Approved by the Board of Trustees

January 23, 2025

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Board Meeting

January 23, 2025

## AMEND DESIGNATION OF THE PRESIDENT’S HOUSE

**Action:** Designate the House at 711 W. Florida Avenue, Urbana as the Primary Residence of the Chancellor, Urbana, and Approve Policy and Guidelines for Use Thereof

**Funding:** Institutional Funds Operating Budget

At the direction of the chair, the secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University and the University counsel have conducted a review of previous Board actions related to the President’s House, as well as the University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and other policies and directives related to the purpose of the house at 711 West Florida Avenue, Urbana, which is currently designated as the primary residence of the president of the University of Illinois System. The review indicates that the Board of Trustees has the discretion and sole authority to designate the purpose of the house at 711 West Florida Avenue, Urbana.

The Board has taken prior actions related to the house at 711 West Florida Avenue. On February 13, 1971, at a special meeting of the Board of Trustees called for the purpose of selecting Dr. John E. Corbally Jr., as the 13th president of the University, the chair of the Board of Trustees, Mr. Earl M. Hughes declared the official headquarters of the University of Illinois System would remain in Urbana and that the president of the University would reside at the house located at 711 West Florida Avenue, Urbana. In February 1987, the Board approved policy and guidelines for the use of the President’s House in Urbana and directed that the house would continue to serve as the principal residence of the president. The Board also noted that the University of Illinois Foundation provides a residential facility for the president in Chicago. In February 1995, the Board again reaffirmed its directive that the house at 711 West Florida Avenue, Urbana, was to be used as the primary residence of the president while also providing housing for the president in Chicago. The Board has not formally revisited or reconsidered the use of the President’s House in Urbana since its action in February 1995.

During its long and illustrious history, the University of Illinois has changed dramatically, both structurally and operationally. As the search for the next chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, begins, the Board finds it is an appropriate time to review the past, current, and future role of the System president as it relates to the chancellorships in the three-university system. This review will evaluate existing organizational and governing documents, policies, and procedures relating to the allocation of certain duties assigned to the president or the chancellors. The role of the president has and will continue to have critical duties and obligations across all universities in the University of Illinois System. Important strategic and relational goals of the University of Illinois System, led by the president, are often predominantly focused in Chicago and not necessarily at a particular university location within the System. The geographic location of the president’s primary residence is a future strategic priority that requires careful study. The Board believes it is important to clearly indicate its intentions regarding the future designation of the house at 711 West Florida Avenue, Urbana, before the search for the next chancellor at Urbana commences.

Therefore, with this action, the Board declares that, following the conclusion of President Timothy L. Killeen’s service, the house at 711 West Florida Avenue, Urbana, will transition to become the Chancellor’s House. Specifically, the following guidelines are presented for the approval by the Board:

*Purpose*. At the direction of the Board of Trustees, the house at 711 West Florida Avenue, Urbana will be known as the Chancellor’s House effective no later than the last day of employment of the current president. At that time, the Chancellor’s House will serve as the principal residence of the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, and will be used at the discretion of the chancellor as a setting in which to conduct various university functions. This general policy has been consistently applied since the Board of Trustees’ original statement of policy regarding the President’s House issued in 1933, restated in 1987, and now reaffirmed by its incorporation within these guidelines.

*Routine Operations and Maintenance*. Because the Chancellor’s House will serve as a University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign facility, its operating costs should be covered by Urbana university funds. These may include utilities, grounds maintenance, routine interior and exterior repairs, custodial services, and security. These expenses shall be incorporated annually into the operating budgets of the Urbana university.

*Major Renovation and Improvements*. When the annual aggregate amount of any special set of expenditures for major renovations or improvements of the Chancellor’s House exceeds the dollar limit requiring Board approval for contracts and purchases (presently $1.0 million), such planned expenditures shall be submitted to the Board for prior review and approval.

*The President’s Residence*. To facilitate the conduct of University activities by the president on behalf of the University of Illinois System and in furtherance generally of the University’s interests, the Board intends to undertake an evaluation of potential residential strategies and will determine at a later date the best housing option for the president. Upon determining the appropriate location for the President’s primary residence, the Board shall also make arrangements for appropriate secondary housing for future presidents near the Urbana-Champaign university or in Chicago for the convenience of the University and to use such housing for official University functions, as appropriate.

The Board 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.