Approved by the Board of Trustees

September 18, 2025

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 Board Meeting

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RESOLUTION FOR DONALD J. EDWARDS

In your eight years of service to the University of Illinois as a member of the Board of Trustees, you have illustrated an ongoing commitment to the institution where you started your higher education journey. As a loyal alumnus, former varsity athlete, and parent to University of Illinois students, your pride for all three universities is evident, as is your appreciation for and dedication to the betterment of the entire University System.

You served as chair of the Board for six years, dedicating both significant time and resources to the business of the University of Illinois. Your time as chair included a course correction in State funding for higher education, with the first increase in State funding in several years, as well as a period of increased access and affordability, delivering excellence at scale.

Additionally, you led critical conversations about key issues, emphasized planning, and laid the groundwork for alignment between the Board, University administration, and the State.

Your tenure also included the COVID-19 pandemic, which changed the world as we knew it. You led the Board through changes to regular processes, championed the efforts of SHIELD T3, and upheld the importance of student, faculty, and staff safety in conjunction with furthering the research, outreach, and educational missions of the University.

Your leadership also brought the development of the Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, LLC, a University-Related Organization. This URO is positioning the University as a key contributor in the advancement of quantum technologies.

The University benefited from your professional experience and success in the financial industry. Given the fiduciary responsibilities of the Board, you brought a keen eye and careful analysis when considering financial matters. Your long partnership with President Timothy L. Killeen delivered on a promise of providing a quality education at an affordable price to the people of the state of Illinois and beyond.

You and your wife, Anne, a proud alumna in her own right, have provided significant financial support to the University of Illinois. Your gift in support of Gies College of Business, Discovery Partners Institute, Ubben Basketball Complex, and the men’s golf program at Urbana is historically the largest gift provided by a trustee of the University of Illinois.

The president and University officers, faculty members, students, and staff join the Board in this tribute to you and in extending best wishes to you 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.