

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

This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee was held in Michèle M. Thompson Rooms B and C, UIC Student Center West, 828 South Wolcott Street, Chicago, Illinois, on Wednesday, September 18, 2019, beginning at 2:50 p.m.

Trustee Edward L. McMillan, vice chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Mr. Kareem Dale; Mr. Ricardo Estrada; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; Mr. Edward L. McMillan; Ms. Susan E. Panek, student trustee, Chicago; Ms. Rosie Dawoud, student trustee, Springfield. Ms. Jill B. Smart, chair of the committee, and Mr. Trayshawn M. W. Mitchell, voting student trustee, Urbana, were absent. Mr. Donald J. Edwards, chair of the Board of Trustees, attended the meeting. Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes and Dr. Stuart C. King attended the meeting as guests.

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 Urbana-Champaign, 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; 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. Aria Razfar, professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Chicago, and chair of the Academic Affairs and Research Committee of the University Senates Conference. Attached is a listing of other staff members and some members of the media in attendance at this meeting.

Mr. McMillan welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if there were questions or corrections regarding the minutes from the committee meeting held September 18, 2019, and there were none. On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Ms. Panek, 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 NOVEMBER 14, 2019

Mr. McMillan introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board’s agenda at its meeting on November 14, 2019, 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

Mr. McMillan 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.

#### Award Honorary Degrees, Chicago

Next, Mr. McMillan asked Dr. Amiridis to discuss the recommendation to award honorary degrees at Chicago. Dr. Amiridis stated that this item recommends Ms. Deb Hamilton, activist, for the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters; and Mr. William David Unger, venture capitalist and philanthropist, for the honorary degree of Doctor of Engineering. Dr. Amiridis described the backgrounds and contributions of each. Mr. McMillan commented on the impressive nature of the honorees.

#### Establish the Bachelor of Science in Metropolitan Food and Environmental Systems, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana

Mr. McMillan then asked Dr. Andreas C. Cangellaris, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, Urbana, to report on the recommendation to establish the Bachelor of Science in Metropolitan Food and Environmental Systems, College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, Urbana. Dr. Cangellaris described the field of study of the proposed degree and said that there are currently no undergraduate programs

in this field available in the state of Illinois. He noted the opportunity and need for the proposed degree and said demand is expected to grow.

Rename the Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Science,  
School of Information Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris then provided information on the recommendation to rename the Doctor of Philosophy in Library and Information Science as the Doctor of Philosophy in Information Sciences and explained that the school's name changed from the Graduate School for Library and Information Science to the School of Information Sciences in 2016. He said the proposed degree name change reflects the name of the school and is a more accurate representation of the academic content of the degree program. Dr. Cangellaris told the committee it would also be aligned with similar programs at peer institutions.

Eliminate the Bachelor of Fine Arts in New Media;  
Eliminate the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Sculpture;  
and Eliminate the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Painting,  
College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana

Next, Dr. Cangellaris reported on the recommendation to eliminate three Bachelor of Fine Arts degrees in new media, sculpture, and painting due to declining interest. He said the students currently enrolled in these programs will be able to complete their degrees, and that prospective students interested in these areas of study can apply to the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art, which was established in 2017. Dr. Cangellaris told the committee that concentrations are offered within the more general Bachelor's degree in

Studio Art, including new media, sculpture, and painting. Mr. McMillan inquired about specialization in advanced art degrees, and Dr. Cangellaris invited Mr. Kevin Hamilton, dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts, to respond. Mr. Hamilton explained that most students would pursue a Master of Fine Arts for advanced study, and he indicated that the majority of these programs are not specialized. Mr. McMillan commented that Mr. George Lundeen, the sculptor whose work can be seen at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, holds a master's degree in fine arts from the university.

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

## PRESENTATION

### Distinguished Faculty Hiring Initiative

Next, Mr. McMillan asked President Killeen to discuss the president's distinguished faculty hiring initiative. President Killeen reminded the committee that three members of the faculty hired under the distinguished faculty hiring initiative spoke at the March Board meeting and responded to short questions pertaining to their decision to come to the University of Illinois. He said that Dr. Eben Alsberg, Richard and Loan Hill Professor of Bioengineering at Chicago and director of the Stem Cell and Engineered Novel Therapeutics Laboratory, was hired under this initiative. President Killeen explained that Dr. Alsberg was not able to attend this meeting, but that trustees would have an opportunity to meet him at a dinner later that evening. President Killeen then introduced two members of the faculty in attendance who also were hired under the

distinguished faculty hiring initiative and asked them to respond to a series of short questions about their decision to come to the University of Illinois and their goals for the future.

President Killeen introduced Dr. John Stewart, professor in the Department of Surgery, physician executive for oncology services, and associate director for clinical research for the UIC Cancer Center. President Killeen said Dr. Stewart researches tumor immunology and the delivery of immunotherapeutic agents, and previously held positions as professor of surgery at Duke University School of Medicine and chief of surgery at Durham VA Medical Center. Dr. Stewart commented on cancer disparities and the unique opportunity to provide world-class cancer care to underserved populations. He described his goal to increase patient access to clinical trials and discussed ways in which he could contribute to UIC's mission to promote health equity.

Next, President Killeen introduced Dr. Ardith Doorenbos, professor in the Department of Biobehavioral Health Science in the College of Nursing at Chicago and director of palliative care at the UIC Cancer Center and at the Palliative Care Training Center. President Killeen said Dr. Doorenbos researches palliative care, pain, and symptom management and previously held a position at the University of Washington. Dr. Doorenbos said that she came to the College of Nursing because it is one of the top colleges of nursing in the country and attracts exceptional students. She said she was also influenced by the opportunity to contribute to the work at the Cancer Center. Dr. Doorenbos expressed an interest in building interprofessional teams and discussed the benefits of doing so. She described her success in securing research funding and in

publishing research, and told the committee that she has already secured \$6.0 million in research funding since she arrived at UIC to support her work on pain management and the opioid crisis. Dr. Doorenbos commented on her goal to continue to grow her research portfolio and to mentor the next generation of nurse scientists.

President Killeen thanked Dr. Stewart and Dr. Doorenbos for their remarks and said they represent a subset of the excellent faculty at the University. Mr. McMillan thanked them both for attending this meeting and for making the decision to join UIC. He commended them both on their achievements and encouraged President Killeen to continue pursuing this initiative.

#### OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McMillan asked if there was any new business, and there was none. He announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for January 15, 2020, at 2:45 p.m., in Chicago.

MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, and on motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Ms. Dawoud with no “nay” votes, the meeting adjourned at 3:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DEDRA M. WILLIAMS  
*Secretary*

EDWARD L. MCMILLAN  
*Vice Chair*

EILEEN B. CABLE  
*Special Assistant to the Secretary*