

**APPROVED BY THE  
COMMITTEE**

**JUL 24 2013**

*Susan M Kies*  
**SECRETARY OF THE BOARD**

MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

MAY 28, 2013

This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee was held in the Michèle Thompson Rooms A, B, and C, UIC Student Center West, 828 South Wolcott Avenue, Chicago, Illinois, on Tuesday, May 28, 2013, beginning at 3:53 p.m. In the absence of Ms. Karen Hasara, committee chair, Mr. Ricardo Estrada, acting as chair *pro tem*, convened the meeting and asked the clerk to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Mr. Ricardo Estrada and Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes. The following student trustees were present: Mr. David Pileski, Urbana campus; Mr. Kenneth M. Thomas, Chicago campus; and Mr. John W. Tienken, voting student trustee, Springfield campus.

The following University officers were also in attendance: Dr. Susan J. Koch, chancellor, Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois; Dr. Christophe Pierre, vice president for academic affairs; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; and Dr. Susan M. Kies, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University. Also in attendance were Mr. Thomas P. Hardy, executive director for University relations; and Ms. Margaret M. O'Donoghue, interim special assistant to the president. Attached is a listing of other staff members in attendance at this meeting.

Mr. Estrada conveyed Ms. Hasara's regards to the students and regrets for missing their last committee meeting.

Mr. Estrada asked if there were questions or corrections regarding the minutes from the committee meeting held March 6, 2013. Hearing none, Mr. Estrada then asked for a motion to approve those minutes. On motion of Ms. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Thomas, the minutes were approved. There were no "nay" votes.

**REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS  
FOR THE MAY 29, 2013, BOARD MEETING**

Mr. Estrada introduced the Board items within the purview of the committee that were on the agenda for the Board of Trustees meeting the following day and asked that certain individuals make comments. The recommended Board items discussed at the meeting are on file with the clerk.

**Appointments to the Faculty, Administrative/Professional  
Staff, and Intercollegiate Athletic Staff**

Secretary Kies explained that the appointments of faculty, administrative and professional staff, and intercollegiate athletic staff recommended in this item have been thoroughly reviewed at the appropriate levels within the college, department, or unit, and that this item appears regularly on the Board's agenda.

### Sabbatical Leaves of Absence, 2013-2014

Dr. Pierre provided information on additional recommendations for sabbatical leaves of absence for 12 faculty members on the Urbana campus and three faculty members on the Chicago campus. He explained that while sabbatical leave requests were approved earlier in the year, most of the additional requests have come from assistant professors with promotion and tenure.

### Appoint Dean, College of Public Affairs and Administration, Springfield

Dr. Lynn Pardie, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Springfield, discussed the recommendation to appoint Dr. Johnathon Mark Wrighton as the dean for the College of Public Affairs and Administration in Springfield. Dr. Pardie discussed Dr. Wrighton's background and qualifications for the position.

### Appoint Dean, College of Education and Human Services, Springfield

Dr. Pardie then discussed the recommendation to appoint Dr. Hanfu Mi as the dean for the College of Education and Human Services in Springfield. Dr. Pardie discussed Dr. Mi's background and qualifications for the position.

Establish the Bachelor of Science Degree in Information Systems Security, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Springfield

Dr. Pardie reported on the recommendation to establish the Bachelor of Science degree in Information Systems Security, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. She discussed the focus of the program as it relates to the field, as well as the program's approach to instruction.

Reorganize the Department of Computer Science, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Springfield

Dr. Pardie then discussed the proposed reorganization of the Department of Computer Science in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences from direction by a department chair to direction by a department head. She explained that the change in governance structure is intended to provide stable leadership as the department – the largest academic program on the Springfield campus – moves forward.

Establish the Master of Engineering Degree with a Major in Materials Engineering and a Major in Engineering with a Concentration in Energy Systems, College of Engineering and Graduate College, Urbana

Dr. Ilesanmi Adesida, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Urbana, reported on the recommendation to establish the Master of Engineering degree and subsequent majors, College of Engineering. He explained that these degrees are practice-oriented, which is appealing to potential employers, and provide a terminal degree in the field for those students who want to step into industry.

Establish the Master of Science in Plant Biotechnology with a Concentration in Professional Science Master's, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and Graduate College, Urbana

Dr. Adesida then discussed the recommendation to establish a Master of Science in Plant Biotechnology through the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He commented that industrial employers are seeking students with the practical, communication, and business skills built into this program.

Rename and Revise the Major in Russian Language and Literature, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

Next, Dr. Adesida discussed the proposed renaming and revising of the Russian Language and Literature program at the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana. He described this program as the strength of the Slavic studies department, which is broadening to include new areas of study. Dr. Adesida noted that many of those students who take part in the program come from the Chicago area.

Eliminate the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Science in Civil Engineering, College of Engineering and the Graduate College, Urbana

Dr. Adesida then reported on the recommendation to eliminate the Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degree programs in Environmental Science in Civil Engineering. He stated that prior to 2008, students with non-engineering bachelor's degrees were required take environmental science courses instead of environmental engineering courses; however, changes have occurred to allow those with non-engineering bachelor

degrees to take classes in the environmental engineering program or the environmental science program. Dr. Adesida commented that there are now only a few students in the latter, which has led to its proposed elimination.

