

Reported to the Board of Trustees  
May 19, 2016



## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

### UPDATE

#### to the University of Illinois Board of Trustees

May 2016

#### UIAA BOARD MEETINGS

The University of Illinois Alumni Association Board of Directors recently met in Washington, D.C. In addition to the meeting, Board members participated in several additional activities. UIAA Board member and C-SPAN co-President Rob Kennedy hosted the group for a tour of the C-SPAN studio. Illinois delegation staff members – all Illinois natives and/or alumni of the University of Illinois – participated in a panel discussion and shared their perspectives on issues and trends, specifically related to higher education, from Capitol Hill. Each of the panelists provided insights, strategies and good advice for our members on how to be effective advocates for the University.

During the Board meeting, Committee members shared updates about Board business and UIAA operations, including a financial performance summary, UIAA tactical plan and the progress on the development of the University of Illinois Welcome Center. Action taken by the Board included the approval of the recommendation of the Student Alumni Ambassadors (SAA) working group to transfer management of the student organization from UIAA to the Urbana campus, while continuing to maintain a strong partnership between UIAA and SAA on student-to-alumni programming. Additionally, the Board heard University updates from University of Illinois President Tim Killeen, University Trustee Jill Smart, UI Foundation President & CEO Jim Moore, Office of Governmental Relations Executive Director Lindsay Anderson; affinity program partners University of Illinois Community Credit Union and Cozad Asset Management and U.S. Senator Dick Durbin.



Following the meeting, UIAA life members, DC Illini Club members, and Illinois Connection advocates joined the Board for a cocktail reception to connect, inspire and celebrate University of Illinois alumni. Loren Taylor presented the Loyalty Award for Exceptional Alumni Service to Burt Wagner for his dedication and service to the Illinois Alumni Club of Greater Washington, D.C.

The June Board meeting will be held in conjunction with a Board retreat **June 23-24** at the Q Center in St. Charles, IL. During the retreat, the Board will develop strategies and action items designed to meet UIAA goals. An alumni reception will be held **June 23** at Hotel Baker in St. Charles.

## **LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ACTIVITY**

The Advocacy Consortium of Public Illinois Alumni Associations met **April 28** at Northern Illinois University's Naperville campus. Guest speakers included Senator Pat McGuire, Chair of the Senate Higher Education Committee and Representative Kelly Burke, Chair of the House Higher Education Committee. They shared suggestions on how to tell impactful stories to legislators to enhance our advocacy efforts. The consortium will reconvene in the summer to outline strategies and action items to elevate our message that higher education is part of the solution to the state's challenges.

## **ALUMNI AWARDS**

The UIAA will honor Alumni Achievement Award recipient **Dr. Mary-Dell Chilton** and Distinguished Service Award recipient **Jane Phillips Donaldson** during Commencement weekend (**May 13-14**) on the Urbana campus. Award recipients will be recognized at the Commencement dinner at Alice Campbell Alumni Center (ACAC) and the campus wide Commencement ceremony at Memorial Stadium. Additionally, they are invited to attend a reception at the President's house and GradFest, an annual event for new graduates, at the ACAC.

UIC will recognize Alumni Achievement Award recipients **Dr. Mi Ja Kim** and **Dr. Rina Dukor** and Distinguished Service Award recipient **Christine Schwartz** at the UIC Alumni Awards Luncheon on **September 22**.

UIS will honor Alumni Achievement Award recipient **Darrell Burnett** and Distinguished Service Award recipient **Cheryl Peck** at the UIS Alumni Gala on **October 21**.

## **ALUMNI DAY AT THE CAPITOL**

The University of Illinois Alumni Association will host U of I Alumni Day at the Capitol on **May 18** in conjunction with the May BOT meeting in Springfield. Alumni from all three campuses will join together to deliver a unified message to lawmakers on behalf of the University. Please [RSVP](#) by May 13 if you have not already registered.

All Trustees and Alumni Day participants are invited to attend an Alumni in Government gathering taking place at The State House Inn later that evening. UIAA looks forward to your participation.

## **ILLINOIS ALUMNI INSIDERS**

The UIAA recently launched *Illinois Alumni Insiders*, an insight community that will allow us to better connect and engage with young alumni. We currently have 192 members enrolled in the program, and 75% of those members have completed the Welcome Survey. Participants have the opportunity to provide feedback about existing and proposed UIAA programs and services; offer insights into what young alumni are seeking from their alumni association; and test the marketing of messages, images and campaigns.

If you know an alumnus who received a bachelor's degree from Illinois within the last eleven years and is under the age of 35, email Julie Bartimus at [jlhays@uillinois.edu](mailto:jlhays@uillinois.edu) with the name, email address, city of residence, and graduation year. After we complete this pilot program, we plan to roll out an insight community for UIC and UIS.