

The discussion held in executive session has not been approved for release to the public and has thus been deleted from these minutes.

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MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

March 19, 2026

This meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was held in the Student Union Ballroom, Room 224, 2251 Richard Wright Drive, Springfield, Illinois, on Thursday, March 19, 2026, beginning at 8:13 a.m.¹

Chair Jesse H. Ruiz called the meeting to order and asked the secretary to call the roll. The following members of the Board were present: Ms. J. Carolyn Blackwell, Mr. Ramón Cepeda, Ms. Tami Craig Schilling, Mr. Joseph Gutman,² Dr. Suzet M. McKinney,² Mr. Wilbur C. Milhouse III, Ms. Sarah C. Phalen, Mr. Jesse H. Ruiz, Dr. Bryan S. Traubert. Governor J. B. Pritzker was absent. Ms. Ariana A. Mizan, voting student trustee, Urbana, was present. The following nonvoting student trustees

¹ At 8:08 a.m., Chair Ruiz convened the meeting of the Board of Trustees as the sole member of Prairieland Energy, Inc. All members of the Board were present except Mr. Milhouse and Governor Pritzker. There were two agenda items, which were approved. On motion of Ms. Mizan, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, the meeting adjourned at 8:10 a.m.

² Mr. Gutman and Dr. McKinney attended via remote videoconference.

were in attendance: Mr. Quinn S. Basta, student trustee, Chicago; Mr. Joe Humphrey, student trustee, Springfield. President Timothy L. Killeen was present.

Also present were the officers of the Board: Mr. Howard S. Engle, treasurer; Dr. Paul N. Ellinger, comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); 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 8:13 a.m., Chair Ruiz 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: pending, probable, or imminent litigation against, affecting, or on behalf of the University (subsection 11); and University employment or appointment-related matters (subsection 1).” On motion of Mr. Humphrey, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, 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 further comments or questions, the executive session ended at 9:50 a.m.

REGULAR MEETING RESUMED

The meeting resumed at 10:03 a.m., with all Board members recorded as being present at the start of the meeting in attendance. Mr. Ruiz asked Dr. Stein to make an announcement regarding today's meeting. Dr. Stein referred to the Board's long-established procedures to provide for an orderly hearing of comments from the public during its meetings and the statement that appears in the public notice for this meeting, which he indicated was posted outside the meeting venue, and appears throughout the Board of Trustee's website.

PERFORMANCE OF THE STATE SONG

Mr. Ruiz invited Ms. Lilly Evans to perform the State song, *Illinois*. Mr. Ruiz stated that Ms. Evans was a freshman at Springfield majoring in psychology and a member of the UIS Camerata program. He said she was a mezzo-soprano studying voice under Ms. Viveca Richards, a doctoral student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. The performance was followed by a round of applause.

INTRODUCTION OF UNIVERSITY OFFICERS AND SENATE OBSERVERS

President Killeen welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Mr. Howard S. Engle, treasurer; Dr. Charles L. Isbell Jr., 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; and Dr. Janet L. Gooch, chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice

president, University of Illinois System. President Killeen then introduced other University officers and staff: Mr. Scott E. Rice, University counsel; Dr. Paul N. Ellinger, comptroller (and vice president/chief financial officer); Dr. Nicholas P. Jones, executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs; Ms. Adrienne Nazon, vice president of external relations and communications; Dr. Joseph T. Walsh Jr., vice president for economic development and innovation; and Dr. Jeffrey A. Stein, secretary of the Board of Trustees and of the University.

President Killeen introduced the senate observers and representative of the academic professional staff: Mr. Eric Kurt, media commons coordinator, University of Illinois Library, Urbana, representing the Urbana-Champaign Senate and the academic professional staff; Dr. Hanfu Mi, professor, College of Public Affairs and Education, School of Education, Springfield, representing the University Senates Conference; and Dr. Lynn Fisher, chair, Department of Anthropology, and chair of the Springfield Senate, representing the Springfield Senate. He said that Ms. Sandra De Groote, professor and head, assessment and scholarly communications, University Library, Chicago, and chair of the Chicago Senate Executive Committee, joined via livestream.

OPENING REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mr. Ruiz invited President Killeen to give opening remarks. President Killeen's presentation focused on the impact of the 23,315 staff members across the University of Illinois System who serve in a large variety of roles. He showed a video featuring several

staff who contribute to the University's success, and he said that staff are the fuel that powers the System. He referenced an essay written by Mr. Roger Ebert, film critic and alumnus of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, whose father worked as an electrician at the university. President Killeen emphasized the important contributions of the staff and expressed deep gratitude for their work. He asked all staff members in attendance to stand, which was followed by a round of applause. Mr. Ruiz echoed these remarks and commented on the importance of contributions of the many staff across the University System.

WELCOME FROM THE CHANCELLOR

Mr. Ruiz asked Dr. Gooch to give welcome remarks from Springfield. Dr. Gooch welcomed everyone to the university and highlighted construction projects currently underway on campus, including the Library Commons, a 52,000-square-foot facility that will integrate the library, advising, academic support, career development, and technology services into a unified, student-centered space. She said the building is expected to open in 2027, and she remarked on the role of facilities in enrollment and retention by enhancing the student experience.

