Approved by the Board of Trustees

March 30, 2023

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 Board Meeting

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RESOLUTION FOR GREGORY J. KNOTT

As the conclusion of your time as Secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University draws near, the Board of Trustees desires to express our appreciation and deepest gratitude for your service and contributions over the last three years.

Soon after you were appointed Secretary, the COVID-19 pandemic changed the world as we knew it, presenting several new challenges to your service to the University. Under your leadership, you guided the Board and the President through changes to regular processes, incorporating remote meetings in our work and adapting to a constantly shifting landscape. Your creativity and willingness to employ technology guided our transitions, meeting the unique circumstances of the moment with grace and positive effect. Despite a time of historic challenges, the business of the Board continued without interruption during your tenure.

As an alumnus of both UIUC and UIS, your loyalty to the UI System was evident. Your experience as a member of the Parkland College Board of Trustees allowed you to uniquely recognize the needs and viewpoints of the trustees. Additionally, with more than two decades of experience in university administration, you understood the financial, human resources, and facility maintenance needs of academic and business units across the three universities.

You began your service to the University of Illinois in 2002 in the Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition at Urbana. Your entrepreneurial spirit flourished as you assumed a dual appointment with the newly formed Center for Advanced BioEnergy Research in 2006. That team would eventually form the Integrated Bioprocessing Research Laboratory, which bridges the gap from basic discovery to commercialization of products, a critical aspect of the land-grant university mission. Prior to taking the responsibilities of Secretary, you were assistant dean for university libraries, providing service to one of the largest public university libraries in the world.

Your experience at the library and your advanced education in library sciences manifested in your appreciation for Board of Trustees and University of Illinois history and the essential value of archival records. As Secretary, you continued to demonstrate your commitment to public service and higher education by serving with professionalism, a strong sense of duty, and a meticulous attention to detail.

The Board wishes to express to you its gratitude for your service as an administrator and member of the University of Illinois System family, and at this time the Board of Trustees, President Timothy L. Killeen, faculty, students, and staff members extend warm wishes to you, Brooke, and your family.

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 to you as a permanent reminder of the esteem and affection in which you are held.