

MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
MARCH 13, 2019

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 13, 2019, beginning at 3:09 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. Kareem Dale; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; 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. Mr. Edward L. McMillan was absent. The following trustees attended the meeting as guests: Mr. Donald J. Edwards, Mr. Ricardo Estrada, Dr. Stuart C. King.

Also present were President Timothy L. Killeen; 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; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Ms. Dedra M. Williams, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the

University; and Mr. Thomas P. Hardy, executive director for University relations.

President Killeen introduced Dr. Gay Miller, chair of the University Senates Conference's 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 January 31, 2019, and there were none. On motion of Mr. Dale, 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 14, 2019

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

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, 2019-2020

Ms. Smart then asked Dr. Wilson to report on the recommendation for sabbatical leaves of absence for the 2019-2020 academic year. Dr. Wilson told the committee sabbatical leaves of absence are granted to tenure system faculty, and she reported that 183 sabbatical leaves of absence have been requested for Academic Year 2019-2020. She briefly described the application and approval process and said that proposals are reviewed extensively at each level of the University prior to approval. Dr. Wilson said a sabbatical leave of absence provides a tenured faculty member with a concentrated period of time to pursue highly focused research, creative activity, and/or development of instructional material that will benefit the university and the state of Illinois or the nation.

Ms. Smart and Dr. Wilson briefly discussed the process for applying for a sabbatical leave of absence and how a faculty member may need to defer an approved sabbatical in rare situations.

#### Approve Student Health Insurance Rates for Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield Universities, Academic Year 2019-2020

Dr. Wilson then provided information on the recommendation to approve health insurance rates for Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield for Academic Year 2019-2020. She showed the proposed rates at each university, beginning with Urbana. Dr. Wilson noted that the graduate student health insurance rate is different than the undergraduate student

rate at Urbana because the Graduate Employees' Organization requested a top-tier plan in their negotiations with the University. She told the committee that 54 percent of undergraduate students at Urbana opt out of enrolling in student health insurance. Dr. Wilson discussed cost drivers and said the 20 percent rate increase is due to high utilization and an escalation in the cost of claims. She compared the cost of student health insurance at Urbana to other Big Ten institutions and showed that the cost at Urbana for undergraduates is comparatively low.

Dr. Wilson then discussed student health insurance rates at Chicago and told the committee that there had not been a rate increase there in the last four years. She discussed cost drivers, including an increase in medical expenses as well as the high costs associated with catastrophic cases in the last two years. Dr. Wilson said the proposed rate increase is 18 percent for both undergraduate and graduate students. She said that 62 percent of students opt out of student health insurance, and she showed that the cost of student health insurance at Chicago is one of the lowest among its peer group.

Lastly, Dr. Wilson reported on the 63 percent increase in the cost of student health insurance at Springfield, and cited the low enrollment in the plan as well as escalation in the cost of claims as causes of the cost increase. She said that 59 percent of students opt out of the plan and showed that in spite of the proposed increase, the rate at Springfield is comparable to that at peer institutions. Dr. Wilson concluded her presentation by sharing the total cost of the health service fee and the student health insurance fee at each university.

Discussion followed regarding the cost of claims and the cost of prescription drugs. Mr. Edwards asked about the services provided at McKinley Health Center versus those that are covered by health insurance at Urbana, and discussion followed regarding the rationale for providing certain services at McKinley. It was noted that a greater shift in services to health insurance at Urbana would raise premiums by an estimated 28 percent. Additional discussion followed regarding the services covered by the health service fee at Chicago and those covered by health insurance. Committee members requested additional analysis regarding the different services covered by the health service fee at each university and the reasons for these differences. The committee then discussed the process for opting out of student health insurance, and committee members requested additional analysis on the reasons students opt out. They also asked to see the percent who cannot opt out, such as international students. President Killeen noted that despite the robust discussion, the Board needed to make a decision about approving the cost for the 2019-2020 academic year. He asked Dr. Wilson to follow-up with additional information that would address questions raised by members of the committee.

#### Appoint Dean, College of Medicine, Chicago

Next, Ms. Smart asked Dr. Robert A. Barish, vice chancellor for health affairs, Chicago, to report on the recommendation to appoint Dr. Mark I. Rosenblatt, presently professor and head, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences; physician surgeon, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences; Illinois Lions/Charles I. Young

Endowed Chair in Ocular Research; professor of pharmacology, College of Medicine at Chicago; chief of service, College of Medicine at Chicago; and departmental affiliate, Richard and Loan Hill Department of Bioengineering, College of Engineering, as dean of the College of Medicine at Chicago. Dr. Barish described Dr. Rosenblatt's extensive background and experience. There were no questions regarding the recommendation.

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

Ms. Smart then asked Dr. Susan Poser, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Chicago, to provide information on the recommendation to appoint faculty fellows to the Institute for the Humanities, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago. Dr. Poser said that fellows are released from teaching and administrative duties, normally for one year, so that they can devote full effort to their research.

Establish the Master of Education in Urban Higher Education,  
College of Education and the Graduate College, Chicago

Dr. Poser then reported on the recommendation to establish the Master of Education in Urban Higher Education in the College of Education and the Graduate College, Chicago. She said this is a new program that focuses on training and development of leadership for urban higher education institutions.

Establish the Master of Jurisprudence, UIC John Marshall Law School, Chicago

Dr. Poser discussed the recommendation to establish the Master of Jurisprudence at the UIC John Marshall Law School at Chicago. She described the purpose of this degree and said students must select a concentration in one of seven areas: a) employee benefits, b) estate planning, c) intellectual property law, d) international business and trade law, e) privacy and technology law, f) real estate law, and g) tax law. She said this degree provides areas of study not available elsewhere. Ms. Smart asked if this degree was previously available at The John Marshall Law School, and Dr. Poser confirmed it was.

