

Board Meeting  
September 10, 2009

## APPROVE RESOLUTION CONCERNING ADMISSIONS REFORMS

The Board of Trustees directs that three principles will guide admissions processes at the University of Illinois: fairness to applicants, transparency of process, and equality of access.

In accordance with the recommendations of the Admissions Review Commission, the Board directs the President of the University and designees to institute practices reforms that will ensure admissions conform to these principles in time for the 2009-10 admissions cycle.

Administration is directed to:

1. Eliminate Category I, “Special Admissions,” “Special Interest Admissions,” and any other process for “tracking” or “preferential treatment” of applicants.
2. Establish written criteria for admissions that are readily accessible to prospective applicants.
3. Demonstrate whether an appeals system is warranted and, if so, that it is readily accessible.
4. Create a University-wide code of conduct for admissions in accordance with the existing University code of conduct and the guidelines of the National Association for College Admission Counseling. The code will help create a “firewall” to insulate admissions officers from unwarranted interference in the admissions process.

The code of conduct will ensure that only those whose jobs involve direct responsibility for admissions will be involved in admissions

decisions. Faculty and more senior administrators will provide policy guidance and are available for consultation at the request of admissions officers. Violators will be subject to discipline up to and including discharge.

5. Create a process for properly handling inquiries about admissions.

*The Board of Trustees also directs the administration to address the following recommendations of the Admissions Review Commission by August 31, 2010:*

6. Ensure that the admissions process addresses diversity and inclusiveness.
7. Undergo an intensive self-study and review culminating in an assessment of the changes currently being implemented in admissions.