

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS BOARD OF TRUSTEES
SEARCH COMMITTEE TO ASSIST IN THE SELECTION OF A PRESIDENT

JULY 11, 2014

This meeting of the Search Committee to Assist in the Selection of a President was held in the board room of the Alice Campbell Alumni Center, 601 South Lincoln Avenue, Urbana, Illinois, on Friday, July 11, 2014, beginning at 12:00 p.m. Attendance via videoconference was available in Room 414, Administrative Office Building, 1737 West Polk Street, Chicago, Illinois.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Ms. Pamela B. Strobel, co-chair of the search committee, convened 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), Dr. Nicholas C. Burbules, Dr. Roy H. Campbell, Ms. Darlene Kendall, Dr. Susan J. Koch, Mr. James D. Montgomery, Ms. Jen Phillis, Dr. Barbara Ransby, Ms. Maya Rudder, Ms. Pamela B. Strobel, Mr. Stephen C. Van Arsdell¹, Dr. Jorge Villegas, Mr. Konstantinos Yfantis, Dr. Julie Zerwic. Mr. James M. Benson, Mr. Ricardo Estrada, Dr. Sharon Graf, Mr. Xavier R. Ramirez, and Dr. William E. Walden were absent.

Also in attendance were President Robert A. Easter and Dr. Susan M. Kies, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University and staff to the committee. Ms.

¹ Mr. Van Arsdell participated in the meeting via telephone.

Laurie Wilder and Ms. Porsha Williams from Parker Executive Search participated in the meeting via telephone.

Dr. Beck reviewed the goals of the search, and he and Ms. Strobel summarized work completed since the last meeting. Ms. Strobel then asked President Easter to introduce Dr. James Applegate, executive director of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). President Easter commented on the University's relationship with the IBHE. He described a new era of stability at the IBHE and referred to Dr. Applegate's role there, and he reviewed Dr. Applegate's education and career. President Easter then asked Dr. Applegate to comment.

Dr. Applegate discussed the importance of working together and speaking with one voice to leadership in the State. He commented on priorities in higher education in Illinois and highlighted increasing cost of tuition and lack of affordability. Dr. Applegate discussed an achievement gap among underrepresented minorities and commented on the need to reach out to adult learners. He responded to questions from committee members and stated that he chose this position because he wanted to return to higher education, noting that there is much opportunity for progress in Illinois. He also discussed online education and the need to increase capacity and consider alternative education models. Ms. Strobel thanked Dr. Applegate for his comments, and he left the meeting at 12:39 p.m.

Ms. Strobel then invited President Easter to comment. President Easter provided a presentation (materials on file with the clerk) on the University of Illinois

presidency and began by discussing the complex and multifaceted enterprise that comprises the University. He provided examples of the University that function as State agencies and discussed the University's governance structure. President Easter commented on State support and discussed the role of the president, emphasizing the faculty governance process. He then provided his philosophical perspective, commenting on the role of the chancellors and the three distinct campuses that are part of the University of Illinois. Next, President Easter discussed key challenges, including State issues, that will be faced by the next president.

At 1:08 p.m., President Easter concluded his presentation and responded to questions from members of the committee. Topics included University and campus structure and culture; the role of the chancellors; State and budget issues; the current and future state of higher education; shared governance; relationships with communities in Illinois; underrepresented student enrollment and success; athletics; external and internal responsibilities and roles of the president; the hospital and medical school; status of the University administration review; challenges at the University and in higher education; qualities and background of an ideal candidate; the University's strategic plan; and the role of the humanities in the University's land-grant mission. This concluded at 2:12 p.m., and Ms. Strobel thanked President Easter for his time and insight. President Easter then left the meeting.

At 2:12 p.m., Ms. Strobel asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on May 19, 2014, and there were

none. She asked for a motion to approve the minutes, and on motion of Dr. Koch, seconded by Dr. Villegas, the minutes were approved. There were no “nay” votes.

The committee then took a short break.

At 2:25 p.m., the meeting resumed with all committee members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:26 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 Dr. Koch, seconded by Dr. Villegas, 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 3:41 p.m.

COMMITTEE MEETING RESUMED

The meeting resumed at 3:41 p.m., with all committee members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance, with the exception of Mr. Van Arsdell.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Dr. Beck then requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Mr. Montgomery, seconded by Dr. Koch, the meeting adjourned at 3:42 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