

University of Illinois Board of Trustees

Presidential Evaluation - Summary of Responses, July 2017 to June 2018

- 1 - Strongly Disagree
- 2 - Disagree
- 3 - Undecided
- 4 - Agree
- 5 - Strongly Agree

	1	2	3	4	5	avg score
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An Institution of and for Our Students

1. Reimagined teaching and learning: innovative and dynamic curricular delivery		1	1	3	6	4.3
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Comments:

- Academic "rationalization" needs to be a continual process to allow for greater investments in higher priority academic programs.
- This is always considered when addressing our strategic priorities.
- Very impressed with the initiatives that moved forward this year, particularly DPI, John Marshall, and Carle.
- We have many new programs across the system and raising the bar on faculty.

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2. Diversity and inclusion efforts	1		4	4	2	3.5
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Comments:

- Diversity and inclusion are important. They should not, however, trump competency. It is important to understand that diversity includes diversity of thought.
- Outstanding work in this realm.
- A continual process which should not only focus on race and gender but also socioeconomic and cultural diversity.
- Efforts are being put forth, but the results have not met goals, particularly for African American students and faculty. Hopefully, the creation of IDEA will increase the speed in bringing improvement in this area.
- We could do much better.
- Much of the activity in this area has been devoted to "study" and reporting. There are obvious and well-known actions that can be taken immediately to enhance opportunities for minority contractors and suppliers. This area has been studied inside and outside university systems and needs action and not further studies and reports. Current Board policies are not being implemented. Inadequate resources are devoted to minority procurement and contracting. It appears that external constituencies who oppose these policies are having an adverse impact on enforcement of Board policies. We talk the talk, but we don't walk the walk (i.e. hypocrisy).
- Strong efforts and results on this front.
- I give high scores for effort, including appealing to in-state students of limited means and for moving in a positive direction, but recognize that there is more to be done.
- While we have made progress, it is minimal and needs to continue to have this as a top priority from the top down. The chancellors should have targets and be held accountable for progress, and this applies to students, faculty, etc.

3. Global perspectives and engagement			1	4	6	4.5
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Comments:

- Top marks for outreach to state, nation, and globally.
- Even increasing importance but must be balanced with the land-grant mission at UIUC and the system's responsibility to the state of Illinois tax payers.
- With the involvement of the Foundation creating an entity to facilitate foreign giving and the DPI associations, these results have just been outstanding.
- Very proud of our global perspective.
- Very impressive international engagement.
- President Killeen continues to expand our global footprint, which does take time and considerable effort.

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4. Experiential learning			1	6	4	4.3
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Comments:

- Critical to the successful participation in the future direction of higher education, a continuing journey not a destination.
- The future bodes well with the establishment of DPI and the new medical school. Marketing our positive differences will help in changing the perceived lower rankings of some of our colleges and loss of many qualified students going to out-of-state colleges.
- I really am not familiar with the many programs, but the colleges I am aware of have really increased the experiential component of the curriculum.

5. Beyond the academic sphere: physical infrastructure			1	4	6	4.5
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Comments:

- DPI/IIN a huge strategic accomplishment for the University.
- While new infrastructure is important, we must also invest in existing infrastructure (deferred maintenance), which has been neglected due to diminished state capital programs and diminished overall financial support over the last 10 to 20 years or longer.
- Although it has been slow in coming, the State's funding and the development of a capital budget are truly steps in the right direction. I have always thought that the University did an excellent job in this area, using what monies they had to work with.
- Big move forward this year.
- We have a capital plan for the first time, and there is significant progress on new buildings and improved buildings even though we have a ways to go!