#### Establish Masters Degrees at the UIC John Marshall Law School, Chicago

Ms. Smart asked Dr. Poser to discuss the next seven items recommending the establishment of Master of Laws (LLM) degrees at the UIC John Marshall Law School collectively, rather than having a separate discussion for each item. Dr. Poser reported that these include the establishment of the Master of Laws in Employee Benefits, the Master of Laws in Estate Planning, the Master of Laws in Intellectual Property Law, the Master of Laws in International Business and Trade Law, the Master of Laws in Privacy and Technology Law, the Master of Laws in Real Estate Law, and the Master of Laws in Tax Law. Brief discussion followed regarding the establishment of these degrees, and Dr. Poser told the committee that enrollment is open to domestic or international students who have a Juris Doctor (JD) degree or the international equivalent. Mr. Dale and Dr. Poser also discussed the availability of LLM degrees at Urbana and other institutions throughout the State.

Redesignate and Revise the Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Computer Science,  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

Next, Dr. Poser discussed the recommendation to redesignate and revise the Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and Computer Science as the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences, major in mathematics and computer science. She explained that the program in Mathematics and Computer Science is more accurately described as a major than a curriculum (current designation), given that the total number of hours in the field of study is consistent with other majors in the college. Dr. Poser added that once redesignated as a major, students will have the option of pursuing one of two concentrations (Algorithms and Theory or Computational Mathematics) in the new major.

Rename and Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences,  
Major in Individual Plan of Study, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

Dr. Poser then reported on the recommendation to rename and revise the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, major in individual plan of study, as the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, major in liberal studies. She told the committee that this change reflects the multidisciplinary content of the degree. Dr. Poser said that one or two students enroll in this major per year, and she listed the criteria for students to be accepted into the major. She said student proposals are evaluated by the college's associate dean and executive dean for student academic affairs, who also review and approve revisions to the plan of study.

Rename and Revise the Master of Arts in Slavic Studies and  
the Doctor of Philosophy in Slavic Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences  
and the Graduate College, Chicago

Dr. Poser discussed the recommendation to rename and revise the Master of Arts in Slavic Studies and the Doctor of Philosophy in Slavic Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Chicago, and said that both degrees will be renamed as the Master of Arts (MA) and Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Polish, Russian, and Central and Eastern European Studies. She said the name reflects a shift in the field of study and noted this recommendation is similar to the item that pertained to the Bachelor of Arts in Slavic Studies that was discussed at the last meeting of this committee.

Eliminate the Bachelor of Arts in Spanish-Economics,  
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

Next, Dr. Poser provided information on the recommendation to eliminate the Bachelor of Arts in Spanish-Economics and said that the number of students declaring and completing the degree has declined significantly over the past eight years. She said students can instead major in one discipline and minor in the other.

Appoint Dean, College of Business and Management, Springfield

Next, Dr. Dennis Papini, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Springfield, discussed the recommendation to appoint Dr. Somnath Bhattacharya, currently dean of the Gus Machado School of Business and Professor of Accounting, St. Thomas

University, Florida, as dean of the College of Business and Management. Dr. Papini described Dr. Bhattacharya's background and experience and noted that the college is excited to have him join the university.

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education,  
and Communications, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences,  
Urbana

Ms. Smart then asked Dr. Andreas C. Cangellaris, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Urbana, to discuss the recommendation to establish the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, Urbana. He explained that students pursuing this degree would choose from one of four concentrations, and he described potential career paths for each.

Reorganize and Rename the Programs in Agricultural Education and in  
Agricultural Communications; Eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural  
Communications; and Eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership and  
Science Education, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences,  
Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris also discussed the recommendation to reorganize and rename the programs in Agricultural Education and in Agricultural Communications, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana. He said the Agricultural Education Program currently offers a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership and Science Education and a Master of Science in Agricultural Education, with an approximate enrollment of 60 students in the undergraduate program and 40 in the

graduate program. Dr. Cangellaris said the Agricultural Communications Program currently houses the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Communications, which enrolls approximately 35 students. He explained this proposal combines the two programs into a single program called the Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications (ALEC) Program, which would house reconfigured versions of the existing majors as described in a companion agenda item. Dr. Cangellaris said that these recommendations include the elimination of the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Communications and the Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Leadership and Science Education, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.

There were no objections to the agenda items listed above going forward to the full Board for voting.

#### OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Smart asked Dr. Judith L. Rowen, associate dean for academic affairs, Carle Illinois College of Medicine, Urbana, to give an update on the Carle Illinois College of Medicine at Urbana. Dr. Rowen reported that the college offered admission to 41 applicants to build the second cohort of a class of 32 students for the new college. She said the applicants that were granted admission have higher GPA and MCAT scores than the national averages and are strong academically. Dr. Rowen told the committee that the current students who make up the first cohort are doing very well. Brief discussion followed regarding the application process this year, and Dr. Rowen said that there are

more applicants than there were last year. However, the late start in the admissions process last year makes a direct comparison difficult.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Smart asked if there was any new business, and there was none. She announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for May 15, 2019, at 2:45 p.m., in Springfield.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, and on motion of Mr. Mitchell, seconded by Ms. Humphrey with no “nay” votes, the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DEDRA M. WILLIAMS  
*Secretary*

JILL B. SMART  
*Chair*

EILEEN B. CABLE  
*Special Assistant to the Secretary*