

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

February 13, 1971



A special meeting of The Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held in Room I, LaSalle Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, February 13, 1971, pursuant to call by the President of the Board. The Secretary of the Board gave notice of said meeting as prescribed by the By-Laws and by Illinois Statute.

President Earl M. Hughes called the meeting to order and asked the Secretary to call the roll. The following members of the Board were present: Dr. Michael J. Bakalis, Mr. Howard W. Clement, Mr. Donald R. Grimes, Mr. Ralph C. Hahn, Mr. Earl M. Hughes, Mr. Theodore A. Jones, Mr. Roger B. Pogue, Mr. Russell W. Steger, Mr. Timothy W. Swain. Governor Richard B. Ogilvie and Dr. Earl E. Walker were absent. Trustees-elect William D. Forsyth, Jr., George W. Howard III, and Earl Langdon Neal attended as guests.

Also present were President David D. Henry; Executive Vice President and Provost Lyle H. Lanier; Chancellor Joseph S. Begando, Medical Center campus; Chancellor J. W. Peltason, Urbana-Champaign campus; Chancellor Norman A. Parker, Chicago Circle campus; Dr. Eldon Johnson, Vice President; Mr. C. S. Havens, University Director of Physical Plant Planning and Construction; Mr. C. E. Flynn, Assistant to the President and University Director of Public Information; Mr. James J. Costello, University Counsel; Mr. George H. Bargh, Executive Assistant to the President; and the officers of the Board, Mr. H. O. Farber, Comptroller, and Dr. Earl W. Porter, Secretary.

President Hughes presented the following statement and recommendation:

PRESIDENCY OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Board of Trustees has been convened to take the most important action it has been called upon to consider since President Henry announced his intention to retire — the election of a President of the University of Illinois.

Our responsibility is a solemn one, resting upon the statutory obligation specified in the laws of the State of Illinois. The pertinent passage is as follows:

The board of trustees shall elect a regent who shall be charged with the general supervision of the educational facilities and interests of the university. Said regent shall be known as President of the University and his term of office shall be at the pleasure of the board of trustees.

The Trustees have worked at this task with care and with a keen sense of the responsibility before them. They have been assisted very materially by the excellent Consultative Committee established last spring, and in particular by its Chairman, who has been kept informed of the Board's progress at every point.

It is my understanding that the members of the Board now are ready to announce their selection of a President and to take formal action to elect him. The choice is Dr. John E. Corbally, Jr., presently Chancellor and President of Syracuse University.

I am immensely pleased to announce as well that the three trustees-elect (Mr. Forsyth, Mr. Howard, and Mr. Neal), who will take office on March 17, 1971, are fully in agreement with the choice. The Trustees-elect have been involved in the deliberations of the Board throughout the period since their election and have had an opportunity to participate fully in the discussions.

The ex officio members of the Board, the Governor of the State of Illinois and the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, have been informed of the Board's choice. They concur in it and support it.

Accordingly, I will now entertain a motion to the following effect:

First, that Dr. John E. Corbally, Jr., be elected President of the University of Illinois effective September 1, 1971, at an annual salary of \$50,000.

Second, that if Dr. Corbally is able to make arrangements agreeable to him, he be named president-designate (on salary) for a period of time before September 1, 1971 (the date to be determined later). This procedure will provide an opportunity for him to become better acquainted with the University and with the responsibilities he will assume on September 1. President Henry is strongly in favor of such an arrangement.

May I have a motion to approve these recommendations.

Each of the Trustees and each of the Trustees-elect then spoke briefly, expressing his personal endorsement of the recommendations as presented.

On motion of Mr. Swain, the recommendations were approved by the following vote: Aye, Dr. Bakalis, Mr. Clement, Mr. Grimes, Mr. Hahn, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Jones, Mr. Pogue, Mr. Steger, Mr. Swain; no, none; absent, Governor Ogilvie and Dr. Walker.

INTRODUCTION OF DR. AND MRS. CORBALLY

At this point the Board recessed briefly while Dr. and Mrs. Corbally were being escorted to the meeting room. On their arrival, President Hughes introduced them to the Board and to the assembly.

APPRECIATION TO THE CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE

President Hughes then expressed on behalf of the Board of Trustees appreciation for the work of the Consultative Committee to Assist in the Selection of a President and called upon the Committee Chairman,

Professor Victor J. Stone, to introduce the Committee and to speak on its behalf. Professor Stone made the following remarks:

Mr. President:

We of the Consultative Committee are particularly happy to participate in the successful conclusion to our months of labor.

When this Committee was constituted and first met last May, we formed several conceptions concerning our task. We thought that we wanted to do it not only in a way that would bring to the University of Illinois an outstanding new president, but also by processes and procedures that would be a credit to our university. This meant, to us, that we should be as thorough as possible—spread our net as widely as we possibly could—in order to consider all qualified persons. It meant that we should have a high respect for facts and seek to become as well informed as conditions would allow. It meant that we should be conscientious and selfless, and as objective as persons can be in evaluating other human beings, in formulating our statements and evaluations concerning prospects whom we considered. It meant that if we were to be successful as a Consultative Committee, we should have a full, open, and candid consultation with the members of the Board of Trustees. We have worked hard to realize these goals, and now that we have completed our work, I hope that it will be clear that we have succeeded in implementing them.

But there are times when the best of procedures produce varying results. The proof of the pudding is in the tasting. It is therefore particularly happy for us to know today that this pudding which we have been preparing tastes very good indeed.

Now, Mr. President, I should like to introduce the members of the Committee who are present today, and identify those who are unable to be here.

