MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
MARCH 14, 2018

This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee was held in Illini Rooms B and C, Illini Union, 1401 West Green Street, Urbana, Illinois, on Wednesday, March 14, 2018, beginning at 3:00 p.m.

Ms. Jill B. Smart, chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the clerk to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Mr. Ramón Cepeda; Mr. Donald J. Edwards; Mr. Edward L. McMillan; Ms. Jill B. Smart; Mr. Trayshawn M. W. Mitchell, student trustee, Urbana; Ms. Karina Reyes, voting student trustee, Chicago; Mr. Edwin Robles, student trustee, Springfield. Dr. Timothy N. Koritz and Dr. Stuart C. King, trustees, attended the meeting as guests. President Timothy L. Killeen was in attendance.

The following University officers were also present: Dr. Barbara J. Wilson, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Robert J. Jones, chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois; Dr. Michael D. Amiridis, chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois; Dr. Susan J. Koch, chancellor, University of Illinois at Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois; Dr. Avijit Ghosh, interim...
comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); Dr. Edward Seidel, vice president for economic development and innovation; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Mr. Thomas P. Hardy, executive director for University relations; and Ms. Dedra M. Williams, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University. Attached is a listing of other staff members and some members of the media in attendance at this meeting.

Ms. Smart welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if there were questions or corrections regarding the minutes from the committee meeting held January 17, 2018, and there were none. On motion of Ms. Reyes, seconded by Mr. Mitchell, the minutes were approved with no “nay” votes.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS
FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ON MARCH 15, 2018

Ms. Smart introduced the Board items within the purview of the committee on the agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting the following day and asked certain individuals to comment on them. The recommended Board items discussed at the meeting are on file with the clerk.

Appointments to the Faculty, Administrative/Professional Staff, and Intercollegiate Athletic Staff

Ms. Smart asked Ms. Williams to comment on the item recommending appointments to the faculty, administrative/professional staff, and intercollegiate athletic staff. Ms. Williams explained that the appointments of faculty, administrative and professional staff, and intercollegiate athletic staff recommended in this item have been thoroughly
vetted and reviewed at the appropriate levels within the college, department, or unit, and she encouraged committee members to contact her with any questions.

Sabbatical Leaves of Absence, 2018-2019

Ms. Smart then asked Dr. Wilson to discuss the recommendation to grant sabbatical leaves of absence for Academic Year 2018-2019. Dr. Wilson gave an overview of sabbatical requests and reported that 167 sabbatical leaves of absence have been requested for Academic Year 2018-2019. She told the committee that this is a typical number of sabbatical leaves, and she briefly described the application and approval process. Dr. Wilson said most sabbatical leaves of absence are for one semester and that a faculty member must be employed at the University for at least six years before making a sabbatical request. Brief discussion followed, and Dr. Wilson told the committee that sabbatical leaves of absence ultimately benefit both the faculty member and University.

Approve Student Health Insurance Rates for Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield Universities, Academic Year 2018-2019

Dr. Wilson then gave a presentation on the recommendation to approve health insurance rates for Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield for Academic Year 2018-2019 (materials on file with the clerk). She showed that the proposed rates reflect a 15 percent increase at Urbana, no increase at Chicago, and a 3 percent increase at Springfield. She said that various factors impact the cost of student health insurance, and she said that the cost of claims at Urbana increased in the previous year. Dr. Wilson also noted that the Graduate Employees’ Organization negotiated for a top-tier plan in their contract. She said that
claims at Springfield also increased slightly, along with a decrease in the number of
students enrolled in the plan. Dr. Wilson provided additional details regarding the
proposed increase at Urbana and showed that continued high utilization of the health
insurance resulted in an overall two-year loss ratio of 106 percent for United Healthcare,
which is the provider of student health insurance at Urbana. She compared the proposed
rates to those at peer institutions, revealing that Urbana’s rates are among the lowest in
the Big Ten. Lastly, Dr. Wilson showed the total cost of medical coverage at each
university, which includes the health service fee and the health insurance fee, and said
that students may opt out of the health insurance fee if they are able to obtain coverage
elsewhere. She concluded by emphasizing to the committee that the proposed health
insurance fees were established in consultation with student groups that agreed with the
cost.

Discussion followed regarding the impact of increased drug costs and
insurance coverage for students over the summer break. Committee members also
discussed the percentage of students who enroll in the student health insurance plan, and
Dr. Wilson indicated that 32 percent opt out at Urbana. Mr. Edwards asked how parents
are notified if a child enrolls in the student health insurance plan. Discussion ensued
about whether students and parents are well informed about opt-out processes; Dr.
Wilson indicated that she will convey such concerns to the universities and report back
on this topic. Ms. Smart inquired about the use of different insurance carriers at each
university and whether using the same carrier at Urbana and Springfield could result in
potential savings. Discussion followed regarding student privacy, as well as the order in
which health insurance plans are billed when students have more than one health insurance policy.

