

Board Meeting
November 13, 2014

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO'S
RESPONSE TO THE BARACK OBAMA FOUNDATION'S "REQUEST FOR
PROPOSAL"

WHEREAS, the University of Illinois' campus at Chicago (UIC) is one of only four institutions in the United States invited to submit a proposal to the Barack Obama Foundation ("Foundation") to host the Barack Obama Presidential Library, Museum, Foundation offices, and an academic institute (collectively, "Presidential Library") by December 11, 2014;

WHEREAS, UIC's proposal includes three potential sites, two locations on campus and a third location in the North Lawndale neighborhood;

WHEREAS, the North Lawndale site would provide great potential for economic development and revitalization in the area and is supported by members of the community and civic leaders;

WHEREAS, formal notification regarding the City's commitment to grant the necessary land rights to build the Presidential Library on the North Lawndale site is expected prior to UIC's submission of its proposal;

WHEREAS, UIC and North Lawndale were selected as finalists because of, among other things, the strong community partnership between UIC and North Lawndale, the core public purpose and mission of UIC, and UIC's extensive engagement in the community;

WHEREAS, UIC's core values, including (1) improving access to education and serving first generation college students, (2) providing health care to underserved populations and reducing health disparities, (3) supporting the educational needs of veterans, (4) presenting options for undocumented students, (5) conducting world-class research, and (6) supporting members of underrepresented communities, align with President Obama's expected legacies;

WHEREAS, having the Presidential Library located at UIC or North Lawndale would enhance the global distinction of the University, create an important role for UIC in preserving American history, promote educational exchange and engaged research on a global level, and serve as a point of pride for our students, faculty, and alumni;

WHEREAS, the Presidential Library will be constructed with funds raised by the Barack Obama Foundation, operated with Federal funds and an endowment provided by the Foundation, and administered by the Office of Presidential Libraries at the National Archives and Records Administration;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Presidential Library will be to preserve and make available to the public the papers, records, and other historical materials that document the lives of the president, his family, associates, and administration;

WHEREAS, UIC will require the support of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois to make a campus site available to the Federal Government;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. THAT the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois hereby endorses UIC's submission of a proposal to the Barack Obama Foundation Request for Proposal. Such endorsement is made with the following understandings: (1) the commitment to provide land on the UIC campus will be consistent with the Campus Master Plan; (2) UIC will continue to develop the proposal, including an academic program, which will follow all necessary procedures for approval; (3) UIC will continue to engage the UIC community for input and support; (4) UIC will obtain the necessary legal approval to make the campus land available if it is selected; and (5) UIC will provide periodic progress reports to the Board of Trustees. UIC, if selected, will seek additional approval(s) of the Board of Trustees before entering into final negotiations and agreements with the Barack Obama Foundation.