

MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS
MARCH 16, 2022

This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held in Heritage Hall, I Hotel and Conference Center, 1901 South First Street, Champaign, Illinois, on Wednesday, March 16, 2022, beginning at 2:57 p.m.

Trustee Tami Craig Schilling, 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. Donald J. Edwards; Mr. Ricardo Estrada; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; Ms. Mariama Mwilambwe, student trustee, Urbana; and Mr. Lavleen Mal, student trustee, Chicago. Mr. Austin Verthein, voting student trustee, Springfield, was absent. Dr. Stuart C. King and Ms. Sarah C. Phalen attended the meeting as guests.

Also present were Mr. Lester H. McKeever,¹ 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

¹ Mr. McKeever attended via remote videoconference.

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); Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Dr. Joseph T. Walsh Jr., 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.

Ms. Craig Schilling welcomed everyone to the meeting. She asked if there were questions or corrections regarding the minutes from the committee meeting held January 19, 2022, and there were none. On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Mr. Estrada, 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 MARCH 17, 2022

Ms. Craig Schilling introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee that are scheduled for the Board’s agenda at its meeting on March 17, 2022, 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

Ms. Craig Schilling 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.

Sabbatical Leaves of Absence, 2022-2023

Ms. Craig Schilling then asked Dr. Ghosh to report on the recommendation to approve sabbatical leaves of absence for Academic Year 2022-2023. Dr. Ghosh explained that sabbatical leaves of absence permit tenured faculty to have focused time to conduct research, bring projects to completion, or engage in other types of faculty development, and he briefly commented on the review process, as well as compensation. Dr. Ghosh stated that there are 207 recommended sabbatical leaves of absence, which is about average for a given year. He reported that while there were 213 sabbatical requests last year, only 179 were taken, primarily due to COVID-19 travel restrictions. Ms. Craig Schilling asked if those who were unable to take approved sabbaticals last year resubmit their requests the following year. Dr. Ghosh said that while this is possible, not all will resubmit their requests due to a variety of reasons.

Approve Student Health Insurance Rates for Academic Year 2022-2023

Next, Dr. Ghosh discussed the recommendation to approve student health insurance rates for Academic Year 2022-2023. He said the rates at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and the University of Illinois Chicago are unchanged from last year and that the proposed rate for all students at the University of Illinois Springfield would increase by \$154 per semester. He explained this was the only plan that included mental health coverage and noted that while there would be an increase in cost, the rate continues to be competitive with peer institutions. Dr. Ghosh told the committee that the higher cost of insurance at Springfield is due to the low enrollment in the plan, with 85 percent of students opting out due to alternative coverage. He said the potential to pool insurance with Urbana in the future is being investigated. Dr. King acknowledged the importance of mental health coverage, and Ms. Phalen and Dr. Ghosh briefly discussed drawbacks of offering to this population high deductible plans with health savings accounts.

Appoint Dean, Carle Illinois College of Medicine, Urbana

Ms. Craig Schilling asked Dr. Andreas C. Cangellaris, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Urbana, to provide information regarding the recommendation to appoint Dr. Mark S. Cohen as dean of the Carle Illinois College of Medicine, Urbana. Dr. Cangellaris discussed aspects of the proposed appointment and described Dr. Cohen's background and experience. Dr. King emphasized the critical role of the dean at this new medical school and said this is an outstanding appointment.

Eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Human Nutrition,
College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana;
Establish the Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition, College of Agricultural,

Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana; Establish the Bachelor of Science in Food Science, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana; Establish the Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana; Establish the Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Health, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences, Urbana

Dr. Cangellaris then reported on items associated with the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences at Urbana, beginning with the recommendation to eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Human Nutrition. He explained that a recent review suggested restructuring to dissolve the current structure of the Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Human Nutrition with four concentrations and instead tie those concentrations to four separate Bachelor of Science degrees. He said this would elevate the existing concentrations and make the graduates of the four BS degrees more marketable to employers and graduate programs. Dr. Cangellaris said the current Bachelor of Science in Food Science and Human Nutrition will be eliminated when the currently enrolled students have graduated. He then reported on the four proposed Bachelor of Science degrees in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences: the Bachelor of Science in Dietetics and Nutrition, the Bachelor of Science in Food Science, the Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management, and the Bachelor of Science in Nutrition and Health. He explained that little to no impact is expected in terms of funding, instructional resources, or student-to-faculty ratios.

