

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
September 7, 2017

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Board Meeting  
September 7, 2017

APPOINT DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS,  
CHICAGO

**Action:** Appoint Director, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

**Funding:** Institutional Funds Operating Budget, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics

The Chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Vice President, University of Illinois recommends a multi-year appointment of Garrett J. Klassy, presently Senior Associate Athletic Director at George Washington University, as Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, University of Illinois at Chicago, non-tenured, on a twelve-month service basis, on 100 percent time at an annual salary of \$240,000, beginning September 7, 2017. Mr. Klassy was appointed as Director of Athletics-Designate, effective August 15, 2017.

The term of the contract is five years, beginning on August 15, 2017, and ending on August 14, 2022, subject to early termination by either party without cause. In the event of early termination, liquidated damages are payable by the terminating party, subject in the case of termination by the University, to a duty on Mr. Klassy's part to mitigate his damages.

This appointment follows a national search. This recommendation is made with the advice of a search committee<sup>1</sup>, supported by the executive search firm Parker Executive Search and University personnel.

Mr. Klassy will be eligible to receive supplemental compensation up to fifty percent of base salary annually for achieving specific academic, athletic, and fundraising performance goals as determined in advance by the Chancellor. He will be eligible for full standard benefits on the same terms as provided by the University to all academic professional employees, with contributions and benefit amounts based upon the base salary where relevant. Additional compensation will be paid from revenue generated from external sources. Mr. Klassy's base salary will be funded by the Institutional Funds Operating Budget of the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics.

Mr. Klassy will succeed James W. Schmidt, who retired on July 31, 2017, after 36 years of dedicated service to the University.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and Federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes, the General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and the Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The President of the University concurs with this recommendation.

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<sup>1</sup> Jason Rex Tolliver, *Chair*, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs; Lynn Marie Curylo, Head Coach for Softball, UIC Department of Athletics; Casey Harris, student athlete (volleyball); Tonya Mae McGowan, Senior Associate Athletics Director, UIC Department of Athletics; William Merchantz, Alumnus and Life Director, University of Illinois Foundation; Sean Russell Phillips, Head Varsity Coach for Men's Soccer, UIC Department of Athletics; Dennis J. Wills, Alumni Relations Director, UIC Department of Athletics; and Johner Wilson, alumnus and former member of Men's Basketball Team.

GARRET J. KLASSY

Education

University of Wisconsin-Madison, B.A., 1998

Professional and Other Experience

University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1995-99, Athletic Intern/Ticket Service  
Representative

Louisiana Superdome and New Orleans Arena, 1999-2000

Tulane University, New Orleans, Louisiana, 2000-01, Director of Ticket Operations

University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, 2001-05, Assistant Director of Ticket Operations

University of Oregon, Eugene, 2005-07, Assistant Athletic Director, Tickets/Regional  
Director of Development; 2007-13, Assistant Athletic Director for Development

George Washington University, Washington, DC, 2013-date, Senior Associate Athletic  
Director