

MEETING OF THE GOVERNANCE, PERSONNEL, AND ETHICS COMMITTEE
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

JANUARY 14, 2026

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, January 14, 2026, beginning at 10:08 a.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, Mr. Joseph Gutman,¹ Dr. Suzet M. McKinney, Mr. Wilbur C. Milhouse III, Mr. Jesse H. Ruiz; Dr. Bryan S. Traubert; Ms. Ariana A. Mizan, voting student trustee, Urbana; Mr. Quinn S. Basta, student trustee, Chicago; and Mr. Joe Humphrey,² 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, and vice president, University of Illinois System; Dr. Marie Lynn Miranda, chancellor,

¹ Mr. Gutman attended via remote videoconference.

² Mr. Humphrey attended via remote videoconference.

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.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:09 a.m., Ms. Blackwell 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: University employment or appointment-related matters (subsection 1).” On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Dr. McKinney, 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 11:12 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING RESUMED

The meeting resumed at 11:13 a.m., with all committee members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance. Ms. Blackwell asked if there were any comments or questions regarding the minutes from the meeting that was held on November 12, 2025, and there were none. On motion of Mr. Milhouse, seconded by Mr. Basta, 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 JANUARY 15, 2026

Ms. Blackwell introduced the recommended items within the purview of this committee on the Board’s agenda at its meeting on January 15, 2026. 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.

PRESENTATION

Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, LLC (IQMP) Update

Ms. Blackwell asked Mr. Milhouse, who serves as chair of the IQMP Board of Managers, to give an update on IQMP. Mr. Milhouse referred to the State's significant investment in quantum computing and said IQMP is working quickly to create the first-of-its-kind campus for quantum technology. He said IQMP is bringing together an ecosystem of companies, researchers, manufacturers, suppliers, and other partners with the goal of developing and commercializing quantum technology. Mr. Milhouse reviewed members of the IQMP leadership team, thanked them for their great work, and said the appointment of a new chief operating officer will be announced soon.

Mr. Milhouse said groundbreaking took place on September 30, 2025, and he told the committee that the developer, Related Midwest, is working to prepare ground for construction of a home for PsiQuantum, IQMP's anchor tenant that is working to build the first utility-scale, fault-tolerant quantum computer. He reported that other capital projects include the National Quantum Facility, which will house a cryoplat with testing and measuring equipment to support companies in the development of quantum technology, and Quantum Works, which will serve as a National Quantum Algorithm Center and home to Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) South, carrying out workforce development, corporate partnership development, quantum algorithm development, and community engagement.

Next, Mr. Milhouse reported on business development and said that in addition to PsiQuantum, Diraq, Inflection, and Pasqal have committed to come to IQMP. He shared information about each and said that IBM would locate a team at IQMP for algorithm development. Mr. Milhouse referred to efforts to double, and possibly quadruple, the number of companies coming to the IQMP, and he stated that the team's work on business development was delivering on the vision of a vibrant quantum ecosystem in South Chicago.

Next, Mr. Milhouse discussed community engagement and said a core value of IQMP's mission is to directly benefit the local community on Chicago's South Side. He referred to the creation of workforce opportunities and educational programming in local schools to develop a local workforce for permanent jobs at IQMP. Mr. Milhouse concluded his remarks by stating that IQMP presents an opportunity to transform global technology in Illinois while providing a critical investment in local neighborhoods. He added that the project is moving faster than anticipated.

Dr. Traubert thanked Mr. Milhouse for serving as chair and expressed appreciation for the community engagement piece of IQMP. Mr. Milhouse gave examples of some of the community engagement initiatives and events underway. Dr. Traubert inquired about the amount of time Mr. Milhouse spends on IQMP, and Mr. Milhouse stated that it often requires daily work, sometimes for four to six hours per day. Mr. Milhouse expressed appreciation for the incredible team working to ensure IQMP is a success. Ms. Blackwell thanked Mr. Milhouse for his time and dedication.

