

Approved by the Board of Trustees
May 21, 2020

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Board Meeting
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RESOLUTION FOR H. EDWARD SEIDEL

As you transition to a new role as president of the University of Wyoming, the Board of Trustees wishes to honor you and express its deepest gratitude for your exceptional work as the University of Illinois System's first vice president of economic development and innovation.

You stepped into this role at a crucial time, when the U of I System was exploring how it could increase entrepreneurship and innovation to drive economic growth for our state. Drawing experience from previous leadership roles, you were instrumental in bringing the three universities together around these themes and in launching two pioneering initiatives: the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) and Discovery Partners Institute (DPI).

These two projects have spurred collaboration not only within our system but at universities across the state – at a level never before seen. They have earned the endorsement of two governors of different political parties and received \$500 million in state support, clearly illustrating the vast promise they hold for Illinois' future. In total, IIN and DPI now comprise a \$1 billion project that aims to jumpstart workforce and research and development programs for Chicago's tech sector, while utilizing IIN hubs to deliver economic impact across the state.

You have represented our universities on numerous boards and councils, always looking to advance our reputation while gathering best practices from leaders across the nation. And you have helped expand our universities' relationships internationally, leading multiple visits to Israel, Jordan, India, and other countries to grow relationships and foster agreements that will lead to more opportunities for our students and faculty.

Your distinguished career with the U of I System began as a postdoctoral researcher at the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA), under the guidance of Larry Smarr, the first director of NCSA. And you have left an indelible mark on this university, much as Larry did, through your research in high-performance computing, relativity and astrophysics, and through major initiatives including Blue Waters and the Midwest Big Data Hub.

Your remarkable impact here followed groundbreaking scholarship at institutions spanning two continents, through your work at Germany's Max Planck Institute for Gravitational Physics, Louisiana State University, the National Science Foundation, and MIT's Skolkovo Institute of Science and Technology in Russia.

At this time, the Board of Trustees, President Timothy L. Killeen, faculty members, students, and staff members extend our deepest gratitude for your dedicated service, and warm wishes to you, Gabrielle, 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.