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, September 26, 2018, beginning at 3:02 p.m.

Trustee Jill B. Smart, chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the secretary 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; Mr. Darius M. Newsome, student trustee, Chicago; Ms. Shaina Humphrey, voting student trustee, Springfield. Dr. Stuart C. King, Dr. Timothy N. Koritz, and Mr. Sanford E. Perl, 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, 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. President Killeen introduced
Dr. Gay Miller, professor, Department of Pathobiology, Urbana, and chair of the
University Senates Conference Academic Affairs and Research Committee. 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 July 19,
2018, and there were none. On motion of Mr. Cepeda, seconded by Ms. Humphrey, 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 SEPTEMBER 27, 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 secretary.
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.

Appoint Dean, College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana

Ms. Smart asked Dr. Andreas C. Cangellaris, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Urbana, to discuss the recommendation to appoint Professor Kevin Hamilton as dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana. Dr. Cangellaris said Professor Hamilton currently serves as professor, School of Art and Design; senior associate dean, College of Fine and Applied Arts; professor, Unit for Criticism, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; professor, Program for Research in the Humanities; and professor, National Center for Supercomputing Applications, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, Urbana. Dr. Cangellaris described Professor Hamilton’s background and experience and said this will be a term appointment ending in 2021, which was recommended by the executive committee.
Appoint Dean, College of Media, Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris then discussed the recommendation to appoint Dr. Tracy E. Sulkin, presently professor of political science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana, as dean, College of Media. He described Dr. Sulkin’s background and administrative experience and said she succeeds Dr. Wojciech Chodzko-Zajko, who remains dean of the Graduate College.

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

PRESENTATION

Academic Unit Reviews

Next, Ms. Smart asked Dr. Wilson to give a presentation on academic unit reviews. Dr. Wilson commented on the rigorous and continuous academic review process and explained that intensive self- and peer review takes place at all levels and is key to the University’s excellence. She gave examples of academic reviews and described their impact, and she reported on their outcomes. Dr. Wilson provided information on State-mandated reviews from the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) and listed three required annual reports. She told the committee that 112 programs at the University are currently in phase down or teach out status and said that the University system academic review process has been highlighted by the IBHE as a template to be used at other
universities. Mr. Smart and Dr. Wilson briefly discussed the IBHE’s criteria for three-year averages for low producing programs. Dr. Wilson then asked the provosts to report on academic reviews at each university.

Dr. Susan Poser, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Chicago, introduced the academic review process at Chicago and discussed the purpose and criteria of academic reviews. She outlined the program review steps and told the committee that all existing degree programs and IBHE-approved centers are scheduled for review every eight years. She showed the unit reviews that were completed or in progress for 2017-2018 and reported that the outcomes of these reviews resulted in the consideration of the elimination of some programs and centers. Dr. Poser showed consolidations that are in progress as a result of unit reviews, and she listed other positive outcomes of the review process. Next, Dr. Poser showed the programs and centers under review for 2018-2019, reported on administrative efficiencies, and described the shared services created through efforts to save costs. She concluded her presentation by highlighting the rankings of the University of Illinois at Chicago and some of its highly rated programs, demonstrating its excellence and impact.

Next, Dr. Dennis Papini, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Springfield, reported on the academic program review process at Springfield. He discussed the purposes of program review and gave examples of the positive impacts resulting from this process. He emphasized the university’s commitment to data informed decision-making and gave examples where outcomes from program reviews have resulted in the reallocation of resources to strengthen high-enrollment programs. Dr. Papini also
gave examples of outcomes from program reviews that have been used as one source of information to support the elimination of degree programs and to redirect and reinvest in programs that are responsive to the needs of Illinois. He reported that these outcomes are also used to stimulate conversations aimed at consolidating smaller programs and to evaluate academic leadership. Dr. Papini presented programs and units scheduled for review and discussed the rationale for evaluating minors at Springfield.

Dr. Cangellaris then discussed academic planning at Urbana and referred to the excellence and impact of the university. He gave an overview of the department and program review processes and timeline, and he gave examples of external review recommendations and the actions taken as a result. Dr. Cangellaris showed data tools for evidence-based decision making and presented program changes made for Academic Year 2017-2018. He then reported on the Center for Innovation in Teaching and Learning as an example of a campus “shared service center” that supports teacher training as well as departmental interest in moving courses and programs online, through Illinois Online. He discussed the university’s commitment to improving processes, reducing costs, enhancing productivity, and developing an operational mindset across units, and he provided information about the Investments for Growth Program, which provides central funding for emerging high-demand programs and entrepreneurial ideas. Lastly, Dr. Cangellaris referred to the university’s innovative students and the ability to create majors to meet the needs of jobs of the future.