CONTINUATION OF THE REVIEW OF RECOMMENDED BOARD ITEMS
FOR THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS ON JANUARY 15, 2026

Approve 403(b) Plan Amendment

Ms. Blackwell asked Ms. Jami M. Painter, senior associate vice president and chief human resources officer, to discuss the recommendation to approve the 403(b) plan amendment. Ms. Painter gave an overview of the proposed changes, which she said relate to the SECURE 2.0 Act of 2022 and are needed based on the change in the law.

Amend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate *Constitution*, Urbana

Ms. Blackwell asked Dr. Isbell to report on the recommendation to amend the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate *Constitution*. Dr. Isbell stated that the proposed changes would remove references to the College of Medicine at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, stating that this is now obsolete.

Approve Minutes of the Board of Trustees as the Sole Member of the
Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, LLC meeting

Ms. Blackwell stated that the minutes of the Board of Trustees as the sole member of IQMP, LLC, were distributed to members of the Board and would appear on the Board's agenda for voting at its meeting the following day.

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

Ms. Blackwell asked Dr. Isbell to report on the recommendation to appoint a member to the Board of Managers for IQMP, LLC. Dr. Isbell stated that Governor J. B. Pritzker recommended Ms. Lisa Clemmons Stott to serve on the Board of Managers, and he described her background and experience. Dr. Isbell added that this appointment was necessary to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Mr. Casmir Peters.

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

PRESENTATIONS

Annual Background Check Policy Presentation

Ms. Blackwell asked Ms. Painter to provide the annual Background Check Policy presentation (materials on file with the secretary). Ms. Painter gave an overview of the policy, and she reported on a recent procedural change for current employees, stating that a background check is not required when transitioning into another position if they have already had a background check at the University. She said the checks of social media as part of the hiring process are being considered.

Ms. Painter reported on the number of posted job vacancies and applicants in 2025, which she said decreased from the previous year due in part to employee retention. She presented the number of background checks conducted and shared background check costs for the reporting period. Ms. Painter showed that 0.17 percent of

offers were withdrawn based on the background check review process. She said the background check process has not had an adverse impact on recruitment and mitigates risk to the University.

Ms. Painter then gave an update on the civil service modernization initiative and said that priorities include changes to police testing, residency requirements, the Rule of Three, credentials assessment and scoring, and sponsored funded positions. She stated that the State Universities Civil Service System was considering contracting with a vendor to conduct centralized police testing, which is something the police chiefs felt would not be effective for recruiting police officers. Ms. Painter described the evaluation process for police officers and said efforts are underway to advocate for localized testing processes at each university.

Ms. Painter said that progress on the remaining priorities is slow, and she referenced efforts to work with stakeholders across the state. She expressed appreciation for any support the Board may be able to provide.

Legislative Update

Ms. Blackwell 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 provided a preview of the University of Illinois System's 2026 integrated government relations strategy and described the strategy as a single, coordinated approach that unites external relations engagement, advocacy growth, and

state legislative relations into one coordinated approach with the purpose of increasing influence, protecting funding, and advancing the University System's statewide mission. Ms. Creasey explained the rationale for the strategy, noting that Illinois is entering a period of potential funding and policy shifts that could affect higher education.

Ms. Creasey outlined four imperatives as part of the strategic vision, including the need to increase awareness of the University System's contributions to workforce and economic development across Illinois; mobilize a larger and more effective advocacy network; deepen trust-based legislative relationships; and protect the University System's ability for impact. She stressed the importance of coordination and said greater unity leads to stronger return on investment. Ms. Creasey presented goals for 2026, including increasing influence and leadership; growing advocacy and engagement; and strengthening State relations and policy impact. She said advocacy for the Fiscal Year 2027 State appropriation will be an area of focus, and she referenced continued opposition to the proposed equitable funding formula and to any legislation that would negatively affect the University System's appropriation. Ms. Creasey described efforts to protect the State's critical higher education and health assets, which includes the University of Illinois Hospital, as an urgent component of the legislative agenda. She reported that recent federal and State Medicaid policy changes are expected to increase uncompensated care and said the University System would be requesting an increase in the hospital appropriation, which would in turn increase the federal match. Additionally, Ms. Creasey referred to ongoing advocacy for regulatory reforms intended to improve

cost-effectiveness.

