

Board Meeting
November 12, 2015

AWARD THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES' DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDALLION

An astute businessman and devoted volunteer with an unparalleled appreciation for and comprehension of the complexity of the University of Illinois, Roger L. Plummer has served his alma mater with true distinction.

A 1964 graduate of the College of Engineering at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a bachelor's degree in engineering mechanics, Roger has spent his career as an executive in the telecommunications industry. He began with Illinois Bell, and retired as president of Ameritech's Custom Business Unit. Still today he serves as a consultant specializing in marketing, strategic planning and organizational development in the field. Given his professional success and experience, the University has called upon him on multiple occasions to serve. And time and again, he has done so with enthusiasm, dedication, and excellence.

Roger's history of service is deep, particularly on the Urbana campus. He was co-chair of the Chancellor's Advancement Cabinet during the Brilliant Futures campaign; a member of the 125th Anniversary Honorary Committee; the College of Business' Business Advisory Council, an Executive in Residence, and as a College Commencement speaker. He also served on the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics' Athletic Advisory Board and the University Library's National Advisory Committee.

Most notably, Roger's service surpassed a single campus and resulted in roles on the University's three most prominent volunteer boards: the University of Illinois Board of Trustees, the University of Illinois Alumni Association Board of Directors, and the University of Illinois Foundation Board of Directors.

In 1996, Roger was appointed a University Trustee, a role he held for six years. His time on the UIAA Board included holding the office of Chairman of the Board of Directors. His service on the UI Foundation Board culminated in a two-year term as Board Chair during a period of significant organizational leadership transition and strategic planning. Because of his deep experience and enterprise-level understanding of this highly complex institution of higher education, many leaders of the academy, both past and present, have come to consider Roger as both an advisor and friend.

Roger credits his wife, Joanne, with initiating his reengagement with the University more than three decades ago. With her at his side, he has been one of the University's most dedicated and reliable volunteers. Their support for the University has manifested in named endowments and funds underscoring their personal beliefs in higher education, alumni community, and professional integrity. And, their University of Illinois legacy lives on in their son, Adam B. Plummer, a 1996 graduate of the College of Engineering and a successful engineering executive.

The University of Illinois continues to benefit from the success, the dedication, and the many contributions of its alumni, like Roger.

The Board of Trustees awards with gratitude the Distinguished Service Medallion to Roger L. Plummer in recognition of his loyal and exemplary service to his alma mater.