AWARD THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES’ DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDALLION TO SUSAN M. KIES

The Trustees’ Distinguished Service Medallion was created to recognize individuals whose contributions to the growth and development of the University of Illinois, through extraordinary service or benefaction, have been of unusual significance.

Today, it is recommended that the Distinguished Service Medallion be awarded to Susan M. Kies, Secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University and her name be added to our esteemed roster of medallion recipients.

Dr. Kies has served the University with distinction for more than two decades, beginning her career at the University of Illinois in 1993 at the College of Medicine. As an Instructor and Associate Dean in the College, she nurtured and encouraged students with her continual guidance and faith in their ability. She also shepherded new faculty members with her deep understanding of the curriculum, policies, and insight of the relationship that the regional campus in Urbana holds with the College of Medicine at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

On November 1, 2011, Dr. Kies began her appointment as Secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University Designate, and assumed the position of Secretary of the Board and of the University, full-time on February 1, 2012. She served in this important role until her recent retirement on June 30, 2016.
Dr. Kies quickly understood the monumental task of the position of Secretary of the Board and diligently supported the Board and Administration in their role as the governing body of the University. Her duties included, among other things, serving as an advisor to three University presidents; interpreting Board policy to members of the Board, the University community, and the public; and monitoring the use of the seal of the University.

Dr. Kies approached the position of Secretary with limitless energy, a positive attitude, and an unyielding loyalty to the legacy of the University of Illinois.

In gratitude for her innumerable contributions, the Board of Trustees takes great pride in presenting the Trustees’ Distinguished Service Medallion to Susan M. Kies, a dedicated, admired, and esteemed colleague and alumna of the University of Illinois.