APPROVE CAMPUS AND LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY ASSESSMENT, FISCAL YEAR 2010, SPRINGFIELD

Action: Approve Campus and Library Technology Assessment for Fiscal Year 2010, Springfield

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Springfield campus’s faculty have embraced new instructional methods which rely upon up-to-date technology in the classroom and in the provision of online and blended coursework. The Springfield campus is a recognized leader in both quality online programming and state-of-the-art classroom technology. In order to ensure that Springfield campus students can continue to benefit from state-of-the-art pedagogy and facilities, we must provide faculty and students with access to up-to-date technology in the classroom and support students’ information literacy needs. Conventional revenues supporting the library and information technology infrastructure have not kept pace with rapid changes in technology and increased demand for infusing technology into teaching and learning at the Springfield campus.

The demand for technically advanced “smart classrooms” that accommodate multimedia instruction has increased beyond the ability of the campus to meet the needs of faculty and students. The ability of the campus to provide appropriate hardware, local software, Web and server applications, and individual support has come
under significant strain. Funding is not available to adapt quickly and flexibly to new technology and new needs.

The vision statement for Brookens Library’s calls for working together creatively and using technology ingeniously. Technology use is central to the Library, not only for use within the library building but to provide virtual access to a wide array of resources including a 24-hour online reference desk (Ask Away Chat), scores of full text online journal databases, online book search, and electronic library reserves. These online resources support both our online students and our growing residential population. Increases in revenues would support computer spaces within the library and the continuation and augmentation of the online resources. Revenue from the Campus and Library Technology Assessment will allow the Library to more quickly achieve its vision and continue to meet its mission of providing access to and instruction in the use of information resources for research, discovery, and lifelong learning.

A Campus and Library Technology Assessment would provide the dedicated resources needed to introduce new technologies as they develop in order to prepare students to be competitive in an increasingly technologically sophisticated world.

In order to generate the resources to improve the learning environment at the Springfield campus, a Campus and Library Technology Assessment of $5 per credit hour applied to all credit hours for which a student is registered would be charged to all students enrolling at the Springfield campus beginning with the summer term of 2009. The net revenues generated by this assessment will be used to support renewal of the technology infrastructure of the campus and to support Brookens Library.
The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Chancellor, the Vice President/Chief Financial Officer, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs recommend approval.

The President of the University concurs.