

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

This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held in the Isadore and Sadie Dorin Forum, Rooms D, E, and F, 725 West Roosevelt Road, Chicago, Illinois, on Wednesday, November 16, 2022, beginning at 2:45 p.m.

Trustee Tami Craig Schilling, chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the associate secretary to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Ms. Tami Craig Schilling; Mr. Donald J. Edwards; Ms. Naomi D. Jakobsson; Ms. Sylvia Puente; Mr. Rafael Camacho Jr.,¹ voting student trustee, Urbana; Mr. Mohammed A. Haq, student trustee, Chicago; and Mr. Will Formea, student trustee, Springfield.

Also present were Mr. Lester H. McKeever Jr., treasurer;² 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. Javier Reyes, interim chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois

¹ Mr. Camacho arrived at 2:49 p.m.

² Mr. McKeever attended the meeting via remote videoconference.

System; Dr. Janet L. Gooch, chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Paul N. Ellinger, comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); Dr. Joseph T. Walsh Jr., vice president for economic development and innovation; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; Ms. Adrienne Nazon, vice president of external relations and communications; Mr. Gregory J. Knott³, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University; and Ms. C. Ellen Foran, associate 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 and asked if there were questions or corrections regarding the minutes from the committee meeting held September 21, 2022. There were none. On motion of Mr. Edwards, seconded by Ms. Jakobsson, 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 NOVEMBER 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 November 17, 2022, and asked certain individuals to comment on them. The recommended Board items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

³ Mr. Knott attended the meeting via remote videoconference.

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

Ms. Craig Schilling asked Ms. Foran to comment on the item recommending appointments to the faculty, administrative/professional staff, and intercollegiate athletic staff. Ms. Foran 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 she encouraged committee members to contact her with any questions. Ms. Craig Schilling added that she appreciated the presentation provided at the last meeting of this committee on the promotion and tenure process and said it should be shared with all new trustees going forward.

Appoint Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Ms. Craig Schilling asked President Killeen to discuss the recommendation to appoint Dr. Nicholas P. Jones as executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs. President Killeen stated that Dr. Jones will succeed Dr. Ghosh, who served as interim executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs since July 2021 and is retiring. President Killeen stated that this recommendation comes after a robust national search led by Dr. Robin B. Kar, professor of law, Urbana, and former chair of the University Senates Conference. President Killeen stated that Dr. Jones currently serves as special assistant to the president and formerly as executive vice president and provost at The Pennsylvania State University, and he provided additional details about his

background and experience. President Killeen described the responsibilities associated with the role of executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs, noting that he will miss Dr. Ghosh's counsel and wisdom.

Appoint Chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago,
and Vice President, University of Illinois System

President Killeen then discussed the recommendation to appoint Dr. Marie Lynn Miranda as chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, beginning July 5, 2023. He said she will succeed Dr. Michael D. Amiridis, who served as chancellor from until June 2022, when he left the University to become president of the University of South Carolina. He thanked Dr. Reyes for serving as interim chancellor. He described Dr. Miranda's background and experience and said she will be making many visits to the university between now and July.

Ms. Craig Schilling commented on the ability to attract this level of talent and asked that the Board's appreciation be conveyed to the search committee.

Appoint Interim Vice Chancellor and Interim Vice Provost for Student Affairs, Chicago

Ms. Craig Schilling then asked Dr. Reyes to report on the recommendation to appoint Mr. Robert R. Dixon, presently registrar at the University of Illinois Chicago, as interim vice chancellor for student affairs in the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at Chicago. Dr. Reyes stated that this role supports student success, and he described Mr. Dixon's prior leadership positions. He said Mr. Dixon will work to ensure a seamless transition while a national search is conducted.

Approve Honorary Degrees, Urbana

Next, Ms. Craig Schilling asked Dr. Robert J. Jones to discuss the recommendation to approve honorary degrees at Urbana. Dr. Jones stated that the Urbana Senate nominated Mr. Lou Liay, former executive director of the University of Illinois Alumni Association, and Dr. Ares Rosakis, Theodore Von Karman Professor of Aeronautics and Mechanical Engineering, Division of Engineering and Applied Science, California Institute of Technology, for conferral of honorary degrees. He referred to Mr. Liay's contributions to the University of Illinois Alumni Association and to the university, and he described Dr. Rosakis's role as a mentor, listing his many contributions to his areas of research.

Establish the Department of Comparative and World Literature, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

Ms. Craig Schilling then asked Dr. William T. Bernhard, interim provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, Urbana, to provide information on the recommendation to establish the Department of Comparative and World Literature in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana. Dr. Bernhard gave some background on the Program in Comparative and World Literature (CWL) and said the CWL faculty voted unanimously for its reorganization to the Department of Comparative and World Literature. He said this will clarify its mission and will be in alignment with the structure of similar programs at peer institutions.

