RESOLUTION TO RECOGNIZE THE VOLUNTEER ILLINI PROJECTS, INC., STUDENT ORGANIZATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois sincerely appreciates and recognizes the unselfish, dedicated commitment, leadership, and volunteerism demonstrated by Volunteer Illini Projects, Inc. (VIP) in its support of local community agencies and their volunteer needs.

Composed of nearly 2,500 students, 15 service projects, and six administrative positions, student volunteers with VIP gave 16,935 hours of service during the 2005-2006 academic year. The organization’s mission is:

“Volunteer Illini Projects, Inc. (VIP) is a student-run, student-staffed volunteer organization committed to peace, unity, and change. By working with and within the community, VIP makes a positive impact through service, thereby enriching students’ educational experience and committing students to a lifetime of volunteerism. VIP strives to foster unity and enhance interpersonal connections through mutual understanding and empowerment. The dynamic of tradition of past student initiative and vision for positive social action guides the future of Volunteer Illini Projects, Inc.”

Through service projects such as Arts Outreach, Best Buddies, Blood, and I-Vote as well as service in aid of community justice, daycare, environmental issues, friendship, health needs, hunger and homelessness, recreation services, senior citizens
assistance, social empowerment, tutoring, and other special projects, VIP volunteers can be seen at more than 75 partnering agencies within Champaign County.

Volunteer Illini Projects began in 1963 and continues to be one of the largest student volunteer organizations in the Midwest. The impact of the “VIP experience” continues after graduation. It is clear that VIP alumni continue to strive for peace, unity, and change. Many contribute financially to VIP and without their support the scope of VIPs’ activities would not be possible.

The Board of Trustees hereby recognizes and commends Volunteer Illini Projects, Inc., for its outstanding example of student volunteerism, which contributes to the fabric of student life on the Urbana campus, and benefits the community, and the larger society.

The Board of Trustees directs that this resolution be incorporated into the minutes of today’s meeting to become a part of the official public record, and that a suitable copy be given to Volunteer Illini Projects, Inc., as a permanent reminder of the esteem in which it is held.