

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEARCH COMMITTEE TO ASSIST IN THE SELECTION OF A PRESIDENT
MAY 19, 2014

This meeting of the Search Committee to Assist in the Selection of a President was held in Room 414, Administrative Office Building, 1737 West Polk Street, Chicago, Illinois, on Monday, May 19, 2014, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Attendance via videoconference was available in Room 364, Henry Administration Building, 506 South Wright Street, Urbana, and the Hatmaker Room, Room 550, Public Affairs Center, One University Plaza, Springfield.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Ms. Pamela B. Strobel, co-chair of the search committee, welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked the clerk to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Dr. Douglas H. Beck (co-chair of the search committee), Mr. James M. Benson¹, Dr. Nicholas C. Burbules, Dr. Roy H. Campbell, Mr. Ricardo Estrada, Dr. Sharon Graf, Ms. Darlene Kendall, Dr. Susan J. Koch, Mr. James D. Montgomery, Mr. Xavier R. Ramirez, Dr. Barbara Ransby, Ms. Maya Rudder, Ms. Pamela B. Strobel, Mr. Stephen C. Van Arsdell, Dr. Jorge Villegas¹, Dr. William E. Walden, Mr. Konstantinos Yfantis, Dr. Julie Zerwic. Ms. Jen Phillis was absent.

¹ Mr. Benson and Dr. Villegas arrived at 1:18 p.m.; Dr. Villegas participated telephonically.

Ms. Strobel commented on the role of the search committee and explained that while the Board makes the final selection for president, the committee does a great amount of work in proposing the candidates. She asked all in attendance to introduce themselves, and committee members shared their background, experience, and history and affiliation with the University. Ms. Strobel then introduced Ms. Laurie Wilder, Ms. Katie Bain, and Ms. Porsha Williams from Parker Executive Search, and Ms. Strobel stated that they will be assisting the committee in the search for the president. Ms. Strobel referred to Dr. Beck's extensive experience at the University and with the work of search committees and said she appreciates his conscientious approach. She advised committee members to use their insights and experience and express their views, and she welcomed any comments or questions throughout the meeting.

Dr. Beck expressed appreciation for Ms. Strobel's contributions and said he is looking forward to working with her and the search committee. He then presented an overview of the search process (materials on file with clerk) and discussed goals, guidelines, and the importance of maintaining confidentiality. Dr. Beck commented on the responsibilities of the president and role of the search committee, and he presented a rough timeline for the search.

Discussion followed, and Ms. Strobel and Dr. Beck responded to questions from committee members. Ms. Strobel and Dr. Beck emphasized the need for confidentiality, particularly when communicating via email. Committee members also

discussed the preferred qualities and background of the next president, and they inquired about the upcoming town hall meetings and outreach to the University community.

Next, Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel, discussed the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act and explained how these apply to committee members engaged in the search for the next president.

At 2:22 p.m., Ms. Jami Painter, assistant vice president for human resources, presented the University of Illinois non-discrimination statement and discussed equal employment opportunity and University Administration placement goals (materials on file with the clerk). She also commented on the Search Committee Ethical Standards and Expectations pledge, and she asked that all committee members sign the pledge and return it to Dr. Susan M. Kies, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University and staff to the committee.

At 2:33 p.m., Ms. Wilder provided information regarding the composition and history of Parker Executive Search and discussed the role of the search firm. She emphasized that their role is to aggressively recruit, facilitate and advise, and said they are a liaison to the search committee. She also presented a demonstration of their secure website. Discussion regarding the background of candidates followed, and Ms. Wilder provided some information about the search process. Ms. Strobel noted that Parker Executive Search is also assisting in the chancellor search for the Chicago campus, and said she thinks this will be advantageous.

At 2:50 p.m., the committee took a short break. Dr. Campbell left the meeting at 3:02 p.m.

At 3:05 p.m., the meeting resumed with all committee members previously recorded as being present in attendance, with the exception of Dr. Campbell. Dr. Beck provided a presentation on outreach to the University community and discussed the benefits of this.

Dr. Beck then presented a draft of the white paper to be used in the search. Ms. Strobel and Dr. Beck discussed the process of writing and editing the white paper and said that they hope to have it finished in one week. Committee members commented on aspects of the white paper and provided some suggestions, and Ms. Strobel asked that any suggested changes be submitted by Thursday, May 22. Brief discussion regarding the advertisement followed, and Dr. Beck stated that he would write a draft and distribute it to committee members for their review as soon as possible. Ms. Strobel referred to upcoming meetings and indicated that these will be scheduled soon.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 3:37 p.m., Dr. Beck stated, “A motion is now in order to hold an executive session to consider University employee and appointment-related matters.” On motion of Mr. Van Arsdell, seconded by Mr. Montgomery, this was approved. There were no “nay” votes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Material redacted pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2.06d)

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNED

The executive session adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETING RESUMED

The meeting resumed at 4:30 p.m., with all committee members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance except Dr. Campbell.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 4:31 p.m., Dr. Beck requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Mr. Montgomery, seconded by Mr. Estrada, the meeting was adjourned at 4:31 p.m. There were no “nay” votes.

SUSAN M. KIES
Clerk

PAMELA B. STROBEL
Co-Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Assistant Clerk

DOUGLAS H. BECK
Co-Chair