

MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
MAY 19, 2021

This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held via teleconference¹ on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, beginning at 2:45 p.m.

Trustee Donald J. Edwards, chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Ms. Tami Craig Schilling; Mr. Kareem Dale; Mr. Donald J. Edwards; Mr. Ricardo Estrada; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; Ms. Jocelyn Bravo, voting student trustee, Chicago; Mr. Ali Mirza, student trustee, Urbana. Mr. Austin Verthein, student trustee, Springfield, was absent.

Also present were Mr. Lester H. McKeever, 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 Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Michael D. Amiridis, chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Karen M. Whitney, interim chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Avijit Ghosh, comptroller (and vice

¹ Per Governor J. B. Pritzker's Executive Order 2021-09.

president/chief financial officer); Dr. Joseph T. Walsh Jr., interim vice president for economic development and innovation; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Ms. Adrienne Nazon, interim vice president of external relations and communications; Ms. Kirsten Ruby, interim director for University relations; and Mr. Gregory J. Knott, secretary 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. Edwards welcomed everyone to the meeting. He asked if there were questions or corrections regarding the minutes from the committee meeting held March 10, 2021, and there were none. On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Mr. Mirza, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:² Aye, Ms. Bravo, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Dale, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Jakobsson, Mr. Mirza; No, none; Absent, Mr. Verthein.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS
FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ON MAY 20, 2021

Mr. Edwards introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee that are scheduled for the Board's agenda at its meeting on May 20, 2021, and asked certain individuals to comment on them. The recommended Board items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

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

² Per 5 ILCS 120/7(e), all votes are conducted by roll call.

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

Appoint Interim Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Mr. Edwards asked President Killeen to report on the recommendation to appoint Dr. Ghosh as interim executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs.

President Killeen stated that Dr. Ghosh will succeed Dr. Wilson, who is leaving the University to serve as president of the University of Iowa. President Killeen described Dr. Ghosh's background and experience, working in University administration for the past 20 years. Mr. Edwards said he looks forward to working with Dr. Ghosh in this role and commented on Dr. Wilson's many contributions while serving as executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs.

Approve Revisions to the U of I System Residency Status Policy

Next, Mr. Edwards asked Dr. Wilson to discuss the recommendation to approve revisions to the University System residency status policy. Dr. Wilson explained that this policy was last revised in 1997, and she gave some background on the composition of the

committee that was charged with reviewing the policy, as well as the process used to conduct the review. She listed the proposed changes and highlighted revisions leading to a more robust appeals process.

Approve Student Health Insurance Rate Change for
University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, Academic Year 2021-2022

Dr. Wilson then provided information on the recommendation to approve the student health insurance rate change for Academic Year 2021-2022 and said the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics has decided to remove student-athletes from the Urbana policy and instead utilize coverage under a separate policy, resulting in an \$11.00 decrease in the student health insurance rate per semester.

Appoint Acting Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Chicago

Mr. Edwards asked Dr. Amiridis to discuss the recommendation to appoint Dr. Karen Colley, presently dean of the Graduate College and professor of biochemistry and molecular genetics, College of Medicine at Chicago, as acting provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs at the University of Illinois Chicago. Dr. Amiridis said Dr. Colley will succeed Dr. Susan Poser, who is resigning from the university to become president of Hofstra University. He said Dr. Colley will continue to hold the position of dean of the Graduate College and will return to that role when a permanent provost is appointed. Dr. Amiridis described Dr. Colley's background and experience. Mr. Edwards remarked on the quality of the administrators working at the University and the number who have left or are leaving to become presidents elsewhere.

Appoint Interim Dean, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, Chicago

Next, Mr. Edwards asked Dr. Poser, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Chicago, to report on the recommendation to appoint Dr. David F. Merriman, presently James J. Stukel Presidential Professor, professor of public administration, and center affiliate, Government Finance Research Center, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs, and Institute of Government and Public Affairs (IGPA) senior scholar as interim dean of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs. She described Dr. Merriman's background and experience and said he will succeed Dr. Michael Pagano.