Appoint Interim Dean, College of Medicine, Chicago

Ms. Smart then asked Dr. Robert A. Barish, vice chancellor for health affairs, Chicago, to report on the recommendation to appoint Dr. Charles E. Ray Jr., presently acting dean, professor and head, physician surgeon, and chief of service, Department of Radiology, College of Medicine at Chicago, as interim dean of the College of Medicine at Chicago. Dr. Barish said that Dr. Ray has been serving as acting dean since July 15, 2017, and that he succeeded Dr. Dimitri T. Azar, who is stepping down as dean. Dr. Barish reported that this recommendation is being made in consultation with the chancellor and those in the dean’s office.

Appoint Faculty Fellows to the Institute for the Humanities, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

Next, Ms. Smart asked Dr. Susan Poser, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Chicago, to report on the recommendation to appoint faculty fellows to the Institute for the Humanities, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago. Dr. Poser listed the six faculty members recommended for appointments as fellows to the Institute for the Humanities for Academic Year 2018-2019, and explained that these individuals will be released from teaching duties for one year.
Establish the Master of Science in Supply Chain and Operations Management, College of Business Administration and the Graduate College, Chicago

Dr. Poser then commented on the recommendation to establish the Master of Science in Supply Chain and Operations Management, College of Business Administration and the Graduate College, Chicago. She said the proposed degree targets students with undergraduate degrees in engineering, business, and other disciplines who seek specialized knowledge and training to work in the field, as well as working professionals looking to enhance their skills and capabilities. Dr. Poser discussed additional aspects of the degree and said it builds upon existing expertise and resources in the Department of Information and Decision Sciences. She added that two related programs already exist and include a campus certificate and a concentration within the Master of Business Administration in Operations and Supply Chain Management.

Establish the Center for Urban Education Leadership, College of Education, Chicago

Next, Dr. Poser discussed the recommendation to establish the Center for Urban Education Leadership in the College of Education at Chicago. She provided some background on the Center for Urban Education Leadership, which was founded in 2011, and described the many awards and grant funding received since that time. Dr. Poser reported that the Center for Urban Education Leadership conducts research on the best ways to prepare visionary leaders for high-need urban schools; advocates for improved models of principal preparation at local, state, and national policy levels; and serves as a hub for information dissemination to other researchers and to the public on the latest
trends and advancements in school leader training. She referred to the positive impact the center has had on the leadership of the Chicago Public Schools and provided additional information about the functions of the center.

Mr. McMillan questioned the focus on urban education leadership and asked why the center did not focus more generally on education leadership for all types of locales, noting that one would assume the principles are the same regardless of the geographic area. Dr. Amiridis reminded the committee that the center focuses on research and is not a degree program, and he described some of the unique issues faced by urban schools. Additional discussion was devoted to the timeline of interim designation and the need expressed by leadership in education for urban school focused programming. President Killeen mentioned other programs at the University that address unmet needs in rural communities, and Dr. Amiridis commented on other research areas of the center.

Rename and Revise the Master of Science in Mathematics, Concentration in Probability and Statistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Chicago

Dr. Poser then reported on the recommendation to rename and revise the Master of Science in Mathematics, concentration in Probability and Statistics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Chicago, as the Master of Science in Statistics. She said that this change more accurately reflects the content of the program and is beneficial for the career advancement of graduates.
Appoint Interim Dean, College of Business and Management, Springfield

Next, Ms. Smart asked Dr. Koch to discuss the recommendation to appoint Dr. James Ermatinger, currently professor of history and dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Springfield, as interim dean, College of Business and Management, Springfield. Dr. Koch stated that Dr. Ermatinger will succeed Dr. Ronald McNeil, who served as dean from May 17, 2002, until December 31, 2017, when he retired. Dr. Koch said a search for a permanent dean will begin in the fall.

Eliminate the Master of Arts in Environmental Studies, College of Public Affairs and Administration, Springfield

Dr. Koch then reported on the recommendation to eliminate the Master of Arts in Environmental Studies, College of Public Affairs and Administration, Springfield. Dr. Koch explained that the department currently offers both a Master of Arts in Environmental Studies and a Master of Science in Environmental Sciences, and she told the committee that both degree programs have the same prerequisite and core courses with similar elective options. She stated that students have indicated a strong preference for the Master of Science over the Master of Arts and because of this, the department faculty voted to eliminate the Master of Arts and consolidate it with the Master of Science. Brief discussion followed regarding the academic program review process at the universities, including the review of programs with low enrollment.
Ms. Smart then asked Dr. Andreas Cangellaris, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Urbana, to discuss the recommendation to establish the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Computer Science and Geography and Geographic Information Science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana. Dr. Cangellaris said this is an example of the “CS + X” model, and he discussed demand for the program and potential careers for graduates.

Dr. Cangellaris then reported on recommendations from the Carle Illinois College of Medicine to establish the Clinical Sciences Department and the Biomedical and Translational Sciences Department. He briefly described the history of the establishment of the Carle Illinois College of Medicine and provided information on the structure of the proposed departments and composition of its faculty. Dr. Cangellaris said the future of medicine and health-care delivery is dependent on teams of health-care providers working together to deliver the highest quality care and provide the best course of treatment from an integrated point of view, and that the structure of these proposed departments will serve to integrate faculty from different colleges into one cohesive unit.

