

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

NOVEMBER 17, 2021

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, November 17, 2021, beginning at 2:02 p.m.

Trustee Ricardo Estrada, chair of the committee, stated that the chair of the Board of Trustees determined that an in-person meeting would not be practical or prudent due to COVID-19 and that under Section 7(e)(2) of the Open Meetings Act, this meeting would be held virtually. Mr. Estrada convened the meeting and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following members of the committee were present: Mr. Kareem Dale, Mr. Ricardo Estrada; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; Dr. Stuart C. King; and Ms. Mariama Mwilambwe, student trustee, Urbana. Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes was absent. Ms. Tami Craig Schilling and Mr. Donald J. Edwards attended the meeting as guests.

Also present were President Timothy L. Killeen; Dr. Avijit Ghosh, interim 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,

¹ Per Governor J. B. Pritzker's Executive Order 2021-27 and 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(2).

University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Paul N. Ellinger, interim comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Dr. Joseph T. Walsh Jr., interim vice president for economic development and innovation; Ms. Adrienne Nazon, vice president of external relations and communications; 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. Estrada welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on September 22, 2021, and there were none. Mr. Estrada requested a motion to approve the minutes, and on motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Dr. King, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:² Aye, Mr. Dale, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms. Mwilambwe; No, none; Absent, Ms. Holmes.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ON NOVEMBER 18, 2021

Mr. Estrada introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board's agenda at its meeting on November 18, 2021. All recommended items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

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

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.

Revise *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*

Mr. Estrada asked Ms. Jami M. Painter, associate vice president and chief human resources officer, to report on the recommendation to revise *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*. Ms. Painter explained that the recommendation proposes to amend Article 4, Section 1 and would increase bereavement or funeral leave from three weeks to five weeks and parental leave from two weeks to six weeks. Mr. Estrada asked if this reflects best practice among peers, and Ms. Painter said that this change would align the University more closely with its peers in the Big Ten. She said the University would rank fourth for parental leave and second for bereavement or funeral leave.

Appoint Vice President for Economic Development and Innovation

Mr. Estrada then asked President Killeen to discuss the recommendation to appoint Dr. Joseph T. Walsh Jr. as vice president for economic development and innovation.

President Killeen stated that Dr. Walsh has served in this role on an interim basis since May 16, 2020, and he described Dr. Walsh's education, background, and experience. He highlighted some of Dr. Walsh's work while serving in this role, noting that he was awarded the Presidential Award and Medallion for his work to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 with testing made available through Shield T3 and Shield Illinois.

Mr. Edwards recalled meeting Dr. Walsh before he assumed this role and said that he embraced the mission of public higher education and the University System. He also referred to Dr. Walsh's work with Shield and expressed support for the appointment, which was echoed by many in attendance at the meeting.

There were no objections to the items listed above being forwarded to the full Board for approval.

PRESENTATIONS

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 referred to the end of the legislative session and highlighted legislation that would impact higher education. She described plans and priorities for the 2022 legislative session and said the Office of Governmental Relations will focus on increasing support

from the State and changes to the procurement code. She reported on regular engagement with the caucuses and growing partnerships in the state. Mr. Weinberger gave a federal update and discussed the potential impact of the infrastructure bill on research and development at the University. He also gave an update on the Build Back Better Act and its potential impact. He said less time has been spent on appropriations bills and processes. Mr. Estrada thanked Ms. Creasey and Mr. Weinberger for the work they are doing on behalf of the University.

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 January 19, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., in Chicago.³

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:25 p.m., Mr. Estrada stated: “A motion is now in order to hold an executive session to consider discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act.” On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Dr. King, this motion was approved by

³ The January 19, 2022, meeting was held virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Dale, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms. Mwilambwe; No, none; Absent, Ms. Holmes.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Estrada convened this executive session at 2:26 p.m. All committee members except Ms. Holmes were present. The following were also in attendance: President Timothy L. Killeen; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; and Mr. Gregory J. Knott, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

Discussion of Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed Under the Open Meetings Act

Mr. Estrada asked Mr. Knott and Mr. Bearrows to discuss the minutes that had been sequestered under the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Knott outlined the requirement within the Open Meetings Act for public bodies to review minutes, at least twice annually, for purposes of the public interest and in the interest of individual privacy, and to consider whether a need for these materials to be held from release still exists. Mr. Bearrows stated that he and Mr. Knott reviewed the minutes that are sequestered under the Open Meetings Act, and he referred to guidelines used to determine whether the need for confidentiality continues. He described the topics discussed in the sequestered minutes from this committee and stated that the only sequestered minutes recommended for release at this time relate to the discussion of sequestered minutes from May 19, 2021. No members of the committee disagreed with this recommendation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNED

The executive session adjourned at 2:28 p.m.

AGENDA

At 2:29 p.m., the open session resumed. Mr. Estrada stated that there was one agenda item requiring action by the committee, and Mr. Knott read aloud the title of the item, “Disclose Certain Minutes of Executive Sessions Pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.” The committee agreed that one vote would be taken and considered the vote on the agenda item as listed below.

Disclose Certain Minutes of Executive Sessions Pursuant to Open Meetings Act

(1) Under the Open Meetings Act passed by the General Assembly, public bodies subject to the Act that conduct business under exceptions specified in the Act must, at least every six months, determine whether the need for confidentiality still exists with respect to each item considered under such exception. Pursuant to the Act, “[m]inutes of meetings closed to the public shall be available only after the public body determines that it is no longer necessary to protect the public interest or the privacy of an individual by keeping them confidential....” [5 ILCS 120/2.06(f)].

An item from September 2010 through May 2021 that has been heretofore unreleased is recommended for release at this time.

The University counsel and the secretary of the Board, having consulted with appropriate University officers, recommends that the following matter considered in executive session for the time period above be made available to the public at this time.

The committee action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The president of the University concurs.

Executive Session Minutes Released to Public

May 19, 2021, Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee

Mr. Estrada convened this executive session at 2:35 p.m. All committee members were present. Ms. Tami Craig Schilling, Mr. Donald J. Edwards, Ms. Sarah C. Phalen, Ms. Jocelyn Bravo, and Mr. Ali Mirza attended as guests. The following were also in attendance: Mr. Lester H. McKeever Jr., treasurer; President Timothy L. Killeen; Dr. Barbara J. Wilson, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; 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.

Discussion of Minutes of Meetings Lawfully Closed Under the Open Meetings Act

Mr. Estrada asked Mr. Knott and Mr. Bearrows to discuss the minutes that had been sequestered under the Open Meetings Act. Mr. Knott outlined the requirement within the Open Meetings Act for public bodies to review minutes, at least twice annually, for purposes of protection of public interest and in the interest of protection of any individual, and to consider whether a need for these materials to be held from release still exists. Mr. Bearrows stated that he and Mr. Knott met to review minutes that are sequestered under the Open Meetings Act and briefly described the process to determine whether the need for confidentiality continues. He stated that sequestered minutes from this committee are related to employee matters, and he described the guidelines for their potential release. Mr. Bearrows stated that the only sequestered minutes recommended for release at this time relate to the discussion of sequestered minutes from November 11, 2020. No members of the committee disagreed with this recommendation.

On motion of Mr. Dale, seconded by Ms. Jakobsson, this recommendation was approved by the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Dale, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms. Mwilambwe; No, none; Absent, Ms. Holmes.

MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Mr. Dale, the meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.
by the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Dale, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms.
Mwilambwe; No, none; Absent, Ms. Holmes.

Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY J. KNOTT
Secretary

RICARDO ESTRADA
Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Special Assistant to the Secretary