Appoint Interim Dean, UIC John Marshall Law School, Chicago

Dr. Poser then provided information on the recommendation to appoint Ms. Julie M. Spanbauer, presently vice dean for academic affairs and professor of law at the UIC John Marshall Law School, as interim dean of the UIC John Marshall Law School. Dr. Poser said Ms. Spanbauer will succeed Ms. Darby Dickerson, who is resigning from the university to become the dean of Southwestern Law School.

Rename the UIC John Marshall Law School, Chicago

Next, Dr. Poser discussed the recommendation to rename the UIC John Marshall Law School as the University of Illinois Chicago School of Law. She provided information about the asset transfer agreement and the July 19, 2018, Board item in which the University agreed to include "John Marshall Law School" in the official school name for

a period of not less than five years. She said that on March 26, 2021, the law school faculty voted by a significant majority to remove “John Marshall” from the name and rename the school as the “University of Illinois Chicago School of Law.” She said the faculty senate approved the renaming, and said that an amendment to the asset transfer agreement has been approved, subject to approval by the Board. Brief discussion followed regarding other aspects of the agreement.

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences,
College of Pharmacy, Chicago

Dr. Poser then reported on the recommendation to establish the Bachelor of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences (BSPS) in the College of Pharmacy at Chicago and stated that this program would be the first of its kind in Illinois. She said students would transfer into the BSPS program in their third year and that the program would offer a BSPS pathway and a BSPS/Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) pathway. Dr. Poser said the BSPS/PharmD pathway would allow students to complete both degrees in seven years, rather than the traditional eight. She said it is anticipated that 100 students will be enrolled in the BSPS program when fully implemented, and that 80 percent will select the BSPS/PharmD pathway. She said no additional state funds are being requested for the degree, and College of Pharmacy faculty will teach the core classes offered by the college.

Rename, Reorganize, and Revise the Master of Science in Public Health, Concentration
in Biostatistics, School of Public Health and the Graduate College, Chicago;
Rename, Reorganize, and Revise the Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health,
Concentration in Biostatistics, School of Public Health and the Graduate College,

Chicago; Rename, Reorganize, and Revise the Master of Science in Public Health, Concentration in Epidemiology, School of Public Health and the Graduate College, Chicago; Rename, Reorganize, and Revise the Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health, Concentration in Epidemiology, School of Public Health and the Graduate College, Chicago

Next, Dr. Poser provided information on the recommendations to rename, reorganize, and revise degree programs in the School of Public Health and the Graduate College. She said the Master of Science in Public Health, concentration in Biostatistics and the Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health, concentration in Biostatistics would be renamed the Master of Science in Biostatistics and the Doctor of Philosophy in Biostatistics, respectively. Similarly, she said the Master of Science in Public Health, concentration in Epidemiology, and the Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health, concentration in Epidemiology, would be renamed the Master of Science in Epidemiology and the Doctor of Philosophy in Epidemiology, respectively. Dr. Poser discussed the rationale for these changes and described the advantages.

Appoint Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Springfield

Mr. Edwards asked Dr. Whitney to report on the recommendation to appoint Ms. Ann Comerford, presently executive director of the Student Union at Springfield as interim vice chancellor for student affairs at Springfield. Dr. Whitney described Ms. Comerford's background and experience and said she will succeed Dr. Van Lee Vieregge, who is retiring. Dr. Whitney said that a determination regarding the search process will be made after a permanent chancellor is hired, and she told the committee that Ms. Comerford's appointment is supported by the student government and campus senate.

Transfer the Master of Science in Data Analytics,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Springfield

Next, Mr. Edwards asked Dr. Dennis Papini, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Springfield, to provide information on the recommendation to transfer the Master of Science in Data Analytics (MSDA) from the Department of Mathematical Sciences to the Department of Computer Science. He explained the MSDA is a joint program offered by both departments and is administratively housed in the Department of Mathematical Sciences. Dr. Papini said most of the curriculum is offered by the Department of Computer Science. He described the advantages of the proposed transfer, including enhanced efficiency of course scheduling and curriculum development and increased opportunities for students.