Name the Axis Risk Management Academy, Gies College of Business, Urbana.
Next, Dr. Cangellaris discussed the recommendation to name the Axis Risk Management Academy in recognition of a substantial donation by the AXIS Reinsurance Company. He provided additional information about the company’s relationship with the University and said the Axis Risk Management Academy is a student program that will equip students with new and exceptional sets of skills, fostered by a culture of multidisciplinary education and student-led problem discovery and problem-solving.

Name the Origin Ventures Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership, Gies College of Business, Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris then provided information on the recommendation to name the Origin Ventures Academy for Entrepreneurial Leadership, Gies College of Business, Urbana, and said that the proposed naming is in recognition of a commitment to invest $5.0 million in the academy by the REAM Foundation and alumnus Mr. Bruce Barron. Dr. Cangellaris said the academy is a college program that works with partners across campus to support teaching and learning through entrepreneurship and is a key participant in the vibrant entrepreneurial ecosystem at Urbana. He also provided information about Origin Ventures.

There was no objection to the items listed above going forward to the full Board.
PRESENTATION

University Press Centennial Celebration

Ms. Smart then asked Ms. Laurie C. Matheson, director of the University of Illinois Press, to give a presentation on the University of Illinois Press Centennial Celebration (materials on file with the clerk). Ms. Matheson gave a brief overview of the history of the University of Illinois Press, described its mission, and reported on its publications. She showed some recent University of Illinois Press publications, described the robust journals program, and listed the defining features of the press. Ms. Matheson discussed the influence of the University of Illinois Press at the national level and reported on attendance and presentations at scholarly conferences. She also described a variety of workshops and internships hosted by the University of Illinois Press, and she listed events associated with the University of Illinois Press Centennial Celebration. Ms. Matheson told the committee that the University of Illinois Press recently installed the Little Free Library in the Illini Union. Mr. Edwards inquired about funding for the University of Illinois Press, and Ms. Matheson said it has a budget of approximately $3.2 million, with $900,000 derived from system-level funds. Ms. Smart thanked Ms. Matheson for the informative presentation.
ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

Computational Genomics for a New Era

Next, Ms. Smart asked Dr. Saurabh Sinha, professor of computer science and a 2017 University Scholar, Urbana, to give a presentation on computational genomics for a new era (materials on file with the clerk). Dr. Sinha discussed building computational tools for genomic data sets and said his team of 50 people is working toward a vision of genomic data analysis that can be uploaded to the cloud. He referred to a partnership with the Mayo Clinic and described tools and resources. Dr. Sinha then discussed efforts to decipher the cis-regulatory code and explained that because most of the human genome is not made up of genes, it may be possible to understand the language by treating it as a data science. He commented on the impact and possibilities of accurately reading the genome, and he thanked his colleagues and the funding agencies for making this work possible. Dr. Sinha commended the University for rewarding interdisciplinary work and creating an atmosphere in which this type of research can thrive. President Killeen and Dr. Sinha briefly discussed large-scale computing needs and big data, and Dr. Sinha indicated that some problems require the use of a super computer, while others can rely on the cloud.

Our Journey to Molecular Prosthetics

Next, Ms. Smart asked Dr. Martin Burke, professor of chemistry, Urbana and also a 2017 University Scholar, to give a presentation on his journey to developing molecular
prosthetics (materials on file with the clerk). Dr. Burke described his experience with a cystic fibrosis patient and his interest in diseases that have a lack of protein function. He told the committee that he had an idea to replace the missing protein at the molecular level with molecular prosthetics, and he said that he came to the University of Illinois to continue his research because his ideas and dreams were encouraged and supported by a strong Department of Chemistry that prioritizes innovation. Dr. Burke commented that the greatest asset at the University is its students, who come to the University because it is an exceptional place that provides an opportunity to make an impact. He reported on progress that is being made in his research and in clinical trials involving his discoveries. Dr. Burke noted that the University provides entrepreneurial opportunities and said that several start-up companies have been formed as a result. He concluded his presentation by highlighting the Medical Maker Lab and the Carle Illinois College of Medicine, that latter of which had over 1,000 applications for its first class of 32 students.

Dr. King commended Dr. Burke for his work and said it is the type of excellence that motivates members of the Board to serve as trustees. Dr. Jones told the committee that these multi- and trans-disciplinary activities at the University are at the forefront of innovation and are examples of the type of work that will take place at the Carle Illinois College of Medicine. Dr. Wilson told committee members that these academic highlights provide an opportunity for trustees to see the exceptional work occurring throughout the University.
OLD BUSINESS

There was no business conducted under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Smart announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for May 16, 2018, at 2:45 p.m., at Springfield.

COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, and on motion of Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Robles with no "nay" votes, the meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DEDRA M. WILLIAMS
Clerk

JILL B. SMART
Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Assistant Clerk