**Eliminate the Doctor of Education in Music Education, College of Fine and Applied Arts and Graduate College, Urbana**

Dr. Adesida reported on the proposed elimination of the Doctor of Education degree in Music Education, within the College of Fine and Applied Arts. He reviewed faculty concerns over the dwindling number of students in this program and the preference to strengthen the doctor of philosophy program in music education.

In general, Dr. Adesida stated that there will be additional degree revision and elimination recommendations proposed by the Urbana campus in the future, as the campus is reviewing the programs being offered.

**Appoint Faculty Fellows to the Institute for the Humanities, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago**

Dr. Lon S. Kaufman, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Chicago, reported on the recommended appointment of faculty fellows to the Institute for the Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. He explained that each year faculty members are selected by a competition to complete a year-long term with the institute, where they take part in special events and activities and often write a book. Dr. Kaufman named the five individuals chosen and referred to the Board item for their biographical information.

## PRESENTATIONS

### Student Financial Literacy

Dr. Christophe Pierre remarked that his report on financial literacy for students was in response to a request by President Easter at the previous committee meeting, which included a presentation by Urbana student trustee Mr. David Pileski and Ms. Andrea Pellegrini, visiting assistant director of the student money management center. Dr. Pierre reported that a recently created ad hoc committee composed of administration and campus members has met twice to discuss the topic and their goals. He commented on student loan default rates for the University, which are low compared to national averages, and discussed increased pressures on students to make payments. In addition, Dr. Pierre stated that there are several programs on each campus that promote financial literacy, and many of those are targeted to a specific audience. He said that while the committee does not advise centralizing all programs, some information could be shared across campuses. He said some programs could be administered centrally, and that each should include core competencies in financial literacy suggested by the U.S. Treasury.

Dr. Pierre reported that the committee has been considering three programs – on student refunds, student loan counseling, and information for parents about loans – that could be initiated by fall 2013. He discussed revising existing programs to fit other campuses, as well as the pros and cons of making non-academic education a requirement. He reviewed long-term goals for the committee and said further reports will be made.

Mr. Pileski thanked the committee for allowing him to present on the topic and for taking steps to address the issue. He reminded committee members about graduation's effect on loan timelines. Mr. Pileski commented on his student loan exit counseling experience and said that the Chicago campus requires the loan education program. He suggested Urbana and Springfield implement similar requirements.

#### Time to Graduation

Dr. Pierre indicated that this presentation (materials on file with the clerk) was also in response to questions raised during the last committee meeting. He presented graduation rates from 2002 to 2006 on each campus, noting that the Urbana and Chicago campuses have seen an increase in the number and proportion of students graduating in four years and that the numbers for the Springfield campus reflect the evolution in student body composition. Dr. Pierre then discussed the academic reasons why a student might take longer to graduate.

Mr. Estrada discussed the effect of the unique personality of the population of each campus and asked how the University is responding. Dr. Pierre stated that advising and guiding students is key; that individual campuses, colleges and departments are working together to make it possible to graduate in four years. Dr. Kaufman then commented on the Chicago campus's efforts to decrease time to graduation, including effects of remedial coursework completion, study abroad programs, summer school, and focus on finances and first-year students.

Mr. Estrada inquired about the average credit hour load per semester, and Mr. Thomas and Mr. Pileski described their experiences with course load recommendations. Mr. Pileski, Mr. Tienken and Mr. Thomas inquired about transfer students, and Dr. Pierre noted a future presentation on the topic. Mr. Estrada suggested that parents should be reminded of course-load recommendations and summer school advantages. Dr. Barbara Henley, vice chancellor for student affairs at Chicago, commented on the student body work ethic at Chicago.

#### UIC Student Success Initiative

Dr. Kaufman provided a presentation (materials on file with the clerk) on the UIC Student Success Initiative, which focuses on first-year students' success and retention at Chicago. He provided an overview of the demographic of the freshman class at Chicago and discussed predictors of success and the ramifications of need-based financial aid on graduation. Dr. Kaufman reported on the undergraduate policy council and its members and described its initiatives and activities. Dr. Kaufman went on to discuss the University's best practices and relationships with pre-college students and community partners in Chicago.

Mr. Thomas asked about incentivizing summer school for undergraduates. Dr. Kaufman noted that the University offers range tuition currently and that a pro-rated mechanism is being investigated, noting that subsidy dollars resulted in more students taking summer courses. Mr. Thomas then inquired about tracking the success of summer

college students. Dr. Kaufman replied that those numbers are available. Mr. Thomas also asked about the logistics of changing tuition pricing for the summer. Dr. Kaufman and Mr. Estrada also discussed support for the UIC College Prep high school program.

#### OLD BUSINESS

There was no business conducted under this aegis.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Estrada announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for July 24, 2013, at 9 a.m., in the Michèle Thompson Rooms A, B and C, on the Chicago campus.

#### COMMITTEE MEETING ADJOURNED

There being no further business, and on motion of Mr. Tienken, seconded by Ms. Holmes with no “nay” votes, the meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan M. Kies

Clerk



Aubrie L. Williams  
Assistant Clerk



Ricardo Estrada

*Chair pro tem*