6. Promote engagement			1	2	4	4
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Comments:

- Again, a continual journey. The relationship between the system, three universities, and the U of I Foundation appears very healthy and dynamic!
- Engagement, covers all of our constituencies, and in promoting such, remains a high priority.
- President Killeen has continually shown excellent external visibility and engagement.
- President Killeen is quite impressive to the external audience.
- This is one area where we need significant improvement primarily on the Urbana campus. There is a lack of coordination of who is to reach out on what. We lack an aggressive and proactive marketing strategy. We are too humble. We do not have the right leadership in this area, and we do not hold our leaders accountable to move the ball forward quickly on this.

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Research and Scholarship with Global Impact

7. Innovation, collaboration, entrepreneurship			1	3	7	4.5
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Comments:

- This one of Tim's greatest attributes.
- Very impressive new initiatives, DPI and IIN, announced in 2017-18. In addition, the inclusion of UIRP and IllinoisVENTURES into these new initiatives is important for the mutual benefits of the overall system technology innovation and commercialization initiatives. Lots of "heavy lifting" needed in the months and years to come, but a great start!
- The Distinguished Faculty Recruitment Program highlights this effort and is commended and necessary. Again, the DPI and teaching through international collaborations must be mentioned as outstanding achievements.
- DPI says it all.
- A high point of the year. Excellent.
- Great continued progress.

8. Sociotechnical problems: programs and solutions			3	6	2	3.9
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Comments:

- Always working to optimize functions of the University.
- Important renewed focus on the advancement of the UIRP at UIUC, including the updated master plan, has brought UIUC and system focus on critical actions which need to be addressed to allow the UIRP at UIUC to continue to expand in the years to come. It will require collaboration between the UIUC and the system to facilitate the new entities: new feed mill construction and old feed mill demolition; and a multidisciplinary biotech facility to allow for relocation of the swine facilities. Both will not only advance the research and teaching initiatives in numerous colleges but also allow future facility additions to move forward in a timely manner. Long overdue, in my opinion.
- One of our strengths is the sociotechnical contributions we make throughout the state; its social and economic efforts are being calculated in terms of millions of dollars. The research parks, the innovations, the licenses and start up speak volumes as to how we intend to progress in this area.

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9. Showcasing humanities and arts		1	2	4	4	4
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Comments:

- Special outreach here for grants for the arts and humanities.
- Always an academic focus. Must continue to insure that long-term career skills and experiences are include in the expectations of the curricula.
- The arts and humanities are fundamental, and the University continues to recognize them as such. Keeping the faculty engaged and the new competition should be applauded.
- The new program around this will help.

10. Research and development: public-private partnerships				5	6	4.5
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Comments:

- The new CICOM is an exceptional example of partnership. We should seek more opportunities with Amazon, GE, Apple, Vanguard, Bombardier, Siemens, etc.
- Stellar performance in this arena.
- Exceptional progress, again a continual journey.
- This should remain high as a priority in helping the University in achieving its goals.
- One of our strengths.
- This seems to be one of many of President Killeen's "sweet spots."
- The plans for our new partnerships are excellent; now we need to deliver.

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A Healthy Future for Illinois and the Midwest						
11 Engine for economic development		1		3	7	4.5

Comments:

- While there are many drivers of economic growth, we should not forget that we serve the entire state.
- DPI/IIN key to the future success of our state. Honored that UI is the lead agency.
- Impressive list of activities and output from those initiatives. It appears we have an exceptional number, and high level, of external participation in system-wide and individual University initiatives.
- As mentioned earlier, we are doing an excellent job and should continue promoting this aspect of the University.
- Great job demonstrating the value proposition.
- DPI will create significant economic development. The president does well promoting the economic development impact the University has on Illinois and the Midwest.
- President Killeen articulates this aspect of the U of I quite well.
- The analysis on this and the communications have been excellent. This helps with business and our legislators, not so much for individual alums.

