

Board Meeting
January 19, 2012

APPROVE RESOLUTION FOR SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND
OF THE UNIVERSITY MICHÈLE M. THOMPSON

To: Michèle M. Thompson

As you prepare to retire from the University of Illinois, the Board of Trustees wishes to honor you and express its deepest gratitude and respect for your contributions as Secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University after more than twenty-one years of distinguished service to the Board. In all, you have served the University of Illinois for almost thirty-five years.

Since 1990, the Board of Trustees has been fortunate to have your support, advice, guidance, and inspiration. Along with the many members of the Board who benefitted from your expertise, four University presidents were aided by your limitless knowledge and experience as Secretary. Your dedication to the University is legendary, working long hours into the night and early morning, sometimes over ninety hours in a week! You made certain that every detail supporting the Board members was addressed, every question was answered, and every guest was welcomed. You provided vast historical information and shared background knowledge of how important events unfolded and came to the present state.

You were always mindful of your fiduciary responsibilities in maintaining and preserving official records of the University. Your stewardship of the office is something that will be valued for many years to come.

During your tenure as Secretary, the University of Illinois experienced tumultuous changes as never seen before in its 145-year history. Through the turmoil and evolving circumstances of this difficult period of time, you always made certain that timeless traditions and values of the University of Illinois were meshed with new requirements and practices which would guide our faculty, staff, and students toward a bright future.

As a mentor to your colleagues in the Board office, you have led with a generous, thoughtful, and unselfish grace. Your quiet dignity has been a calming presence throughout your tenure. The Board of Trustees and the officers of the University of Illinois congratulate you on your retirement and wish you and Woods well.