

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

JANUARY 19, 2022

This meeting of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held via teleconference<sup>1</sup> on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, beginning at 2:10 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. Donald J. Edwards; Mr. Ricardo Estrada; Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; Dr. Stuart C. King; and Ms. Mariama Mwilambwe, student trustee, Urbana. Ms. Tami Craig Schilling attended the meeting as a guest.

Also present were Mr. Lester H. McKeever, treasurer; 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

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<sup>1</sup> Per Governor J. B. Pritzker's Executive Order 2022-01 and 5 ILCS 120/7(e)(2).

System; Dr. Karen M. Whitney, interim chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Paul N. Ellinger, interim comptroller (and vice 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, 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 shared quotations from the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. He then asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on November 17, 2021, and there were none. Mr. Estrada requested a motion to approve the minutes, and on motion of Dr. King, seconded by Ms. Jakobsson, the minutes were approved by the following roll call vote:<sup>2</sup> Aye, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Holmes, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms. Mwilambwe; No, none.

REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS  
FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ON JANUARY 20, 2022

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

Mr. Estrada introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board's agenda at its meeting on January 20, 2022. 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.

There were no objections to this item being forwarded to the full Board for approval.

PRESENTATIONS

Policy on Background Checks

Mr. Estrada asked Ms. Jami M. Painter, associate vice president and chief human resources officer, to give an annual report on the policy on background checks (materials on file with the secretary). Ms. Painter gave an overview of the policy, which was approved by the Board at its September 2015 meeting, and described the background check process. She reported on the number of posted job vacancies; applicants; number of background checks conducted; and background check costs from November 1, 2020,

through October 31, 2021. Ms. Painter showed that 0.2 percent of offers were withdrawn based on the background check review process, which she said is consistent with prior years. She said the average turnaround time has increased slightly due to the impact of COVID-19 and told the committee she expects to see improvements in the future. Ms. Painter said the background check process has not had an adverse impact on recruitment and mitigates risk to the University.

### 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 an update on the legislative session and reported on the development of a bill review team to assess impacts of legislation on the University and a legislative campaign focusing on the role of public universities in Illinois. She referred to the upcoming legislative agenda that includes proposed changes to the procurement code and described upcoming advocacy events and initiatives. Mr. Weinberger gave a federal update and said that while attempts to pass the Build Back Better Act have collapsed, efforts to advocate for funding for Pell grants, research, and other priorities continue. He said progress is being made on the Fiscal Year 2022 appropriations process, and that the process for Fiscal Year 2023 will be delayed. He referred to upcoming advocacy events, including an in-person University of Illinois System advocacy day in late April. Mr.

Estrada thanked Ms. Creasey and Mr. Weinberger for their reports and said he would like to participate in the University of Illinois System advocacy day.

#### 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 March 16, 2022, at 2:00 p.m., at Urbana.

#### MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Dr. King, the meeting adjourned at 2:29 p.m. by the following roll call vote: Aye, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Estrada, Ms. Holmes, Ms. Jakobsson, Dr. King, Ms. Mwilambwe; No, none.

Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY J. KNOTT  
*Secretary*

RICARDO ESTRADA  
*Chair*

EILEEN B. CABLE  
*Special Assistant to the Secretary*