

MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE, PERSONNEL, AND ETHICS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

MAY 20, 2020

This meeting of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held via teleconference¹ on Wednesday, May 20, 2020, beginning at 2:18 p.m.

Trustee Mr. Ricardo Estrada, chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the secretary-designate to call the roll. The following members of the committee were present: Mr. Kareem Dale;² Mr. Ricardo Estrada; Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes; Mr. Edward L. McMillan; Ms. Jill B. Smart; Ms. Susan E. Panek, student trustee, Chicago; and Ms. Rosie Dawoud,² student trustee, Springfield. Mr. Donald J. Edwards, chair of the Board of Trustees, attended the meeting. Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson, Dr. Stuart C. King, and Mr. Trayshawn M. W. Mitchell, voting student trustee, Urbana, attended the meeting as guests.

Also present were Mr. Lester H. McKeever Jr., treasurer; President Timothy L. Killeen; Dr. Barbara J. Wilson, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Robert J. Jones, chancellor, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois; Dr. Michael D. Amiridis, chancellor, University of Illinois at Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois;

¹ Per Governor J. B. Pritzker's Executive Order 2020-33.

² Mr. Dale left at 2:59 p.m. Ms. Dawoud left at 2:45 p.m.

Dr. Susan J. Koch, chancellor, University of Illinois at Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois; Dr. Avijit Ghosh, comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Mr. Thomas P. Hardy, executive director for University relations; Ms. Dedra M. Williams, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University; and Mr. Gregory J. Knott, secretary-designate of the Board of Trustees and of the University. Attached is a listing of other staff members and some members of the media in attendance at this meeting.

Mr. Estrada welcomed everyone to the meeting and remarked on the history of support from the Board to the executive team at the University. He referred to the importance of transparency and governance. He then asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on March 11, 2020, and there were none. Mr. Estrada requested a motion to approve the minutes, and on motion of Ms. Smart, seconded by Ms. Holmes, the minutes were approved. There were no “nay” votes.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS
FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ON MAY 21, 2020

Mr. Estrada introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board’s agenda at its meeting on May 21, 2020. All recommended items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

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

Mr. Estrada asked Mr. Knott to comment on the recommended appointments to the faculty, administrative/professional staff, and intercollegiate athletic staff. Mr. Knott explained that the appointments recommended in this item are thoroughly reviewed at the appropriate levels within the college, department, and unit, and he asked that members of the committee contact him with any questions.

Appoint Interim Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation

Mr. Estrada then asked President Killeen to report on the recommendation to appoint Dr. Joseph T. Walsh as interim vice president for economic development and innovation. President Killeen stated that Dr. Walsh previously served as senior advisor to the president for research and science and as professor of biomedical engineering at Northwestern University, and that he has served as interim vice president for economic development and innovation-designate since May 16, 2020. He described Dr. Walsh's background and experience and said he succeeds Dr. Edward Seidel, who resigned from the University to assume the role of president at the University of Wyoming.

Appoint Chief Internal Auditor

Next, Dr. Ghosh reported on the recommendation to appoint Ms. Julie A. Zemaitis, executive director, Office of University Audits, for a five-year term as chief internal

auditor beginning July 1, 2020. He said her last academic professional appointment for a five-year term was approved by the Board at its May 7, 2015, meeting and expires on June 30, 2020.

Approve Appointment of Chancellor Emerita, Springfield

Mr. Estrada then asked Dr. Wilson to discuss the recommendation to approve the appointment of Dr. Koch as chancellor emerita of the University of Illinois at Springfield and vice president emerita. Dr. Wilson stated that Dr. Koch began her role as chancellor in July 2011 and has been a visionary leader. She listed Dr. Koch's many accomplishments, including the construction of the first Student Union at Springfield. Dr. Wilson mentioned the many initiatives developed under the leadership of Dr. Koch, some of which helped raise the university's rankings. Dr. Wilson said it has been an honor to work with Dr. Koch, and she referred again to her exceptional leadership. Mr. Estrada agreed, thanked Dr. Koch for her service and congratulated her on her retirement. Ms. Smart and Mr. McMillan echoed these sentiments. Ms. Holmes said she was impressed with Dr. Koch throughout her tenure, and she thanked her for her hard work and dedication.

