

Board Meeting
January 19, 2017

RESOLUTION FOR RICARDO ESTRADA

To: Ricardo Estrada

In your six years as a member of the University of Illinois Board of Trustees, your distinguished service has reflected the core missions of the university's land-grant founding – values that were reaffirmed in the ambitious new Strategic Framework you helped develop to build on the U of I System's rich legacy of excellence.

Your commitment has centered squarely on students, with a sharp focus on first-generation, minority, and underrepresented students, seeking to expand the opportunities that higher education offers to transform their lives, lift their families, and enrich their communities. A deep-rooted passion for opportunity, inclusion, and equality has been a hallmark of your service as a trustee, in your career, and as a champion for diversity across the city of Chicago and beyond.

As an alumnus of the University of Illinois at Chicago, you brought unique insights to your role as a trustee that quickly grew to encompass the System's universities in Urbana-Champaign and Springfield. You shared your time, talents, and loyalties equally to serve each of our three great institutions, guided by the insights you gained through a personal mission to understand their distinctive needs and what makes each exceptional.

Your devotion to empowering families as President and CEO of Metropolitan Family Services has shown through in the vision and perspectives that you brought to deliberations at Board meetings, and to the two committees which you served upon. As a member of both the University Healthcare System Committee and the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, you were a staunch advocate for the needs of our students, faculty, and staff. You reminded your fellow Board members that people are the foundation of the U of I System's excellence and its place as a global destination where the best and brightest come to learn and make new discoveries for the betterment of mankind.

As a trustee, you have always been generous with your time, from giving greetings at convocation ceremonies and meeting with students and legislators to attending groundbreaking ceremonies and joining a U of I delegation on a trip to forge new academic and research partnerships in Mexico. As an alumnus, you are held in high esteem at the University of Illinois at Chicago, including your induction into the UIC Business Alumni Leadership Academy in 2015. The academy honors alumni who embody the highest standard of excellence and enhance the stature of the College of Business Administration.

Your tenure on the Board was truly outstanding, and the impact of your contributions will resonate across the U of I System for generations to come.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the members of the Board are joined by President Killeen, faculty, staff, students, and friends in this tribute of respect and admiration and in extending best wishes to you and Ms. Ponce de Leon.

The Board of Trustees directs that this resolution be incorporated in the minutes of today's meeting, to become a part of the official public record, and that a suitable copy be given you as a permanent reminder of the esteem in which you are held.