# MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE, PERSONNEL, AND ETHICS COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS NOVEMBER 13, 2024

This meeting of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics 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 13, 2024, beginning at 1:58 p.m.

Trustee Jesse H. Ruiz, vice chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Mr. Joseph Gutman, Ms. Patricia Brown Holmes, Mr. Wilbur C. Milhouse III, Mr. Jesse H. Ruiz. Ms. Tami Craig Schilling was absent. Ms. J. Carolyn Blackwell; Mr. Ramón Cepeda; Mr. Donald J. Edwards; Ms. Sarah C. Phalen; Ms. Ariana A. Mizan, student trustee, Urbana; Mr. Quinn S. Basta, student trustee, Chicago; and Mr. Christian Johnson, voting student trustee, Springfield, attended as guests.

Also present were Mr. Lester H. McKeever Jr., treasurer; President Timothy L. Killeen; 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,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Mr. Gutman and Ms. Phalen attended the meeting via remote videoconference.

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); Ms. Adrienne Nazon, vice president of external relations and communications; Mr. Scott E. Rice, University counsel; and Dr. Jeffrey A. Stein, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

Mr. Ruiz asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on September 18, 2024, and there were none. On motion of Ms. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, 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 14, 2024

Mr. Ruiz introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board's agenda at its meeting on November 14, 2024. 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. Ruiz asked Dr. Stein to comment on the recommended appointments to the faculty, administrative/professional staff, and intercollegiate athletic staff. Dr. Stein 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.

Amend The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure

Mr. Ruiz asked Dr. Nicholas Jones to discuss the recommendation to amend *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*. Dr. Jones stated that updates to *The General Rules* that were approved by the Board at its May 2019 meeting were inadvertently removed when additional changes were approved at the November 2020 meeting. He said this amendment restores the May 2019 update and said that the revised version accompanies the item.

# Approve 403(b) Plan Amendment

Dr. Jones then reported on the recommendation to approve the 403(b) Plan amendment and said this would add an optional provision for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2024, and would allow a higher catch-up limit for participants attaining ages 60, 61, 62, and 63 by the end of the calendar year.

Appoint Member to Board of Managers for Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, LLC

Mr. Ruiz asked Dr. Robert Jones to report on the recommendation to appoint a member to the board of managers for Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, LLC (IQMP).

Dr. Jones gave some background on IQMP and its current board of managers, stating that

one vacancy for a member from the private sector remained. He said that Governor J. B. Pritzker recommended that Mr. Martin Cabrera serve on the IQMP, LLC board of managers as the designee from the private sector. He described Mr. Cabrera's background and experience and said he is chief executive officer and founder of Cabrera Capital Markets of Chicago.

Approve Minutes of the Board of Trustees as the Sole Member of Prairieland Energy, Inc., Meeting; and Appoint Directors, Prairieland Energy, Inc.

Next, Mr. Ruiz asked Mr. Mike Wilson, senior assistant vice president, capital programs, utility services and real estate, University of Illinois System, to report on recommendations to approve the minutes of a meeting of the Board of Trustees as the sole member of Prairieland Energy, Inc., and to appoint a director of Prairieland Energy, Inc. Mr. Wilson stated that the minutes of the Board of Trustees as the sole member of Prairieland Energy, Inc., reflect the meeting that occurred in March 2024.

Mr. Wilson then reported on the recommendation to appoint Mr. Jeffrey Angiel, who was named associate vice chancellor and executive director of facilities and services, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, in August 2024, to the board of directors of Prairieland Energy, Inc. He stated that Mr. Angiel replaced Ms. Morgan White, who served as a Prairieland director during her time as the interim associate vice chancellor and executive director of facilities and services for the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

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Appoint Interim Vice Chancellor for Administration and Operations, Urbana

Next, Mr. Ruiz asked Dr. Robert Jones to discuss the recommendation to appoint Mr. Lowa Mwilambwe, currently associate vice chancellor for auxiliary, health and wellbeing, as interim vice chancellor for administration and operations, Urbana. Dr. Jones described Mr. Mwilambwe's background and experience and said he will serve in this role until the position is permanently filled, noting that the search was initiated in recent weeks.

Dr. Robert Jones then reported on the recommendation to amend the multi-year contract with Ms. Shauna Lee Green, head varsity coach for Women's Basketball in the Division of Intercollegiate Athletics at Urbana. He stated that Ms. Green has ignited a remarkable transition in the women's basketball program, and he referred to the team's success in the past two seasons. He said she is a dynamic and engaged leader, and he stated that this request for a contract extension demonstrates the university's commitment to women's

Amend Multi-Year Contract with Head Coach, Women's Basketball, Urbana

Appoint Vice Chancellor for Advancement, Springfield, and Senior Vice President, University of Illinois Foundation

basketball.