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science + Bioengineering,
The Grainger College of Engineering, Urbana

Dr. Bernhard then reported on the recommendation to establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science + Bioengineering in The Grainger College of Engineering at Urbana. He said this would address the growing need for bioengineers to have rigorous computational skill training, preparing them to lead the next generations of computational advances and maximizing their career potential. He said it also addresses student interest at the intersection between two of the most popular majors at the university, leveraging the strengths of each. Dr. Bernhard said graduates of the program will be prepared for career opportunities in fields including medical imaging, genomics, medical devices, health-care informatics and software, and drug discovery, and will also be prepared to immediately pursue graduate studies in bioengineering, computer science, and related fields.

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science + Physics,
The Grainger College of Engineering, Urbana

Dr. Bernhard reported on the recommendation to establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science + Physics in The Grainger College of Engineering at Urbana and said it would respond to the growing need for computation throughout physics research and the industrial positions in which physics graduates most often work. He said graduates will be trained to pursue careers that blend the fundamental analytical tools presented in physics with computer-based implementations and will be prepared for advanced study at a graduate level in computational physics, scientific computing, or computer science, as

well as for immediate entry into the workforce in areas of quantum information science, computational physics in industry, and traditional computer science/information technology.

Rename and Revise the Bachelor of Science
in Metropolitan Food and Environmental Systems,
College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences, Urbana

Dr. Bernhard discussed the recommendation to rename and revise the Bachelor of Science in Metropolitan Food and Environmental Systems in the College of Agricultural, Consumer, and Environmental Sciences at Urbana. He said that under this proposal, the name of the major would change to Sustainability in Food and Environmental Systems, which would attract a broader audience of prospective students and is more reflective of the degree. Dr. Bernhard said that changes to the core curriculum would allow for greater flexibility in student choice and customization.

Eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences in Biochemistry,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

Dr. Bernhard provided information on the recommendation to eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Liberal Arts and Sciences (BSLAS) in Biochemistry, stating it is a redundant offering as the curriculum of the Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry has essentially the same curriculum. He said the one student enrolled in the BSLAS in Biochemistry will be able to finish the degree, and no new students will be admitted. He said the BSLAS in Biochemistry will be eliminated when the enrolled student has graduated.

Eliminate the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography,
College of Fine and Applied Arts, Urbana

Dr. Bernhard reported on the recommendation to eliminate the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Photography in the College of Fine Arts at Urbana, stating that the degree has seen declining enrollment over the past several years. He said the degree will be eliminated via phasedown, with currently enrolled students able to complete the program. He said interested prospective students will be directed to the Bachelor of Fine Arts in Studio Art of the Bachelor of Arts in Studio Art, both of which have concentrations in Photography.

Ms. Puente inquired about the rationale for the creation and elimination of degree programs and the role of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) in these matters. Dr. Bernhard stated that degree programs are eliminated due to changing demand, trends, the changing nature of the discipline, priorities, and funding and are the result of discussions between departments, colleges, the provost, and the senate. He said there is a defined process involving both the Board and IBHE. Dr. Bernhard said new degrees are created as a result of market analysis, student demand, and discussion with employers, faculty, and students. Ms. Puente asked about the impact on faculty of eliminating programs. Dr. Bernhard explained that tenured faculty usually continue to teach classes, and said that in the example of Photography, courses will still be offered when there is no longer a Photography major. He said that in the case of untenured faculty, there is more flexibility, and there is sometimes a need to wind down an appointment. Mr. Camacho asked how the elimination of a degree program impacts students, and Dr. Bernhard said

that all attempts are made to limit impact to existing students, noting that they are usually able to finish their degrees.

Reorganize the Library Instructional Services Program, University Library, Springfield

Ms. Craig Schilling asked Dr. Gooch to discuss the recommendation to reorganize the Library Instructional Services Program, University Library, Springfield. Dr. Gooch stated that this proposal would reorganize the Library Instructional Services Program from its current structure of a department organized with a chair to a department organized with a head. She stated that a majority of the faculty in the Library Instructional Services Program are in favor of this change in governance. Dr. Gooch discussed the benefits of this change, including strong and stable leadership.

Rename the Library Instructional Services Program, University Library, Springfield

Next, Dr. Gooch reported on the recommendation to rename the Library Instructional Services Program, University Library, Springfield, as the Department for Information Literacy and Academic Outreach. She said the proposed name is more effective in communicating the current and anticipated scope of teaching and engagement efforts of the department, and she told the committee that changing the name of the program to the Department for Information Literacy and Academic Outreach has the support of the dean and library faculty.

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

OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Craig Schilling announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for January 25, 2023, at 3:30 p.m., at Chicago. She thanked Dr. Ghosh for his decades of contributions and his integrity and commitment to faculty and students. Ms. Craig Schilling said Dr. Ghosh has left a legacy through the students he taught and mentored, and she remarked on his impact on the University. She thanked him and his family and wished him the best.

MEETING ADJOURNED

On motion of Ms. Jakobsson, seconded by Ms. Puente, the meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

C. ELLEN FORAN
Associate Secretary

TAMI CRAIG SCHILLING
Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Special Assistant to the Secretary