Approve New University of Illinois System Policy on
Workplace-Related Intimate Personal Relationships and
Approve New University of Illinois System Policy on
Consideration of Sexual Misconduct in Prior Employment

Dr. Wilson then reported on the recommendations to approve the University of Illinois System Policy on Workplace-Related Intimate Personal Relationships and the University of Illinois System Policy on Consideration of Sexual Misconduct in Prior Employment. Dr. Wilson gave some background on the proposed policies and outlined aspects of each, and she said she believes these policies will help create a safe campus environment. Mr. Estrada thanked Dr. Wilson for her hard work on this task. Mr. Dale encouraged the Board to consider a policy that covers trustees. Discussion followed, and trustees agreed that this should be addressed in a separate policy. Ms. Smart commented on the two proposed policies and said they are thoughtful and easy to understand.

Appoint Head Varsity Coach, Men's Basketball, Chicago

Next, Mr. Estrada asked Dr. Amiridis to provide information regarding the recommendation to appoint Mr. Lucas Yaklich as head varsity coach, men's basketball, Chicago. Dr. Amiridis said Mr. Yaklich previously served as associate head coach of men's basketball at the University of Texas and has served as interim head varsity coach of men's basketball since March 25, 2020. Dr. Amiridis provided additional information about Mr. Yaklich's background and experience and reviewed aspects of the terms of the employee agreement.

Amend Multi-Year Contract,
Head Varsity Coach, Women's Basketball, Urbana

Mr. Estrada asked Dr. Jones to report on the recommendation to amend the multiyear contract for the head varsity coach for women's basketball at Urbana. Dr. Jones reported that Ms. Nancy Fahey has served as head varsity coach of women's basketball at Urbana since May 2017. He said this item recommends an amendment to Ms. Fahey's employment contract to extend the term by two additional years, through April 30, 2025. Dr. Jones gave an overview of the agreement and described Ms. Fahey's background as a basketball coach. Dr. Jones said she has had success in the women's program and that there is potential for future success.

Appoint Members to the Athletic Board, Urbana

Next, Dr. Jones reported on the recommendation to appoint members to the Athletic Board at Urbana. He described the role of the Athletic Board and its composition, and he said that nominations are provided by constituency groups. Dr. Jones then listed the individuals recommended for appointment.

There was no objection to the items listed above going forward to the full Board for voting.

PRESENTATION

Legislative Update

Next, Mr. Estrada asked Ms. Jennifer M. Creasey, senior director of State relations, and Mr. Paul Weinberger, director of federal relations, to give a legislative update. Ms.

Creasey gave examples of the University's contributions to the response to the coronavirus pandemic, which include faculty sharing their expertise about COVID-19 and being a resource to help with shift to online education. She said President Killeen and Dr. Wilson have contributed to working groups on higher education and highlighted the University's leadership role in the State. Ms. Creasey mentioned several advocacy initiatives that emphasize the need for State support and highlight University priorities.

Mr. Weinberger discussed four COVID-19 relief bills and said the Office of Governmental Relations continues to advocate for federal assistance and support. He outlined initiatives and outreach in support of the University's needs and said that calls from President Killeen and trustees to members of Congress have been helpful. Mr. Weinberger gave examples of support from the Illinois delegation and said that the HEROES Act includes some University priorities. He said they are tracking developments related to changes to Title IX legislation and the potential termination of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Estrada asked if there was any new business to discuss, and there was none. He announced that the next meeting of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee is scheduled for July 22, 2020, at 2:00 p.m. at a location to be determined.

MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Ms. Smart, seconded by Mr. McMillan, the meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

There were no “nay” votes.

Respectfully submitted,

DEDRA M. WILLIAMS
Secretary

RICARDO ESTRADA
Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Special Assistant to the Secretary