

MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE, PERSONNEL, AND ETHICS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

NOVEMBER 13, 2019

This meeting of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held in the Michèle M. Thompson Rooms B and C, UIC Student Center West, 828 South Wolcott Street, Chicago, Illinois, on Wednesday, November 13, 2019, beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Trustee Ricardo Estrada, chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following members of the committee were present: Mr. Kareem Dale; Mr. Ricardo Estrada; Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes;<sup>1</sup> Mr. Edward L. McMillan; Ms. Susan E. Panek, student trustee, Chicago; and Ms. Rosie Dawoud, student trustee, Springfield. Ms. Jill B. Smart was absent. Mr. Donald J. Edwards, chair of the Board of Trustees, attended the meeting. Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson<sup>2</sup> 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 Chicago, and vice

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<sup>1</sup> Ms. Holmes arrived at 2:24 p.m.

<sup>2</sup> Ms. Jakobsson arrived at 2:19 p.m.

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 Ms. Sandra DeGroote, professor and scholarly communication librarian, Chicago, and chair 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. Estrada welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on September 18, 2019, and there were none. Mr. Estrada requested a motion to approve the minutes, and on motion of Mr. McMillan, seconded by Mr. Dale, the minutes were approved. There were 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. Estrada introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board’s agenda at its meeting on November 14, 2019. All recommended items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

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

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

Amend Multiyear Contract with Director, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics

Mr. Estrada then asked Dr. Jones to discuss the recommendation to amend the multiyear contract with the director of the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics at Urbana. Dr. Jones said that Mr. Joshua H. Whitman serves as director of the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics and that this item recommends an extension of the term of his employment agreement. Dr. Jones reviewed aspects of Mr. Whitman's contract and said he has served well in the position and exceeded expectations. He said Mr. Whitman has changed the narrative of university athletics and said optimism and pride have increased, as have ticket sales. He referred to the integrity of the athletic program and its first-class facilities. Dr. Jones said that Mr. Whitman's contract expires in 16 months and described details of the proposed extension.

President Killeen echoed Dr. Jones's comments regarding Mr. Whitman's performance and said that Mr. Whitman is a loyal alum who brings analytical skills and a

strong reputation to the role. Mr. McMillan expressed support for the proposed extension, and he and Dr. Jones discussed Mr. Whitman's compensation, which is currently in the bottom third of athletic director salaries in the Big Ten. Dr. Jones said the proposal is fair and indicated Mr. Whitman would agree. Mr. Estrada expressed support for the proposal and said the graduation rate of student-athletes should be highlighted. Dr. Jones agreed, stating that the university has one of the highest student-athlete graduation rates in its peer group.

#### Appoint Vice Chancellor for Research and Innovation, Urbana

Mr. Estrada asked Dr. Jones to report on the recommendation to appoint the vice chancellor for research and innovation at Urbana. Dr. Jones said it is recommended that Dr. Susan A. Martinis serve as vice chancellor for research and innovation beginning November 16, 2019. He described her accomplishments while serving in this role on an interim basis and reported on aspects of the proposed appointment. Dr. Jones referred to extensive support for this appointment throughout the university. Mr. McMillan said he is very supportive of this appointment and said Dr. Martinis is a remarkable leader who is collaborative and can overcome obstacles. President Killeen also expressed support for this appointment.

#### Appoint Director, Department of Intercollegiate Athletics, Chicago

Mr. Estrada then asked Dr. Amiridis to discuss the recommendation to appoint a director in the Department of Intercollegiate Athletics at Chicago. Dr. Amiridis commented on

the recommendation to appoint Mr. Michael Lipitz as director and told the committee he has served as director-designate for the last month. Dr. Amiridis described Mr. Lipitz's background and experience and highlighted his fundraising success in his previous role as deputy athletics director at North Carolina State University. Dr. Amiridis said a search committee interviewed 12 candidates and brought three to campus, and he said that Mr. Lipitz was by far the best candidate. Dr. Amiridis said Mr. Lipitz was selected because of his breadth and depth of experience, achievements in fundraising, and support for student success. Mr. Estrada thanked Dr. Amiridis for his remarks.

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

## PRESENTATION

### Legislative Update

Next, Mr. Estrada asked Ms. Marissa B. Brewer, associate director of advocacy, and Mr. Paul Weinberger, director of federal relations, to give a legislative update. Ms. Brewer referred to the current veto session and gave an update on recent advocacy and engagement activities. She highlighted a trend at legislative receptions emphasizing the partnership between the University system and the State and described efforts to create a University of Illinois Caucus at the Chicago City Council. Ms. Brewer said that 13 city council members are alums and noted that the caucus is likely to grow as additional members are identified. She referred to the State appropriation to the University and the

University's position as an economic engine for the state, and she noted that procurement reform is needed to increase minority vendor participation rates. Ms. Brewer thanked the Board for their support of the University. Mr. Estrada inquired about the city council caucus and asked for additional information. Ms. Brewer stated that caucus members may be alums, parents of alums, or parents of students, and she said the goal is to increase these caucus numbers. She indicated she would provide information about the caucus to Mr. Estrada after this meeting.

