RESOLUTION FOR CHRISTOPHE PIERRE

To: Christophe Pierre

You will be remembered with deep gratitude for your many notable contributions during your tenure as Vice President for Academic Affairs at the University of Illinois.

Since October 2011, you have served as a trusted advisor to three presidents and collaborated with chancellors and provosts to ensure the University system’s excellence despite historic financial challenges. Your commitment and creativity have helped implement operational efficiencies, structural reforms and budget review processes that have channeled precious resources to support the high-quality academic and student programs that are synonymous with the University of Illinois system.

At the same time, you have been a leading advocate for student access and affordability, including two straight years of tuition freezes for incoming Illinois freshmen and increased enrollment across the system’s three universities.

Your tireless dedication to the University’s core missions has helped shape a host of key academic initiatives and policies. They include working closely with the
provosts, the faculty advisory committee you created, and faculty from the University Senates Conference to define academic strategy and ensure that faculty, staff, and students work and express their ideas in a collegial academic environment; an enhanced President’s Award Program and successful recruitment efforts that have helped increase enrollment of underrepresented groups; and cooperation with IBHE presidents and chancellors in prioritizing issues that are important and relevant to the higher education community across Illinois.

Another important initiative that you developed is the Academic Unit Review, which identifies key indicators of scope, productivity, quality and costs in teaching and research units. This information is invaluable in determining performance potential for units across the campuses.

Your unwavering support of faculty research in higher education reflects your personal experience as a leader in breakthrough academic research. Your work within mechanical and aerospace engineering has garnered support from many prestigious funding agencies, including the National Science Foundation and NASA.

Christophe, your life experiences, cross-cultural awareness, professional stature, and outstanding personal qualities have enriched and enlivened the University. You are engaging, energetic, outgoing, articulate, well-informed, and committed to working collaboratively for the collective good of all. And as a valued colleague, your keen sense of humor is always most appreciated.

At this time the Board of Trustees, President Timothy L. Killeen, faculty
members, students, and staff members express their appreciation to you for your five years of devoted service as an exemplary administrator and faculty member of the University of Illinois. We wish you the very best as a new chapter in your life begins, and extend warm wishes to you, Myriam, and your family.