Eliminate the Master of Science in Plant Biotechnology,
Professional Science Master's Concentration, College of Agricultural, Consumer and
Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

Next, Dr. Cangellaris reported on the recommendation to eliminate the Master of Science in Plant Biotechnology, professional science master's concentration, in the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana, due to low enrollment over the past several years. He said the department will shift its resources toward the online Master of Science program in the Department of Crop Sciences, which has been experiencing increased enrollment.

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

Ms. Craig Schilling then asked Dr. Amiridis to discuss the recommendation to appoint Dr. Stacey Swearingen White as dean of the College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs at Chicago. Dr. Amiridis described Dr. Swearingen White's background and experience and said she currently serves as professor of urban planning and director of the School of Public Affairs and Administration at the University of Kansas. He told the committee that she was the top candidate in the national search conducted by the search committee at the university.

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

Dr. Amiridis reported on the recommendation to appoint faculty fellows to the Institute for the Humanities in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago, and stated that the recommended faculty members are released from teaching and administrative duties for one year in order to devote full effort to research. He said this

is a competitive process and listed the faculty members recommended for appointment.

Appoint Interim Dean, College of Dentistry, Chicago

Next, Ms. Craig Schilling asked Dr. Robert A. Barish, vice chancellor for health affairs, Chicago, to discuss the recommendation to appoint Dr. Susan A. Rowan, presently clinical professor of restorative dentistry; associate dean of clinical affairs, dental clinics; and executive associate dean in the College of Dentistry, as interim dean, College of Dentistry. He described Dr. Rowan's background and experience and said she received her Bachelor of Science, Doctor of Dental Surgery, and Master of Science from the University of Illinois Chicago.

Rename the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Accountancy,
College of Business and Management, Springfield

Ms. Craig Schilling asked Dr. Dennis Papini, vice chancellor for academic affairs and provost, Springfield, to report on a series of academic items, beginning with the recommendation to rename the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Accountancy to the Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts in Accounting. Dr. Papini explained that "accounting" is the preferred industry term for the field and said that the use of the term "accountancy" is outdated.

Eliminate the Master of Arts in Liberal and Integrative Studies,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Springfield

Dr. Papini then discussed the recommendation to eliminate the Master of Arts in Liberal and Integrative Studies and said that no students have been admitted to the program for over two years. He said the program is costly to sustain from an administrative, budgetary, and faculty standpoint, and has been challenging for faculty to manage. He said students currently enrolled in the program would be allowed to complete the degree within allowable time limits.

Establish the Department of Counseling and Social Work,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Springfield

Dr. Papini then reported on a series of items related to the academic reorganization initiative that has been underway at the university. He listed the original four colleges: the College of Business and Management, the College of Education and Human Services, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and the College of Public Affairs and Administration. He said the College of Education and Human Services has been terminated, and that the four colleges are now the College of Business and Management; the College of Health, Science, and Technology; the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; and the College of Public Affairs and Administration. He said the proposed items will merge departments, create schools, and locate or relocate units from one college to another, filling the colleges with their respective individual units. Dr. Papini noted that all recommendations have been reviewed by the appropriate internal governing body. He began with the recommendation to merge the Department of Counseling with the Department of Social Work and said that the Department of Counseling and Social

Work would be relocated from the College of Education and Human Services to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Establish the Department of Mathematical Sciences and Philosophy,
College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield

Dr. Papini then reported on the recommendation to merge the Department of Mathematical Sciences and the Department of Philosophy, and to relocate the Department of Mathematical Sciences and Philosophy from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to the College of Health, Science, and Technology.

Establish the School of Integrated Sciences, Sustainability, and Public Health, College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield; Establish the School of Health Sciences, College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield; Establish the School of Communication and Media, College of Public Affairs and Administration, Springfield

Next, Papini discussed the creation of schools and proposed college locations. He commented briefly on the recommendations to establish the School of Integrated Sciences, Sustainability, and Public Health in the College of Health, Science, and Technology; establish the School of Health Sciences in the College of Health, Science, and Technology; and establish the School of Communication and Media in the College of Public Affairs and Administration.

Relocate the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Springfield; Relocate the Department of Psychology, College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield; Relocate the Department of Computer Science, College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield; Transfer the Therkildsen Field Station at Emiquon and the Field Station at Lake Springfield to the College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield

Dr. Papini then discussed a series of recommendations to relocate intact departments from one college to another. These included the recommendations to relocate the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice from the College of Public Affairs and Administration to the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; relocate the Department of Psychology from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to the College of Health, Science, and Technology; relocate the Department of Computer Science from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences to the College of Health, Science, and Technology; and transfer the Therkildsen Field Station at Emiquon and the Field Station at Lake Springfield from the College of Liberal Arts and Science to the College of Health, Science, and Technology. He noted that proposed name changes for the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Public Affairs and Administration will be brought to the Board at its May meeting.

