This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee was held in Rooms B and C, Student Center West, University of Illinois at Chicago, 828 South Wolcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois on Wednesday, January 18, 2012, beginning at 9:42 a.m. Trustee Karen Hasara, chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the clerk to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Mr. Ricardo Estrada, Ms. Karen Hasara, Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes\(^1\), Dr. Timothy N. Koritz, and Mr. Lawrence Oliver. The following student trustees were present: Ms. Hannah Ehrenberg, Urbana campus; Mr. Kenneth Thomas, voting student trustee, Chicago campus; and Mr. John W. Tienken, Springfield campus. President Michael J. Hogan was present.

The following University officers were also in attendance: Dr. Phyllis M. Wise, vice president, University of Illinois and chancellor, Urbana; Dr. Christophe Pierre, vice president for academic affairs; Mr. Walter K. Knorr, vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Mr. Thomas P. Hardy, executive director for University relations; Dr. Michele M. Thompson, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University; and Dr. Susan M. Kies, secretary-designate of the Board of Trustees and of the University. Attached is a listing of other staff members in attendance at this meeting.

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\(^1\) Ms. Holmes arrived at 9:55 a.m.
Ms. Hasara asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the committee meeting that was held on December 1, 2011. On motion of Dr. Koritz, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the minutes were approved. There were no nay votes.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS

Ms. Hasara read a list of the items within the purview of the committee that were on the agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting the following day, and indicated that information regarding these items had been sent to committee members in advance of this meeting. She asked representatives from each campus to comment on these items. Dr. Richard Wheeler, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Urbana, provided information regarding the items recommending associates and fellows to the Center for Advanced Study at Urbana. Dr. Lon Kaufman, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Chicago, commented on the recommended appointment for the interim vice chancellor for research at Chicago, and he provided information about the search process and recommended appointment for the dean of the graduate college at Chicago. In addition, he briefly discussed the recommendation to rename the Doctor of Philosophy in Slavic languages degree. Dr. Lynn Pardie, interim vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Springfield, commented on the recommended appointment for the interim dean of the College of Education and Human Services at Springfield. Lastly, Dr. Thompson commented on the item recommending appointments to the Faculty, Administrative/Professional Staff, and Intercollegiate Athletic Staff, and stated that these recommended appointments have been thoroughly reviewed at the appropriate levels within the college, department, or unit. She also stated that this item appears regularly on the Board’s agenda.
There were no objections to moving these items forward to the full Board.

PRESENTATIONS

Enhanced President’s Award Program

Next, Ms. Basara asked Dr. Pierre to provide a presentation on the enhanced President’s Award Program (materials on file with the clerk). Dr. Pierre described the purpose and history of the program, and he provided an overview of its eligibility requirements. He discussed these requirements with committee members, and he responded to questions regarding counties in southern Illinois that are classified as “low-sending.” He provided a chart depicting the growth of the program at each campus, and he presented the profile of President’s Award Program (PAP) recipients. He then discussed enrollment of underrepresented minority students and the percentage of each that are participating in the PAP program, which was followed by a discussion regarding graduation rates for these students.

Dr. Pierre then presented the goals of the enhanced PAP program for fall 2012, which he said include increases in student quality, yield of offers, and graduation and retention rates. He stated that the enhanced program will increase the requirements for incoming students and will add a minimum grade point average that must be maintained to retain the award. He reported that the enhanced program will also include an increased monetary award. He said that in addition, a pilot PAP Honors Program will be introduced, and that the award will also be available to a limited number of transfer students. He briefly discussed these changes, and he described the funding model for the program, which he said is funded by both University administration and the campuses. He concluded his presentation by listing the outcomes for the
program, which he said includes the goal of increasing diversity at Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield.

Committee members discussed the presentation, and some expressed concern regarding graduation rates, particularly at Chicago. Dr. Pierre and Dr. Kaufman provided some explanations for this, and also referred to recent improvements in the graduation rate. Dr. Kaufman also discussed the need to increase the rate of success for high-risk students, and Mr. Estrada agreed, stating that it is necessary to work with these students while also attracting low risk, high achieving students from underrepresented groups. President Hogan referred to the importance of a competitive financial aid package and the need to increase financial aid, noting that this would help the University fulfill its mission of providing access to education.

Committee members then discussed other aspects of the PAP program, including the selection process and availability of mentoring and peer groups. Dr. Wheeler stated that students are concerned about the cost of education, and that increased PAP funding may attract students to the University.

People, Diversity, and Social Justice at UIC, an Agenda for Leadership Among the Urban Serving Research Universities

Ms. Hasara then asked Dr. Kaufman to provide a presentation titled “People, Diversity, and Social Justice at UIC, an Agenda for Leadership Among the Urban Serving Research Universities” (materials on file with the clerk). Dr. Kaufman began his presentation by discussing the demographics of the Chicago area, and said that diversity is part of the fabric of the campus. He provided examples of ways in which diversity is incorporated into all aspects of the campus, and said that while it is one of the nation’s most diverse campuses, there are efforts
to improve. He presented a chart comparing the number of minority and underrepresented minority students, faculty, and staff at Chicago to the Committee on Institutional Cooperation (CIC) universities indicating Chicago’s clear strength in this area, and he provided a graph that showed the ACT score profile at Chicago. He discussed university ranking paradigms in the United States, stated that faculty and academic programs should not be evaluated based on the ACT scores of the students they choose to accept any more than health care programs would be judged by the quality of the health of the patients they admit, and posed the question of other parameters that could be used to evaluate and rank the quality of academic programs and health care. He then discussed the role of diversity in the curriculum at Chicago, as well as its emphasis on social justice. He provided examples of research, and he emphasized the need to disseminate what many have learned through working with students, patients, and in the area of social justice.

Next, Dr. Kaufman discussed solutions to complex problems that have been implemented at the campus, and he described the process for assessing these initiatives, noting that failed programs have been terminated. He discussed conceptual frameworks and pipelines related to minority health and health disparities, the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) disciplines, and social justice, and he described diversity at the Chicago campus as robust.

Brief discussion regarding graduation rates and retention rates followed, and Dr. Kaufman described variations within social communities that impact the success of certain initiatives, stating that certain pressures and obstacles are unique to some populations.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS
Ms. Hasara announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for March 14, 2012, at Urbana.

COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, and on motion of Mr. Estrada, seconded by Ms. Holmes with no nay votes, the meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan M. Kies
Clerk

Karen Hasara
Chair

Eileen B. Cable
Assistant Clerk