**02**

 Board Meeting

 July 17, 2025

# APPOINT MEMBER TO THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS RESEARCH PARK, LLC, BOARD OF MANAGERS, URBANA

**Action:** Appoint Member to the University of Illinois Research Park, LLC, Board of Managers

**Funding:** No funding required

The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, recommends approval of a proposal to appoint a faculty member to the University of Illinois Research Park, LLC, Board of Managers.

In January 2000, the Board of Trustees authorized the formation of the University of Illinois Research Park, LLC (UIRP) as a University-Related Organization to assist the university in developing and operating research parks in support of its economic development mission. In February 2019, the Board of Trustees amended the Operating Agreement, which sets forth the duties and responsibilities of the UIRP Board of Managers and its composition. Pursuant to the Operating Agreement, the voting members of the Board of Managers shall, to the extent reasonably feasible, include: the vice chancellor for research and innovation of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (VCRI), at least two faculty representatives from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, a representative of the University of Illinois System, a designee from the Board of Trustees, and at least four business leaders with appropriate expertise, as nominated by the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System. Each manager appointed as a faculty representative or business leader shall serve an appointed term, with staggered appointments of three years to provide a gradual transition of leadership, or until such individual resigns or is removed as a manager. Appointed managers may not serve more than two consecutive full terms (six years). A manager who has served two consecutive full terms may be re-appointed after a period of one-year absence from the board.

The final term for voting member Kim Kidwell expires in 2025. As such, there is a vacancy for a faculty member representative on the UIRP Board of Managers. Chancellor Robert J. Jones has nominated Germán Bollero to fill this role. (A biographic sketch follows.)

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.

The president of the University of Illinois System concurs.

GERMAN BOLLERO

German Bollero brings more than a decade of administrative leadership to the role, having served as associate dean for research and head of the Department of Crop Sciences. More importantly, he has been a member of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences family for nearly 30 years.

Dr. Bollero is a native of Rosario, Argentina. After receiving a bachelor’s degree in agronomy from the National University of Rosario, Argentina, he came to the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign to continue his education. He earned his master’s degree and PhD from the Department of Agronomy (now Crop Sciences), and continued as a postdoctoral research associate and senior research specialist in agriculture. In 1998, he joined the crop sciences faculty as assistant professor of biometry and cropping systems. Bollero then led the department as head from 2009 to 2018. In 2018, he became associate dean for research and director of the Illinois Agricultural Experiment Station, investing in convergent research collaborations across the college and campus.

Dr. Bollero is internationally recognized for his scholarship in biometry and cropping systems. His teaching, service, and research contributions have placed him among an elite handful of truly outstanding faculty members. He has been included on the List of Teachers Ranked as Excellent by Their Students dozens of times. Among other recognitions, he has received several College of ACES awards, was selected as a member of the ACES Academy of Teaching Excellence, and was in the first class of the ACES Global Connect program. Dr. Bollero is a fellow of the Crop Science Society of America and the Agronomy Society of America.