

Board Meeting
November 14, 2013

APPOINT TASK FORCE ON OPEN ACCESS

Action: Appoint Task Force on Open Access

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Governor of the State of Illinois signed into law the “Open Access to Research Articles Act” Senate Bill 1900 on August 21, 2013. The provisions of the Act, affecting public universities within the State of Illinois, describe its purpose to: (1) maximize the social and economic benefits of research to the public; (2) increase the impact that broad public dissemination of research has on the public; (3) provide free access to research articles by the faculty of Illinois’ public universities via the internet; and, (4) work to resolve restrictions with publication agreements to make research materials available to the public.

In order to achieve these ends the Act provides for the naming of a task force comprised of voting and non-voting members, appointed by the chairperson of the Board of Trustees with advice and consent of that Board. Membership must be determined by January 1, 2014.

The charge to the task force is to review current practices and design a proposed policy regarding open access to research articles, based upon criteria that are specific to University needs. Details of the charge are fully described within the Act,

which is attached to this item. The task force is subject to the Open Meetings Act.

Attached are the names of task force members as recommended by the Vice President for Academic Affairs and submitted for approval by the Board. Should any member of this task force be unable to complete the term of appointment, the Vice President for Academic Affairs will identify the replacement and notify the Board of the change.

By January 1, 2015, the task force shall adopt a report, for submission to the Board of Trustees, the Board of Higher Education, both chambers of the General Assembly, and the Governor, setting forth its findings and recommendations including a detailed description of an open access policy and a plan for implementation.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The President of the University recommends approval.