(Professor Stone here introduced the following members of the Committee: Vice President Eldon L. Johnson from General Administration; Dean Mary K. Mullane, College of Nursing, Medical Center; Dr. Melvin Sabshin, Professor and Head of the Department of Psychiatry, Medical Center; Dr. Eddie S. Moore, Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Medical Center; Dr. Robert L. Hall, Professor and Head of the Department of Sociology, Chicago Circle; Dr. Gordon H. Geiger, Associate Professor of Metallurgy, Chicago Circle; Dr. P. E. Mast, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering, Urbana-Champaign; Dr. Frank B. Lanham, Professor and Head of the Department of Agricultural Engineering, Urbana-Champaign (specially recognized as Secretary of the Committee); Mrs. Anna V. Ware, Patient Unit Manager, Department of Nursing, General Hospital, Medical Center; Mr. Michael John Rasnak, student in the College of Pharmacy, Medical Center; Mr. John Raymond DeLong, graduate student in history, Urbana-Champaign; Mr. William H. Ross, electrician, Physical Plant Department, Chicago Circle; Mr. John L. Hayes, Accountant II, Housing Division Central Food Stores, Urbana-Champaign; Mr. C. Edward Raymond, DeKalb, member, University of Illinois Citizens Committee.)

He further identified the following members of the Committee who were not present: Dean Robert W. Rogers, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana-Champaign; Dean George Bugliarello, College of Engineering, Chicago Circle; Mr. L. Clifford Goad, Detroit, President, University of Illinois Foundation; Mr. Ralph S. Johns, Chicago, President, University of Illinois Alumni Association; Mr. Robert R. Benjamin, student, junior in political science, Chicago Circle.)

These then, Mr. President, have been the members of your Consultative Committee. On their behalf I should like to thank you and the members of the Board for the way in which you have received what we have had to offer.

On motion of Mr. Jones, the Board directed that an appropriate resolution of appreciation be prepared and presented to each member of the Consultative Committee.

REMARKS, DR. CORBALLY

President Hughes called upon Dr. Corbally to address the meeting. The President-designate spoke as follows:

I'll make a very few comments and I'll start out extemporaneously. Then, to avoid rambling, I'd like to read a few thoughts that I have jotted down.

Both Mrs. Corbally and I are facing today with a mixed feeling of exhilaration and of responsibility that gives us a great deal of pleasure and a great deal of pause. We're honored to have been asked to assume this responsibility and we are looking forward to being able to get at it as soon as possible.

Let me just briefly say what is on my heart this morning: I do accept election to the presidency of the University of Illinois with a deep sense of excitement and responsibility. I think it is a particular honor to one in the profession of educational administration to be considered worthy of succeeding my friend, Dave Henry. His record of service to our University, to the State of Illinois, and to higher education in general serves as an inspiration to all of us who are in university administration. I know, Dave, that sometimes a prophet is at least with limited honor in his own home town, and I hope that the people of Illinois realize the stature that you have brought to the University and to higher education through your service here.

There really are only a very few opportunities in higher education today which could tempt me to leave Syracuse University. I think that Illinois—I guess I should say today I know that Illinois—heads the list of those few opportunities. I am extremely pleased and my wife is extremely pleased to be returning to the Midwest and to the Big Ten.

We have high hopes—we will do more than hope, we will work—to assure that our period of time with you at the University of Illinois will serve to continue the record of service of this great institution. I see my task essentially to be to continue to provide an atmosphere and a setting in which fine students and fine faculty members and fine staff members of our three campuses can fulfill their roles within the University with dignity and with integrity and with success. I want each citizen of Illinois to continue to have reason to be proud of his or her University of Illinois, and to be able to know that the University continues to be a world leader in higher education. Now, Mrs. Corbally joins me in thanking you for your faith in us and in expressing our deep faith in you which brings us together. Thank you.

REMARKS, DR. HENRY

President Hughes then recognized Dr. Henry who made the following comments:

Mr. President, I have been trying to observe to the letter the amenities pertaining to a retiring president's relationship to the selection of his successor. I have not prepared any formal remarks for this occasion. However, while I have not been involved in the procedure of selection or the decision itself, you all know that I am very deeply involved in my heart and in hopes for the future. I can best express my feeling in reporting what President Pusey of Harvard told me about a month ago, after his successor was chosen. He said (speaking to me), you haven't come to this point yet, but let me tell you what a relief it is, to have your Board choose as your successor someone who is highly competent for the job and happens also to be someone whom you like. Dr. Corbally fills both of those conditions for me, and this morning I feel a relief that I haven't felt in a very long time. With the investment of a significant portion of my life in the success of this great University, it is a great joy to be confident of its continuing success under the leadership that the Board has now selected.

There will be other times when we have other things to say, other occasions perhaps more appropriate to say them, but I want the Board of Trustees to know that I am very happy with the choice that they have made. I admire John Corbally, I believe in him, and Mrs. Corbally, and I wish them well. You may be sure that Mrs. Henry and I are eager to have them come, and that we are going to help them in every way that we can to bridge the transition and to support them in the years ahead.

John's reference to numbers leads me to make one other observation. Somebody mentioned that he was coming on February 13, to be elected the thirteenth President of the University. Yesterday, when I met him at the airport, I realized that he came in on Flight 213. I predict thirteen will be a favorable omen for the University and for its thirteenth President. Thank you.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

The Chairman then made the following announcement:

Since the establishment of the chancellorship system in 1967, the suggestion has been made from time to time that consideration be given to locating the general offices of the University system apart from any existing campus.

Any such move would have substantial implications for operating procedures and capital outlay. The Board of Trustees will continue to examine the desirability, feasibility, and costs of such a move.

Meanwhile, the official headquarters of the University will remain in Urbana-Champaign, and the President of the University will reside at 711 West Florida Avenue, Urbana.

On motion of Mr. Clement, the meeting was adjourned.

EARL W. PORTER
Secretary

EARL M. HUGHES
President