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Tomorrow's University Today						
12. Affordability, access, and completion			1	2	8	4.6

Comments:

- We still have a way to go here, but we are holding the line in trying to keep college as affordable as possible.
- The combination of holding tuition flat; expanded financial support in student aid from the State and from internal initiatives for disadvantaged, but qualified students; combined with initiatives at the System level to reduce administrative and operational costs, are all benefiting both the students and their parents; but also the external perception that the U of I system is striving to make a four year, high quality, education more affordable and available to all qualified students within the state of Illinois. I continue to believe additional efforts need to be made at each university to also address reducing administrative and support cost at every university, college, and department. The University system will continue to be under pressure to absorb more of the costs the state of Illinois has previously covered. We must be prepared to cover more of those cost in the years to come. Continually reducing our operating costs while continuing to deliver "world class" education, research, outreach, and technology commercialization, will be required.
- Although we have held tuition constant, the University is still perceived as expensive. The programs for trying to fund all levels of scholarships , financial and otherwise, should remain a priority.
- Keep tuition flat.
- The recent tuition free program for marginal families is a great step to enhance attracting Illinois residents and stemming the brain drain to other states. This plan may also assist in getting better numbers of minority students.
- Need to continue to look for cost cutting without cutting quality of the education and drastically need to engage our alums to increase our donation levels, which can be used for this purpose.

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13. University-State compact: IPAC			2	3	6	4.4
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Comments:

- Tim a champion of this idea.
- While IPAC appears to have a healthy level of bipartisan support, our efforts in this regard must be continued relentlessly. We are demonstrating our commitment to operate within IPAC guidelines, and we have delivered on our expectations. We must continue to pursue the initiative. Hopefully it helped create support for "stable" funding for higher education in FY 2019 State budget. However, it will be a continual battle to sustain that support as the next legislature begins functioning in early 2019.
- We must continue working on this effort for the long-term good of the University.
- The IPAC is an excellent idea, but we have not been able to get enough other institutions to sign up for it to get the acceptance it needs.

14. Creation of technology platform for modern university environment		1	2	5	3	3.9
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Comments:

- Again, DPI and IIN, along with initiatives currently operating at each University, are critical to our efforts to attract and retain world-class faculty and researchers; our ultimate output of high caliber undergraduates, advanced degree graduates, and professionals in numerous areas; plus our continual discovery and commercialization of technical innovation, will ultimately determine our level of success as evaluated domestically and globally. Again, a continual journey which every person in the U of I system is responsible for delivering, led by the president.
- Technology is a fast moving target, and we need to do a better in keeping up. It is understandable that we are behind because the deferral of projects and the lack of funding.

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15. Operational and financial sustainability	1		1	4	5	4.1
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Comments:

- The University is owned by the citizens of Illinois and should strive for the greatest degree of financial responsibility and transparency. There is opportunity in the area.
- This is always on the radar screen.
- See previous comments. The system withstood, and progressed, during substantial economic challenges over the last 10 to 15 years, not the least of which occurred during FY 2016 to 2018. However, we cannot let up in both our efforts to expand responsibly while continually rationalizing unneeded and unproductive operations and initiatives as we pursue new and critical initiatives to keep us moving forward in the challenging years ahead for higher education.
- The Board has often struggled with this as it is sometimes felt that they are not getting the information needed, in a form that they can more easily, to properly respond to this question. The hiring of the new CFO, who has a broad understanding of University operations, should be helpful in this regard.
- Finally able to focus on this with a budget.
- Embracing financial and reporting transparency to make appropriate decisions is a major step forward. Implementing it to make the University financially strong and competitive (with peers to provide scholarships and other opportunities for students) will be a major achievement.
- President Killeen played a key role in working to get our budget passed. Need to continue to look for operational efficiencies and also make sure we have the right talent in place in these operational areas.

Follow-up comment

A survey participant asked to have the following comment added to this report:

It is difficult to give a 5 for an answer for a single issue because there is still work to do. I think the president has done an excellent-to-outstanding job when you consider the totality of issues that are dealt with. I still think in those areas given a 3, greater progress needs to occur. It is amazing how much progress has been made in implementing the strategic initiatives, and the president should be commended.