



UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

**UPDATE**  
**to the University of Illinois Board of Trustees**  
September 2016

**URO REVIEW**

In January 2016, President Killeen charged a committee with improving the alignment of university related organizations (UROs), specifically the University of Illinois Alumni Association (UIAA) and University of Illinois Foundation. The task force, which was composed of current and former Alumni Association and Foundation Board leaders, including current UIAA Board Chair Bill Stratton and Vice Chair Steve Van Arsdell, assessed and provided insights and recommendations on how the two organizations can work more collaboratively and cohesively with each other, the University System and the three Universities.

An Implementation Committee chaired by UIS Chancellor Susan Koch and UIC College of Nursing Dean Terri Weaver was charged with implementing the recommendations. The Implementation Committee presented a final report to President Killeen which recommends the transfer of the following UIAA functions to the three Universities: Awards, Clubs, Communication, Life Long Learning and Student Engagement.

There are still many details to be determined, including the timeline by which all changes will be executed, which resources will transfer with those functions and resource issues to support remaining UIAA programs. Additionally, the UIAA Board of Directors will need to vote on the proposed changes given that they impact the organization's bylaws.

The functions that are recommended to remain under the management of the UIAA include Board of Trustees recommendations, advocacy, affinity programs, alumni voice and sentiment, System level alumni communication, international alumni clubs, history and traditions, and creating and maintaining alumni relations best practices.

The URO review will be the main topic of the UIAA Board of Directors meeting on September 9.

**UI ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD LEADERSHIP**

Current UI Alumni Association Board Chair Bill Stratton and former Board member Dr. Bo Zhang have been connecting with alumni around the world. Chairman Stratton recently connected with the Illinois Alumni Club of Hong Kong. Dr. Zhang is performing China's first flight around the world in a propeller-driven aircraft and has been connecting with alumni at various stops throughout his journey.

## **LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY**

Illinois Connection – the UI Alumni Association’s legislative advocacy network – partnered with the Office of Governmental Relations to host a Legislative Breakfast in Peoria on August 30. Alumni and University stakeholders had the opportunity speak with federal, state and local elected officials, University administrators and fellow alumni. Participants included Board of Trustees Chairman Ed McMillan, President Tim Killeen, Urbana Chancellor Barb Wilson, Springfield Chancellor Susan Koch and several elected officials.

On September 17, Illinois Connection will host its Annual Meeting at the President’s House. Attendees will learn more about what is happening in Illinois’ General Assembly and why the University of Illinois needs their support more than ever, meet others who are interested in building support for higher education and hear from President Killeen. Visit <https://illinoisconnection.org> for more information or to register.