Mr. Weinberger reported on the University of Illinois system day in Washington, D.C., which he said was a success. He informed the committee of funding uncertainties at the federal level and described aspects of the College Affordability Act. He also briefly discussed ongoing concerns regarding foreign efforts to access research on university campuses and described issues resulting from increased reporting requirements related to this issue. Mr. Estrada thanked Ms. Brewer and Mr. Weinberger for their reports.

#### OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Estrada asked if there was any new business to discuss, and there was none. He announced that the next meeting of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee is scheduled for January 15, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. in Chicago.

#### MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:34 p.m., Mr. Estrada stated: “A motion is now in order to hold an executive session to consider the discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act.”

On motion of Mr. Dale, seconded by Ms. Holmes, this motion was approved. There were no “nay” votes.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Estrada convened this executive session at 2:37 p.m. All committee members were present. Also present were President Timothy L. Killeen; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Ms. Dedra M. Williams, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University; and Dr. Barbara J. Wilson, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs.

#### **Discussion of Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed Under the Open Meetings Act**

Mr. Estrada asked Ms. Williams to discuss the recommendation regarding the disclosure of minutes of executive sessions of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee held September 2010 through July 2019. Ms. Williams outlined the requirement within

the Open Meetings Act for public bodies to review minutes, at least twice annually, for purposes of protection of public interest and in the interest of protection of any individual, and to consider whether a need for these materials to be held from release continues. She stated that she has undertaken this review in conjunction with Mr. Bearrows and recommend the release of minutes from May 15, 2019, which state the discussion of review at that time. No other minutes were proposed for release at this time.

Mr. Estrada then asked for the doors to be opened.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNED

The executive session adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

#### REGULAR MEETING RESUMES

The meeting resumed at 2:39 p.m., with all committee members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance. Mr. Estrada stated that there was one agenda item requiring action by the committee, and Ms. Williams read aloud the title of the item, "Disclose Certain Minutes of Executive Sessions Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act." The committee agreed that one roll call vote would be taken and considered the vote on the agenda item as listed below.

Disclose Certain Minutes of Executive Sessions  
Pursuant to Open Meetings Act



(1) Under the Open Meetings Act passed by the General Assembly, public bodies subject to the Act that conduct business under exceptions specified in the Act must, at least every six months, determine whether the need for confidentiality still exists with respect to each item considered under such exception. Pursuant to the Act, “[m]inutes of meetings closed to the public shall be available only after the public body determines that it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential....” [5 ILCS 120/2.06(f)].

An item from September 2010 through July 2019 that has been heretofore unreleased is recommended for release at this time.

The University counsel and the secretary of the Board, having consulted with appropriate University officers, recommends that the following matter considered in executive session for the time period above be made available to the public at this time.

The committee action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The president of the University concurs.

### **Executive Session Minutes Released to Public**

**May 15, 2019, Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee**

Mr. Estrada convened the executive session at 2:40 p.m. All committee members except Ms. Smart were present. The following were also in attendance: Ms. Shaina Humphrey, voting student trustee, Springfield; President Timothy L. Killeen; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; and Ms. Dedra M. Williams, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

### **Discussion of Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed Under the Open Meetings Act**

Mr. Estrada asked Ms. Williams to discuss the recommendation regarding the disclosure of minutes of executive sessions of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee held between September 2010 and November 2018. Ms. Williams outlined the requirement within the Open Meetings Act for public bodies to review minutes, at least twice annually, for purposes of protection of public interest and in the interest of protection of any individual, and to consider whether a need for these materials to be held from release continues. She stated that she has undertaken this review in conjunction with Mr. Bearrows and recommend the release of minutes from November 14, 2018. Ms. Williams described the subject matter of these minutes and said that no other minutes are proposed for release at this time.

On motion of Ms. Holmes, seconded by Ms. Panek, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Mr. Dale, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Holmes, Mr. McMillan, Ms. Panek, Ms. Dawoud; No, none; Absent, Ms. Smart.

MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Ms. Smart, seconded by Ms. Holmes, the meeting adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

There were no “nay” votes.

Respectfully submitted,

DEDRA M. WILLIAMS  
*Secretary*

RICARDO ESTRADA  
*Chair*

EILEEN B. CABLE  
*Special Assistant to the Secretary*