not equal but more.
Udoetuk- If you cannot make times for meetings, perhaps you should not be a part of USG
Moved to end discussion- Bradley
Seconded by Body
• 2019-S8-801- Read by Desrosiers
Julio- When we pass resolution, where does it go from there?
Cody- Meeting with UIC Senate on Wednesday and Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs on Friday
Moved by Udoetuk to make “633,660” to “$633,660”
Seconded
Steve Choi- What can happen after this resolution is passed?
Dean Smith- This would have been a great question to be added to the referendum. Would this be affordable to students in different income brackets? Does the support of a mandatory fee reflect the student body. Need to be more strategic about the language
Cody- This provides support, a show of support, for UIC Senate and other bodies considering these decisions. Only a fourth of the student health fee goes towards UIC.
Ritu- This resolution has wording that it can hire as many as... Does that limit?
Cody- May have to adjust how much the counselors get paid. But allows the counseling center to higher 8 more counselors which builds capacity.
Frederique- One thing we are talking about is student support. We are thinking about making this a referendum. We would need to collect 2000 signatures.
Dean Smith- I believe in the spirit of this legislation. We need to consider the amount of students that should be able to weigh in. We need to be careful about resolutions that are not official. We need to be careful about resolutions that may challenge the credibility of this organization.
Koertgen- Will this be an automatic piece. Does it have power
Dean Smith- Referendum questions will draw participation. It doesn’t have power

Items for Discussion
• 2019-S7-400- Read by Herrera
Motioned by Bowens to make discussion 5 minutes
Seconded by Body
Treasurer- If this is a volunteer basis, what is needed as a volunteer, how do you make them do it. Would it be better to combine with the points system?
Kimi Pu- Change word volunteer. This is additional activities
Ritu- We can have voluntary hours with required task
Bradley- Do you want to correlate this with the points system? Move to end discussion until language

Lost of Quorum

Announcements
  • Movie Night

Adjournment- 8:23