Rename and Reorganize the Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration,
College of Public Affairs and Administration, Springfield

Dr. Papini then reported on the recommendation to rename the Bachelor of Arts in Public Administration (BAPA) as the Bachelor of Arts in Public and Nonprofit Administration (BAPNA) and to reorganize the curriculum to expand options for students while streamlining faculty and university resources. He reviewed the proposed changes to the program, which he said will simplify the program for students, allow for more coursework flexibility, and improve marketability. Dr. Papini said the BAPNA will be offered fully online, which is expected to increase enrollment. He said the BAPA is

currently offered in traditional face-to-face and blended formats with some courses offered online.

Eliminate the Bachelor of Arts in Management,
College of Business and Management, Springfield

Dr. Papini discussed the recommendation to eliminate the Bachelor of Arts in Management and told the committee that the one student currently enrolled in the program will be permitted to complete the program within allowable time limits. He said no additional funding is needed to eliminate the program.

Approve Online Tuition Rate, College of Business and Management, Springfield

Lastly, Dr. Papini reported on the recommendation to approve an online tuition rate of \$424.75 per credit hour for General College of Business and Management Online master's degree programs covered under an agreement with Academic Partnerships, a company that helps universities grow their capacity to offer educational opportunities for nontraditional students. He said this proposed rate will apply to current and future College of Business and Management master's degree programs associated with the Academic Partnerships agreement. He told the committee that market analysis has shown that the proposed tuition rate is competitive with existing rates for similar programs.

Amend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate *Constitution*, Urbana

Mr. Edwards then asked Dr. Jones to discuss the recommendation to amend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate *Constitution*. Dr. Jones told the

committee that the proposed change clarifies the role of the presiding officer of the Senate to maintain a position of impartiality. He described the proposed changes and said this recommendation stemmed from an occurrence where there was a lack of clarity about the roles and responsibility of the presiding officer and whether or not he or she could participate in debate, make motions, or second motions.

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Neuroscience,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

Mr. Edwards asked Dr. Andreas C. Cangellaris, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Urbana, to discuss the recommendation to establish the Bachelor of Science in Neurosciences in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana. Dr. Cangellaris provided information about the growing interdisciplinary field of neuroscience and said the degree will draw on strengths in existing departments, including the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology. He said students will be prepared for graduate school in neuroscience, neuropsychology, or for medical school with a focus in neurology or psychiatry, or for careers in the pharmaceutical sector or in government agencies. He told the committee that no new faculty will be hired to teach in this program, and that one full-time academic advisor and one instructor or lecturer will be hired to support the program using existing revenue streams within the School of Molecular and Cellular Biology.

Establish the Master of Science in Weather and Climate Risk and Analytics,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris then discussed the recommendation to establish the Master of Science in Weather and Climate Risk and Analytics in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College at Urbana. He described the goals of the program and said it is designed to be offered online, allowing flexibility for working professionals. Dr. Cangellaris said this is a fast-growing field in both interest and demand. He said the Investment for Growth Program grant will fund an additional specialized faculty member and a program coordinator for the first three years. He said that grant will also fund summer and overload salary costs for current faculty for course development, as well as teaching assistants and information technology support. Dr. Cangellaris said it is expected that the program will be self-sustaining, supported by tuition revenue.

Establish the Master of Science in Environmental Geology,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris then discussed the recommendation to establish the Master of Science in Environmental Geology in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College at Urbana. He said described areas of study for the program and said this online, non-thesis program will accommodate learners located remotely, as well as working professionals. Dr. Cangellaris stated it is designed to meet the high demand for advanced geology expertise in applied industry sectors and targets the environmental consulting sector. He said initial costs will be covered by the Investment for Growth Program grant, and that the program is expected to be self-sustaining, supported by tuition revenue.

Rename the Bachelor of Science in Technical Systems Management,
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris discussed the recommendation to rename the Bachelor of Science in Technical Systems Management in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at Urbana as the Bachelor of Science in Engineering Technology and Management for Agricultural Systems. He said feedback collected by a task force in the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering indicated that the name, “Technical Systems Management,” was confusing and difficult to explain to prospective students, employers, and a general audience. He said the more descriptive name of “Engineering Technology and Management for Agricultural Systems” is proposed. Dr. Cangellaris said no funding impact is expected, and renaming does not require hiring additional faculty, nor does it require additional resources with regard to equipment or instructional facilities.