Mr. McMillan inquired about the method by which the appropriate level of academic staffing and administrative support is determined. Dr. Cangellaris referred to
the use of specific metrics and listed some of the factors used in making this determination. Dr. Wilson described the important role of administrative leadership from the provosts' offices to the deans, and Dr. Poser noted the importance of keeping general education courses well-staffed. Mr. Edwards asked how the IBHE process coexists with the processes at each university, and discussion followed regarding these connections. Dr. Poser added that these processes are complimentary and that the University goes beyond IBHE requirements. Mr. Perl then asked how demand in the job market factors into these analyses, and Dr. Cangellaris referred to an area on the university’s website that provides information to students related to job prospects in various degree areas. Dr. Poser added that it is important to offer a broad range of areas of study that support the development of critical thinking and cultural understanding.

ACADEMIC HIGHLIGHTS

What Pictures of Presidents Tell Us about the History of Photography

Ms. Smart then asked Dr. Cara A. Finnegan, Department of Communication, Urbana, and 2017 University Scholar, to give an overview of her research in a presentation titled, “What Pictures Tell Us about the History of Photography” (materials on file with the secretary). Dr. Finnegan told the committee that next year she will celebrate her 20th year with the Department of Communication at Urbana, and she described her background and the many benefits of being at the university. She said she is currently writing a book titled “From Daguerreotype to Digital Revolution: A History of Photography as Told through Five Presidents,” and she referred to a course she teaches called “Visual
Politics.” Dr. Finnegan reported that presidents have used photography as a form of communication throughout history, and she gave a brief history of the daguerreotype of former President John Quincy Adams. She explained the lengthy process of creating a daguerreotype and as evidence, noted that the former president’s journal entry revealed that he fell asleep during the process. Dr. Finnegan described President Adams’ view of photography and said he understood the importance of the image.

The Illinois Campus as an Inventor’s Workshop for the Crops of the Future

Next, Ms. Smart asked Dr. Andrew Leakey, Department of Plant Biology, Urbana, and 2017 University Scholar, to give an overview of his research in a presentation entitled, “The Illinois Campus as an Inventor’s Workshop for Crops of the Future” (materials on file with the secretary). Dr. Leakey commented on the role and importance of agriculture and described new potential methods for improving the ability to grow plants in the future. He referred to research pertaining to the use of rainout shelters and described the use of a laser microscope to collect genetic data that could one day lead to the ability to change the pores on plants and make crops more efficient and resistant to drought. Dr. Leakey described opportunities for collaboration and referred to the many benefits of working at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, stating that interdisciplinary research is part of the university’s ethos.

Mr. Mitchell left the meeting at 4:12 p.m.
OLD BUSINESS

There was no business conducted under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Smart asked Dr. King Li, dean of the Carle Illinois College of Medicine, Urbana, to give an update on the Carle Illinois College of Medicine. Dr. Li thanked the committee for inviting him and gave a presentation (materials on file with the secretary) on the college, noting that it is the first engineering-focused college of medicine ever established. He described the mission and vision of the college and said that the goal is to change health care and the world. Dr. Li provided examples of potential uses of engineering and technology in health care and emphasized the enhancement of the humanistic aspect of health care. He discussed the unique students admitted to the program and said the requirements go beyond those of a traditional medical program. Dr. Li said Carle Illinois College of Medicine is focused on compassion, competence, curiosity, and creativity, with an emphasis on innovation. He then showed the curriculum framework, discussed the medical maker lab, and reported on the importance of simulation. Dr. Li told the committee that most of the faculty are drawn from other colleges, and he commented on their breadth and depth. He then discussed recruitment activities and explained that such efforts were delayed in the first year, until October 16, 2017, because the college had to wait until accreditation was obtained. Nevertheless, he stated that over 1,000 applications were received, and the inaugural class of 32 students is
exceptionally talented. Dr. Li then presented recruitment activities for 2018-2019, which he said began in June. He told the committee there were already 1,809 applications for the second class, as of September 2018. He said progress has exceeded expectations so far, and Ms. Smart commented on the speed at which the college came together. Dr. Li’s presentation was followed by a round of applause.

Ms. Smart announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for November 14, 2018, at 2:45 p.m., at Chicago.

COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, and on motion of Mr. Cepeda, seconded by Ms. Humphrey with no “nay” votes, the meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DEDRA M. WILLIAMS
Secretary

JILL B. SMART
Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Special Assistant to the Secretary