Ms. Creasey concluded by stating that the proposed strategy positions the University of Illinois System as a co-architect of the future of Illinois. She stated that this approach enables leadership with clarity and discipline while having measurable impact. She thanked the Board and shared a QR code for the Illinois Connection program.

Next, Mr. Weinberger reported on federal relations. He referred to a remarkable year of change and reported on substantial reductions in federal staffing and described a shifting dynamic in federal funding and decision-making. He discussed appropriations and highlighted a 3.4 percent reduction in National Science Foundation funding. Weinberger reported that other agencies of interest to the University received essentially level funding, and he gave an update on funding bills that are not finalized. He added that the preparations are underway for Fiscal Year 2027 programmatic and institution-specific funding requests, and he referred to advocacy efforts planned for the spring as Congress turns its attention to Fiscal Year 2027.

Mr. Weinberger then discussed the Department of Education and changes to graduate and professional loan programs, including the elimination of the graduate PLUS loan and increases in annual and aggregate loan limits for professional degree programs. Mr. Weinberger reported on the adoption of a narrower interpretation of professional programs, noting this could reduce loan limits for certain programs across the universities. He said examples include the Doctor of Nursing Practice, Doctor of Occupational Therapy, Doctor of Physical Therapy, and certain dentistry certificates. Mr.

Weinberger referenced other institutional accountability requirements that could result in the loss of federal funds for specific programs based on the income levels of program graduates. He also flagged potential changes to the accreditation process that could affect accrediting bodies such as the American Bar Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges.

Mr. Weinberger then reported on international student and immigration issues, including proposed changes to F-1 and J-1 visas. He also reviewed ongoing developments affecting H-1B visas and discussed the impact of all these proposed changes on the University System.

Mr. Weinberger then discussed research funding and issues related to facilities and administrative (F&A) costs. He acknowledged ongoing challenges and highlighted recent successes in litigation and advocacy. Mr. Weinberger warned that the federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB) continues to pursue changes that could result in reductions to indirect cost reimbursements. He referenced ongoing advocacy for the FAIR model and referred to ongoing engagement to protect indirect cost recovery. Mr. Weinberger also reported on proposals to impose a fee or tax on royalties from University patents arising from federally funded research and said advocacy efforts have focused on the importance of the Bayh-Dole Act of 1980, highlighting benefits and economic impact of the research ecosystem.

Mr. Weinberger discussed the OMB's December announcement to close the National Center for Atmospheric Research (NCAR) and noted that President Killeen

has communicated with the University's delegation to explain why the proposed closure would be detrimental to scientific understanding of environmental change. Mr. Weinberger indicated that the Board would be provided with a copy of President Killeen's letter detailing those concerns.

Mr. Weinberger discussed upcoming advocacy activities and said that legislative opportunities in Congress are likely to be limited in the current election year, given narrow majorities and reduced appetite for new legislation. He identified a few areas where congressional action remains possible, including efforts to establish a national standard for name, image, and likeness (NIL) in college athletics.

Mr. Weinberger highlighted forthcoming changes to the Illinois congressional delegation and commented on several Supreme Court cases that do not directly target universities but could have implications for higher education. He discussed advocacy efforts and highlighted key upcoming events, including a virtual town hall led by President Killeen; Illinois primary elections on March 17; and the University of Illinois Day on April 15. He concluded his remarks and invited trustees to ask questions. There were none.

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 March 18, 2026, at 1:30 p.m., in Springfield.

MEETING ADJOURNED

Ms. Blackwell then asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Dr. McKinney, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, the meeting adjourned at 12:06 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