

Approved by the Board of Trustees  
May 20, 2021

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Board Meeting  
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## RESOLUTION FOR BARBARA J. WILSON

To: Barbara J. Wilson

As you prepare to take office as president of the University of Iowa, the Board of Trustees wishes to honor you and express its deepest gratitude for your more than two decades of distinguished and devoted service to the University of Illinois System.

You have served our students, our universities, and our life-changing missions in roles of ever-increasing responsibility since joining the U of I System in 2000 as a professor in the Department of Speech Communication at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC).

In 2009, you joined the Office of the Provost at UIUC, where your campus-wide service included two years as executive vice provost for faculty and academic affairs, with a leadership role in both strategic and financial planning.

After five years in the provost's office, you were named in 2014 as the Harry E. Preble Dean of UIUC's College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the largest college on Illinois' largest university campus with over 11,000 students and more than 60 departments and academic units.

Then, in 2015, you were appointed interim chancellor in Urbana, serving as CEO of the original land-grant university for more than a year during a national search that brought Robert J. Jones to UIUC as chancellor in September 2016.

Under your leadership and steady hand, the university continued to grow, including a record freshman class in the fall of 2016. You also led a host of initiatives with lasting impact, including the searches that brought in Josh Whitman as athletics director and King Li as the inaugural dean of the Carle Illinois College of Medicine.

When your time as interim chancellor ended, you moved immediately into the newly created, system-wide role of executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs.

As the system's first clearly established second-in-command to the president, you took on responsibilities as senior operating officer along with duties as chief academic officer that have traditionally been part of the office.

Over the nearly five years since, you have exceeded the high expectations that came with the role. Among your many achievements, you have helped plan and coordinate a system-wide operating budget now approaching \$7 billion, as well as efforts that have held down tuition, increased institutional financial aid, and pushed enrollment over 90,000 students for the first time last fall.

In addition, you played a key role in developing the Strategic Framework that has paced the U of I System's continued growth and led initiatives that have added

two dozen nationally recognized faculty members, established policies to promote safe and welcoming universities and provided a historic update of university statutes.

You also have been at the center of efforts that have maintained teaching, research, and our invaluable contributions to both students and the public good during a global pandemic that has created historic challenges for more than a year.

You have done it all with talents and leadership skills that are matched by a unique blend of passion for our missions and compassion for every one of the many stakeholders you work with to achieve them.

We will forever remember your countless contributions to our students, our universities, and our excellence over the last 21 years. Just as much, we will remember your kindness, your warmth, your thoughtfulness, your ready smile and good humor, and your cherished ability to relate and connect with everyone.

Your skills as a listener, communicator and collaborator have helped foster the shared vision and team spirit that have played such a key role in the U of I System's ongoing success and its continued rise as a world leader in education and innovation.

At this time, the Board of Trustees, President Tim Killeen, faculty members, students, and staff members extend our deepest gratitude for your dedicated service, and warm wishes to you, your husband, John Lammers, your daughters and your family as you move on to Iowa and into this exciting, richly deserved chapter in your career.

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.