Mr. Ruiz then Dr. Gooch to discuss the recommendation to appoint Dr. Gabriel S.

Cagwin as vice chancellor for advancement and senior vice president for the University

of Illinois Foundation. Dr. Gooch stated that this appointment would take effect on November 15, 2024, and that the position reports jointly to the chancellor of the University of Illinois Springfield and to the president of the University of Illinois Foundation. She said Dr. Cagwin has served in this role as designate since September 30, 2024, and she described his background and experience.

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

#### **PRESENTATIONS**

## Legislative Update

Mr. Ruiz asked Ms. Jennifer M. Creasey, assistant vice president, external and state relations, and Mr. Paul Weinberger, assistant vice president, federal relations, to give a legislative update. Ms. Creasey shared the Illinois General Assembly election results and their implications for the University System, and she highlighted the role of the University of Illinois caucus as a vital bridge between the University and legislature. She informed trustees that she would provide them with a report of election outcomes. Ms. Creasey said the fall veto session began on November 12 and that proceedings are being closely monitored. She referred to efforts to prepare for the Spring legislative session, including the development of a comprehensive strategy to leverage the University's role

within the state. Ms. Creasey stated that work is also underway to enhance external relations outreach to build support for the University and said these efforts would create a coalition of support.

Mr. Weinberger focused his remarks on preparation for a new federal administration and Congress. He stated that the new administration's interest in regulatory relief could ease some burdens for the University. Mr. Weinberger then remarked on potential challenges, including issues related to immigration; funding for research and student loans; and taxation. He shared some details about each. Mr. Weinberger referred to support from the Illinois congressional delegation and stakeholders and said productive dialogue and bipartisan solutions would be sought as the University's priorities are communicated.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

There was no business presented under this aegis.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Ruiz announced that the next meeting is scheduled for January 22, 2025, at 1:30 p.m., at the Isadore and Sadie Dorin Forum, Rooms D, E, and F, 725 West Roosevelt Road, Chicago.

#### MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 2:27 p.m., Mr. Ruiz stated: "A motion is now in order to convene an executive session to consider the following topic as permitted under Section 2(c) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act: discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act (subsection 21)." On motion of Ms. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, the motion was approved. There were no "nay" votes.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Material redacted pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act (5 ILCS 120/2.06d)

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION ADJOURNED**

With no additional questions or comments, the executive session ended at 2:31 p.m.

## REGULAR MEETING RESUMED

The meeting resumed at 2:31 p.m., with all committee members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance. Mr. Ruiz stated that there was one agenda item requiring action by the committee, and Dr. Stein read aloud the title of the item, "Disclose Certain Minutes of Executive Sessions Pursuant to 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

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)].

A review of unreleased items from September 2010 to May 2024 has been conducted, and the previously withheld text noted below is recommended for release at this time.

The University counsel and the secretary of the Board, having consulted with appropriate University officers, recommend that the following matter considered in executive session for the time period indicated 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 of Illinois System concurs.

#### **Executive Session Minutes Released to Public**

## May 15, 2024, Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee Meeting

Mr. Gutman convened the executive session at 2:38 p.m. All trustees that were listed as being present at the start of the meeting were in attendance. The following were also in attendance: President Timothy L. Killeen; Dr. Nicholas P. Jones, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Paul N. Ellinger, comptroller and vice president/chief financial officer; Mr. Scott Rice, University counsel; Dr. Jeffrey A. Stein, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

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

Mr. Gutman asked Dr. Stein and Mr. Rice to discuss minutes sequestered under the Open Meetings Act. Dr. Stein stated that each public body subject to the Open Meetings Act shall, at least every six months, meet to review the minutes of all closed meetings. He said that he and Mr. Rice reviewed such minutes and recommend the release of minutes from November 15, 2023, which pertain to the semiannual review that took place at that time. Mr. Rice reiterated that this is a required semi-annual review, and he listed the primary topics of sequestered minutes from Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee meetings. There were no comments or questions regarding this process.

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On motion of Mr. Milhouse, seconded by Ms. Holmes, this recommendation was approved. There were no "nay" votes.

### **MEETING ADJOURNED**

Mr. Ruiz then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Ms. Holmes, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, the meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m. There were no "nay" votes.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFREY A. STEIN Secretary

JESSE H. RUIZ *Vice Chair* 

EILEEN B. CABLE Special Assistant to the Secretary