

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
January 15, 2015

4

Board Meeting  
January 15, 2015

ELECTION OF TIMOTHY L. KILLEEN AS TWENTIETH PRESIDENT,  
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

**Action:** Elect Timothy L. Killeen as President of the University

**Funding:** State, Institutional, and Gift Funds of the University

The election of a president of the University is one of the most important actions the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois is called upon to consider.

This responsibility is a solemn one, resting upon the statutory obligation specified in the laws of the State of Illinois. The pertinent passage from the University of Illinois Act is printed below:

*The board of trustees shall elect a regent who shall be charged with the general supervision of the educational facilities and interests of the university. Said regent shall be known as President of the University and his term of office shall be at the pleasure of the board of trustees.*

The trustees have labored at this task with great care and a keen sense of responsibility. Able assistance has been provided by an outstanding consultative search committee, whom the Board appointed on April 18, 2014, which was led by its co-chairs, Pamela Strobel, member of the Board, and Douglas Beck, Professor of Physics in the College of Engineering at Urbana-Champaign.

The members of the Board of Trustees have concluded their work and are ready to take formal action to elect a president. Dr. Timothy L. Killeen is currently Vice Chancellor for Research and President of the Research Foundation of the State University of New York (SUNY). As such, Dr. Killeen has served as chief executive officer of the largest, most comprehensive university-connected research foundation in the nation. Dr. Killeen spent more than 20 years on the faculty and in various administrative roles at the University of Michigan, and served as assistant director for geosciences at the National Science Foundation before joining SUNY in 2012.

Dr. Killeen earned his Ph.D. in atomic and molecular physics from University College London. A leading researcher in geophysics and space sciences, he was elected in 2007 to the National Academy of Engineering, which honors the world's most accomplished engineers. Dr. Killeen has authored more than 150 publications in peer-reviewed journals, along with 300 publications and papers. He has served on various White House committees and task forces, and has testified on multiple occasions to Congress and the Executive branch.

The principal financial components of Dr. Killeen's appointment consist of the following:

- An initial five-year term, commencing July 1, 2015, or on a mutually agreeable earlier date.
- An annual base salary of \$600,000, subject to periodic increases at the Board's discretion.
- Annual incentive-based compensation for the first year served as President in the amount of \$100,000, subject to meeting certain performance goals established by the Board. The amount of incentive-based compensation

for which he will be eligible in subsequent years may be increased at the Board's discretion.

- Deferred compensation that will vest upon completion of five years of service as President; the University will contribute \$30,000 to the account effective July 1, 2016, and increase its contribution each year thereafter by \$7,500.
- Faculty appointments with indefinite tenure, in the College of Engineering at the Urbana campus and the Chicago campus.

Dr. Killeen's contract will also provide for expense reimbursement, transportation for University-related travel, and the University benefits package, in accordance with University policies and practices.

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 Chair of the Board recommends this appointment.