

Board Meeting
May 21, 2020

RESOLUTION FOR DEDRA MOODAY WILLIAMS

As your retirement date grows near, the Board of Trustees would like to honor you and express its deepest admiration and gratitude for your contributions over the last four years as Secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

The Board has benefitted greatly from your guidance and insights as it navigated the many challenging issues that have surfaced since you took office in 2016. Even when faced with opposing opinions, your advice has always been honest, forthright, respectful, and focused on the best interests of our universities and our students. You have faithfully served three Board chairs, providing crucial support to each through your knowledge and ability to thoughtfully, accurately, and clearly interpret difficult subjects and policies.

You brought a unique perspective to your distinguished service as secretary. With a master's degree from Urbana-Champaign, you brought the talents and loyalty of a graduate. And, through your more than two decades as a high-level administrator, you brought real-world, first-hand understanding of our universities and their distinctive needs.

Communication has also been fundamental to your success. Trustees and staff could always count you to provide timely updates on important and pertinent topics

relevant to the University of Illinois System. The current COVID-19 pandemic is an excellent case in point. Throughout the rapidly evolving crisis, you routinely shared information about the historic shift to online and distance learning, the remarkable contributions by faculty and staff to address the pandemic, and the financial implications to keep our world-class system operating.

You will be remembered with appreciation and respect for your notable contributions to the U of I System, beginning with your work in the regional College of Medicine at Urbana. Over nearly 23 years, including service as an Associate Dean in the college, you supported new generations of medical professionals through your work overseeing the budget and human resources needs of the regional campus.

Later, you then joined System Offices as Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs. In this role, you continued to serve as a budget resource and worked with each of the three universities to shape programs and priorities. You also played a key role in the process to develop the system's Strategic Framework, a plan that has guided the system's extraordinary growth and achievement since it was adopted by the Board in 2016.

At every step, you have been a valued colleague and an asset to our mission. You are engaging, energetic, outgoing, articulate, and well-informed, and are respected for your demeanor of unselfish caring, consideration, support, and nurturing of others.

Your life experiences, professional stature, and outstanding personal qualities have enriched and enlivened the University System, and your unwavering belief

in its power to transform lives and drive progress has always been evident.

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