Mr. Mal inquired about recommendations to eliminate programs due to low enrollment. Dr. Papini described factors leading to the recommendation to eliminate the Master of Arts in Liberal and Integrative Studies. President Killeen added that student interest, outcomes, and other considerations are weighed when the elimination of a degree is proposed. President Killeen also remarked on the series of recommendations related to the major academic reorganization at Springfield and said this is the final step in the process. He commented on the extensive effort needed throughout this academic reorganization and said it is an example of shared governance at its best. Ms. Craig Schilling also commended those at the university and in the Springfield Senate for their work on this vast, forward-thinking undertaking. Ms. Jakobsson echoed these comments.

There was no objection to the items listed above being forwarded to the Board for approval.

PRESENTATION

The Future of Libraries in the Digital Age

Next, Ms. Craig Schilling asked Mr. John P. Wilkin, university librarian and dean of libraries, Urbana; Ms. Rhea Ballard-Thrower, university librarian and dean of libraries, Chicago; and Ms. Pattie Piotrowski, dean of libraries, Springfield, to give a presentation on the future of libraries in the digital age (materials on file with the secretary). Ms. Piotrowski began her presentation by referring to the unique strengths at each university library. She gave an overview of the needs of the University of Illinois Springfield community, shared information about the library's collection and access to online materials, and emphasized the hands-on assistance and personal attention provided by its librarians to the university community. She noted that the university and its library are on the forefront of innovation and change.

Next, Ms. Ballard-Thrower described the communities served by the library at the University of Illinois Chicago and discussed the central, meaningful role of libraries. She reported on the physical space of the library and discussed a focus on community in libraries that has prevailed throughout time, regardless of changes in technology or resources.

Mr. Wilkin then discussed the past and future of libraries and told the committee that the physical spaces have remained busy, aside from times of decreased attendance due to COVID-19. He told the committee the library's large print collection is heavily used and that approximately 80 percent of the current collection is in digital format. He reported on the library's physical spaces, which he said are used for study, collaboration, and other activities. He mentioned the IDEA Lab and highlighted the Research Data Service. Mr. Wilkin also shared information regarding instructional sessions provided by the library, and he commented on the rare book collection. He told the committee that each library is distinctive, existing in both the physical and digital space, with a commitment to the faculty and students at each.

Discussion followed, and Mr. Estrada inquired about efforts to address the digital divide. Ms. Piotrowski stated that the library has made items available that students could check out as needed, including iPads and calculators. She noted an increased need for these items at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, when many students were not on campus, and said that these items could be kept by the students until they returned. Ms. Ballard-Thrower reported on a similar process at the library at Chicago. She also emphasized the impact of education on social mobility, minimizing the digital divide over time. Dr. Amiridis added that the university sent out thousands of hotspots and laptops to students who needed these types of equipment. Mr. Wilkin remarked on the economics of publishing and the cost of access to materials, referring to efforts to increase access to products of research. Ms. Piotrowski referred to the history of

advocacy on the part of librarians to address the digital divide for the past 20 to 30 years and said the pandemic increased awareness of this issue.

Members of the committee briefly discussed the School of Information Sciences at Urbana. President Killeen referred to the current era of misinformation, loss of trust, and the role of the library to make information available. He asked Ms. Piotrowski, Ms. Ballard-Thrower, and Mr. Wilkin to comment. Ms. Ballard-Thrower told the committee that librarians accompanied physicians and nurses on some occasions to provide information on COVID-19 vaccines and to address related misinformation. Ms. Piotrowski and Mr. Wilkin commented on the trusted role of librarians and their work to educate students on evaluating and navigating information. Ms. Craig Schilling thanked them for their presentation.

Ms. Craig Schilling opined on the common vision or theme of future innovation and the best way to leverage this for the State, commenting on the University's leadership. She thanked all in attendance for their participation in the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Craig Schilling asked if there was any new business, and there was none. She announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for May 18, 2022, at 2:45 p.m., at Springfield.

MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Mr. Estrada, seconded by Ms. Jakobsson, the meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. There were no “nay” votes.

Respectfully submitted,

GREGORY J. KNOTT
Secretary

TAMI CRAIG SCHILLING
Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Special Assistant to the Secretary