

MEETING OF THE ACADEMIC AND STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE  
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

This meeting of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held in the Student Dining and Residential Programs Building, Multi-purpose Room 2025 B and C, 301 E. Gregory Drive, Champaign, Illinois, on Wednesday, September 20, 2023, beginning at 4:23 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. Joseph Gutman; Mr. Mohammed A. Haq, voting student trustee, Chicago; Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes; Mr. Kyle Ingram, student trustee, Springfield; and Ms. Sanchita Teeka, student trustee, Urbana. Ms. Sarah C. Phalen attended as a guest.

Also present were President Timothy L. Killeen; Mr. Lester H. McKeever Jr., treasurer; Dr. Nicholas P. Jones, 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. Marie Lynn Miranda, chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois 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; Ms. Adrienne Nazon, vice president of external relations and communications; Mr. Thomas R. Bearrows, University counsel; and Dr. Jeffrey A. Stein, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

Ms. Craig Schilling welcomed everyone to the meeting and highlighted the increase in enrollment across the University System. She said that enrollment of Illinois residents has increased at each university, and that underrepresented minority student enrollment as also increased across the University System. Ms. Craig Schilling then asked if there were questions or corrections regarding the minutes from the committee meeting held July 19, 2023. There were none. On motion of Mr. Haq, seconded by Mr. Edwards, 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 SEPTEMBER 21, 2023

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 September 21, 2023, 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 Dr. Stein to comment on the item recommending appointments to the faculty, administrative/professional staff, and intercollegiate athletic staff. Dr. Stein

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 Dean, College of Law, Urbana

Ms. Craig Schilling asked Dr. John Coleman, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, Urbana, to report on the recommendation to appoint Mr. Jamelle C. Sharpe, presently professor, College of Law, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, as dean, College of Law. Dr. Coleman said Mr. Sharpe has served as dean designate in the College of Law since August 16, 2023, and that he succeeds Ms. Verity Winship, who served as interim dean, and Mr. Vikram Amar, who served as dean until June 30, 2023. Dr. Coleman said both returned to the faculty. He said this recommendation comes as the result of a national search during which Mr. Sharpe emerged as the top candidate. Dr. Coleman told the committee that Mr. Sharpe is uniquely qualified for this position and is a demonstrated and experienced collaborator and scholar with over a decade of administrative leadership. He said his ability to listen and engage with stakeholders set him apart from the other candidates. Dr. Coleman stated that he has been impressed with Mr. Sharpe since arriving at the university and said that he believes he will be a true partner with the other deans.

Ms. Craig Schilling thanked Dr. Coleman for the information and welcomed him to his first in-person meeting of the committee.

### Appoint Interim Dean, Graduate College, Chicago

Ms. Craig Schilling then asked Dr. Karen Colley, provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, University of Illinois Chicago, to discuss the recommendation to appoint Dr. Jonathan J. Art, presently acting dean of the Graduate College, professor of anatomy and cell biology, College of Medicine, and professor of biomedical engineering, College of Engineering, Chicago, as interim dean of the Graduate College, Chicago. Dr. Colley stated that Dr. Art has served as interim dean designate since July 1, 2023, and that he would continue to serve in that role while a search for a permanent dean is underway. She described Dr. Art's background and experience and said he has an impressive record of service to the university. Dr. Art succeeds Dr. Colley, who last served in the role on a permanent basis.

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

### PRESENTATIONS

#### Strategic Investment Through the Distinguished Faculty Recruitment Program

Ms. Craig Schilling asked Dr. Nicholas Jones to give a presentation on Strategic Investment through the Distinguished Faculty Recruitment Program (materials on file with the secretary). Dr. Jones stated that the program aligns with the System strategic framework, and he shared the results of the program since its inception in 2017. He

reported that 58 appointments were approved, noting that the goal was 40, and that 39 distinguished faculty were hired. Dr. Jones shared the number of appointments that were approved and offers that were accepted at each university, along with the cost to fund the positions. He presented a list of high caliber institutions from which these distinguished faculty were recruited. He told the committee that an additional \$15.0 million will be invested in the program over the next three years. President Killeen suggested that faculty hired through this program give presentations at a future committee meeting. The three chancellors gave examples of the impact of the impressive faculty hired through this program at each university.

Ms. Craig Schilling inquired about areas of focus and innovation, both in the past and in the future, and Dr. Jones indicated that efforts have focused on faculty whose research interests align with the strategic priorities of the System and its individual universities. He said there is an interest in hiring faculty who will support the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI). Dr. Jones told the committee that faculty recently hired through this program were generally from the STEM disciplines, and he said that the next phase of hiring through the program would intend to emphasize faculty from the arts, humanities, and social sciences fields. Ms. Craig Schilling thanked Dr. Jones for the presentation.

#### OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

#### NEW BUSINESS

Ms. Craig Schilling asked if there was any new business to discuss, and there was none. She announced that the next meeting of this committee is scheduled for November 15, 2023, at 3:30 p.m., at Chicago.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Ms. Craig Schilling requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Mr. Edwards, seconded by Mr. Gutman, the meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m. There were no “nay” votes.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFREY A. STEIN  
*Secretary*

TAMI CRAIG SCHILLING  
*Chair*

EILEEN B. CABLE  
*Special Assistant to the Secretary*