

MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE, PERSONNEL, AND ETHICS COMMITTEE

OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

NOVEMBER 12, 2025

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 12, 2025, beginning at 1:42 p.m.

Trustee J. Carolyn Blackwell, vice chair of the committee, convened the meeting and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following committee members were present: Ms. J. Carolyn Blackwell, Ms. Tami Craig Schilling, Dr. Suzet M. McKinney,¹ Mr. Wilbur C. Milhouse III.² Mr. Joseph Gutman was absent. Mr. Ramón Cepeda; Mr. Jesse H. Ruiz; Ms. Sarah C. Phalen; Dr. Bryan S. Traubert; Ms. Ariana A. Mizan, voting student trustee, Urbana; Mr. Quinn S. Basta, student trustee, Chicago; and Mr. Joe Humphrey, student trustee, Springfield, attended as guests.

Also present were Mr. Howard S. Engle, treasurer; President Timothy L. Killeen; Dr. Nicholas P. Jones, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; Dr. Charles L. Isbell Jr., chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign,

¹ Dr. McKinney attended via remote videoconference.

² Mr. Milhouse stepped out of the room at 2:14 p.m. and attended via remote videoconference for the remainder of the meeting.

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. Scott E. Rice, University counsel; and Dr. Jeffrey A. Stein, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

Ms. Blackwell asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on September 17, 2025, and there were none. On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, 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 13, 2025**

Ms. Blackwell introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board’s agenda at its meeting on November 13, 2025. All recommended items discussed at the meeting are on file with the secretary.

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

Ms. Blackwell 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.

Revise Procedures Governing Appearances Before the Board of Trustees

Dr. Stein then discussed the recommendation to revise *Procedures Governing Appearances Before the Board of Trustees* and said a review of such procedures has been conducted at the Board's direction. He said he worked with University counsel to revise the policy regarding the public comment session held at each meeting. Dr. Stein highlighted key changes, including the use of more explicit language regarding the opportunity to submit comments to the Board in writing. He said additional proposed changes relate to disruptions and potential actions to protect against future interference with the Board's performance of its duties. He said the decision on whether individuals who disrupt the Board's performance of its duties would be permitted to attend a future meeting or make public comment at a future meeting would be at the direction and decision of the chair. Dr. Stein said the policy was also reorganized to make it more readable and accessible to the public. He added that some parts of the proposed policy were modeled after policies of other boards in Illinois that have stood the test of time.

Mr. Basta referred to the provision that disruptors may be prohibited from attending a future Board meeting and asked how those individuals would be identified.

Dr. Stein stated that the policy would require that public commenters show identification, noting that this would confirm that the individual who applied to make public comment is the person who is present to make public comment on the day of the Board meeting. He said consequences for disruptors would be handled in concert with University counsel, Board leadership, and law enforcement, and he indicated that individuals may be identified by law enforcement if and when they are removed from a meeting. Ms. Mizan asked if the requirements for identification applied to meeting attendees or only those making public comment, and Dr. Stein confirmed the latter. Ms. Mizan asked if there were proposed rules prohibiting face coverings, and Dr. Stein said this was not addressed in the proposed policy.

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. Blackwell asked if there was new business to discuss, and there was none. She announced that the next meeting is scheduled for January 14, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., in Chicago.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 1:48 p.m., Ms. Blackwell stated: “A motion is now in order to convene an executive session to consider the following topics as permitted under Section 2(c) of the Illinois Open Meetings Act: University employment or appointment-related matters (subsection 1), and discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the Open Meetings Act (subsection 21).” On motion of Mr. Milhouse, seconded by Ms. Craig Schilling, this 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 comments or questions, the executive session ended at 2:23 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING RESUMED

The meeting resumed at 2:23 p.m., with all committee members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance.³ Ms. Blackwell stated that there was one agenda item requiring action by the committee, and Dr. Stein read aloud the title of the

³ Mr. Milhouse stepped out of the room at 2:14 p.m. and attended via remote videoconference on the premises for the remainder of the meeting.

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

(1) 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 2025 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 21, 2025, Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee Meeting

Mr. Ruiz convened the executive session at 1:11 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: Mr. Lester H. McKeever Jr., treasurer; 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. Ruiz 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 13, 2024, which pertain to the semiannual review that took place at that time. Mr. Rice reiterated that this is a review required under the Open Meetings Act, 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.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, this recommendation was approved. There were no “nay” votes.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Ms. Blackwell then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Humphrey, the meeting adjourned at 2:24 p.m. There were no “nay” votes.

Respectfully submitted,

JEFFREY A. STEIN
Secretary

J. CAROLYN BLACKWELL
Vice Chair

EILEEN B. CABLE
Special Assistant to the Secretary