Establish the Kimball R. and Karen Gatsis Anderson
Center for Advocacy and Professionalism, College of Law, Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris then discussed the recommendation to establish the Kimball R. and Karen Gatsis Anderson Center for Advocacy and Professionalism in the College of Law at Urbana. He told the committee that the \$5.0 million pledge from Kimball and Karen Gatsis Anderson to fund the proposed center may be the largest nondeferred gift made to the College of Law. He said Kimball and Karen Gatsis Anderson are both “double Illini,” having received their bachelor’s degrees in 1974, and their law degrees in 1977. Dr. Cangellaris provided information about the role of the center at the university in building skills needed for legal practice. He described the infrastructure upgrades and the many

benefits these would bring to students, and he commented on efforts to gain recognition as a top advocacy program in the nation within five years, and recognition as one of the nation's elite advocacy programs within 10 years. Dr. Cangellaris said the establishment of the Anderson Center is an opportunity for the College of Law to differentiate itself and would help drive admissions, placement, and institutional reputation in the legal community.

PRESENTATION

Student Mental Health and Well-Being

At 3:32 p.m., Mr. Edwards asked Dr. Wilson to give a presentation on student mental health and well-being (materials on file with the secretary). Dr. Wilson credited Ms. Bravo with the idea to present on this topic and listed some statistics related to mental health among college students. She said that student mental health has been identified as an important risk through the Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) process. Dr. Wilson shared data on the prevalence of mental health issues among college students, particularly among those who are marginalized or vulnerable, and said that the COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated this issue, with 89 percent of college students nationwide experiencing stress or anxiety as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. She said that in response to the ERM process, a system-wide student mental health committee was formed that led to the creation of a day-long event to facilitate collaboration and generate strategies to support student mental health. Dr. Wilson said that Dr. Gary Glass, director of counseling and career services at Emory University, was the guest

speaker, and that more than 400 attendees participated in the event. She described activities that took place in the spring, including the creation of a brochure for faculty to better support student well-being and the establishment of subgroups to build communities of support. She listed the university subgroup leaders and thanked others at the University who have provided guidance and support. Dr. Wilson introduced the student leaders at each university: Ms. Ananya Cleetus, Urbana; Ms. Hana Ahmed, Chicago; Mr. Max Ellithorpe, Chicago; and Ms. Maggie Fiaush, Springfield. Dr. Wilson then asked each student leader to comment. Ms. Cleetus referred to Dr. Glass's ideas on creating a community of care and prioritizing mental health and well-being across the University. She listed some actionable steps that have been taken, including the addition of the crisis line number on student i-cards. Ms. Ahmed commented on the implementation of student mental health days to mitigate some of the stress that students experience. Mr. Ellithorpe discussed the adoption of a community-based model and giving students necessary tools to be a resource for classmates in crisis with the implementation of mental health first aid training. Ms. Fiaush said that information about the Counseling Center and their services should be more widely shared and suggested that it could be listed on the home screen of the learning management system and in course syllabi. Dr. Wilson thanked the students for their comments and ideas.

Ms. Craig Schilling asked about ideas to help parents who are concerned about their children's mental well-being while attending college. Mr. Ellithorpe said that parents could be given tools to help communication, and Dr. Wilson suggested that the faculty guide could possibly be amended for this purpose. Dr. Amiridis emphasized the

importance of sharing information about university resources, and Dr. Jones added that it may help to be more intentional and deliberate about providing educational resources to parents. Mr. Edwards agreed that it would be helpful to share information and resources with parents. Brief discussion followed regarding parent communication; cultural attitudes toward mental health; and the complex and varied relationships between parents and children.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Edwards asked if there was any new business, and there was none. He announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for July 21, 2021, at 2:45 p.m., at a location to be determined.

MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Mr. Estrada, the meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m. by the following roll call vote: Aye, Ms. Bravo, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Dale, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Jakobsson, Mr. Mirza; No, none; Absent, Mr. Verthein.

Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY J. KNOTT
Secretary

DONALD J. EDWARDS
Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Special Assistant to the Secretary