

TO: University of Illinois Board of Trustees

FROM: Jennifer Dillavou, President, University of Illinois Alumni Alliance, & Associate Vice Chancellor for Alumni Relations, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

DATE: July 12, 2019

RE: University of Illinois Alumni Alliance

The University of Illinois Alumni Alliance (UIAA or Alliance) Board of Directors last met on May 10, 2019, in Urbana. Prior to this meeting, UIAA leadership engaged in discussions with various members of both System-level and University-level leadership, and, during the course of these discussions, President Killeen, Chancellor Amiridis, Chancellor Jones, and Chancellor Koch shared a desire for the UIAA to refocus its efforts on providing services and programs primarily to University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) alumni, while continuing to provide services to the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and the University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS) when requested. Additionally, President Killeen expressed a desire to have the Alliance's advocacy program, known as Illinois Connection, and its staff transition to the President's office, where it resided prior to 2007, to allow for even closer coordination with System advocacy personnel. Since its September 2017 reorganization and at the time of these discussions, the UIAA had provided System-level services to all University of Illinois alumni, including but not limited to alumni legislative advocacy, communications, affinity partnerships and programs, and management, maintenance, and development of the Alice Campbell Alumni Center in Urbana.

In light of these viewpoints and in advance of the May 10 Board of Directors meeting, outgoing Board of Directors Chair Steve Van Arsdell met or spoke with each member of our board and shared this information. Every member of the board endorsed these viewpoints during these individual discussions, and, collectively, the Board of Directors reaffirmed this position during its May 10 meeting. At the conclusion of the meeting, the Directors representing UIC and UIS retired from the UIAA Board of Directors, which will now be comprised exclusively of representatives from UIUC.

Since May 10, the UIAA's Executive Committee (comprised of Chair Bill Forsyth, Immediate Past Chair Steve Van Arsdell, and Director Mike Haring) has continued discussions with UIAA staff and both System-level and University-level leadership and has completed the successful transition of Illinois Connection personnel to the President's office. The UIAA is continuing to focus on our priorities in serving our alumni, including integrating into the UIAA the activities of the former Illinois Alumni Association, which was formed in the past year and was participating with the UIAA in the provision of programs and services for UIUC alumni.

All involved parties are committed to maximizing the positive impacts of our collective efforts as we continue to serve the interests of our alumni. The UIAA remains steadfast in its commitment as an independent 501(c)(3) University Related Organization to serve the University of Illinois and its alumni. We anticipate that the changes noted, which are essentially internal organizational changes reflective of the positive progress being made at each of our universities, will continue to be seamless and have no perceived impact on services to our alumni. We look forward to enhancing the experiences of our alumni and to creating an ever-increasing atmosphere of loyalty to our great alma mater.

We also look forward to providing you with additional updates as we continue to develop the most strategic and innovative initiatives to benefit the incomparable alumni of the University of Illinois throughout the state, our nation, and globally.