Dr. Gooch discussed fall enrollment and said the first-year student population increased by 19 percent. She reported that the transfer population increased slightly, and total enrollment declined by nearly 6 percent, driven primarily by a 27 percent decrease in international graduate students. Dr. Gooch said this trend continued

into Spring 2026, with an 8 percent decline in headcount, due primarily to a decrease in international graduate students. She stated that the decreases in international graduate student attendance were due to visa processing delays and increased documentation requirements, and she said that in response, the university is expanding exchange partnerships and online start pathways and diversifying recruitment markets. Dr. Gooch referenced efforts to establish intentional relationships with five universities in India and said she was leaving soon for a trip to India to accelerate those partnerships.

Dr. Gooch stated that domestically, the university is intensifying marketing efforts and focusing on the right students for the university. She said messaging focuses on generous financial aid packages, and she highlighted the Prairie Promise initiative, which covers tuition and fees for Illinois residents whose families earn \$75,000 or less. Dr. Gooch noted that this was recently expanded to transfer students. She said the university also offers completion grants and donor-funded scholarships, noting that the university was awarded more than \$1.0 million in scholarships to support enrollment and retention for the first time last year.

Dr. Gooch referred to the nationwide search for a new leader of enrollment and retention management following the retirement of Dr. Vickie S. Cook, vice chancellor for enrollment and retention management, at Springfield. She said an external review will guide the priorities of the incoming administrator.

Dr. Gooch said a comprehensive study of athletics was also conducted, which identified opportunities for sustainable growth. She said that based on the findings,

track and field has been expanded to include sprinting and field events, and the university has launched a women's flag football program. Dr. Gooch said the first head coach has been hired and is actively recruiting, with strong interest already evident among prospective student-athletes.

Dr. Gooch commented on the university's important role as a public regional comprehensive institution in the state capital. She provided an update on the academic program review and prioritization process and said a task force was formed to implement a holistic evaluation model based on demand and viability, institutional and community impact, and versatility and effectiveness. Dr. Gooch said this process ensures that limited resources are directed to high potential programs, balancing strategic reductions with continued investment in mission and workforce aligned areas. She highlighted the College of Health, Science, and Technology (CHST), which she said has experienced growth in faculty talent, equipment acquisition, lab development, community partnerships, and grant activity. Dr. Gooch gave examples of the ways in which CHST has leveraged institutional support to expand its reach and influence, noting that submissions from CHST have increased sixfold in two years, and the college now operates a growing network of specialized facilities spanning molecular science, field ecology, and behavioral research.

Lastly, Dr. Gooch reference the new proposed Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering Technology and the establishment of a School of Engineering. She said both have received university senate approval and strong community support and

emphasized that the program will fill a critical gap in Illinois' engineering education landscape. Dr. Gooch expressed gratitude for the dedication of the faculty and staff and reaffirmed her confidence in the institution's trajectory.

Mr. Ruiz thanked Dr. Gooch for her remarks. There were no additional questions or comments.

FACULTY PRESENTATION

At 10:33 a.m., Mr. Ruiz invited Dr. Linda Herrera, professor in the Department of Education Policy, Organization, and Leadership, Urbana, to give a presentation from the University Senates Conference (materials on file with the secretary). Dr. Herrera echoed President Killeen's remarks regarding the role of staff. She then began her presentation, entitled "The World in Illinois: Challenges and Opportunities," and asked what it means to be a global university and how the University of Illinois could model the world we desire and need. Dr. Herrera commented on a rapidly changing environment and shared a slide depicting international student enrollment from 2016 through 2025. Dr. Herrera then showed a map of the top 10 countries in international enrollment, and she referred to challenges and opportunities. She reported on the number of non-resident faculty and alumni, which she said are represented in 164 countries worldwide. Dr. Herrera said that challenging times require renewed commitment to international programs, social sciences, and the humanities, and she told the Board that Title VI centers for the study of languages, world regions, and global studies are under threat. She urged the University

System to support these centers. Dr. Herrera also remarked on the importance of protecting the most vulnerable members of the community.

Dr. Herrera shared a quote from the USC statement on university debates from May 16, 2024, which expresses support for academic freedom and freedom of speech while respecting truth and accuracy. She said the faculty are teachers who are looked to as examples of serious thought and responsible moral leadership. Dr. Herrera said that being a global university creates boundless opportunities, and she said it is more important now than ever to consider the global good.

Mr. Ruiz thanked Dr. Herrera for the presentation. He noted the opportunity to collaborate with the best in the world and that opportunity's impact on recruitment, and Dr. Herrera agreed this is an essential aspect of recruitment. Ms. Craig Schilling referred to the statement on university debates and asked Dr. Herrera to comment on the balance of one's own truth with the value of truth and accuracy. Dr. Herrera discussed academic freedom and the ability to explore different truths while abiding by the ethics of one's profession. Ms. Phalen inquired about approaches to mitigate risk, and Dr. Herrera commented on the necessity to sometimes take risks while staying true to principles, truth, and academic freedom. Mr. Ruiz thanked Dr. Herrera for the presentation, which was followed by a round of applause.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SPRINGFIELD ALUMNI ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Mr. Ruiz stated that the Board is inviting representatives from the respective alumni associations at each university to give updates on their organizations, programs, and activities. He then asked Mr. Charles Schrage, associate vice chancellor for alumni engagement, Springfield, to give an update. Mr. Schrage listed the goals of the UIS Alumni Association and shared a summary of alumni data. He described the alumni association's organizational structure, stating it is led by the Division of Advancement, and he gave examples of print and digital communication. Mr. Schrage highlighted some events and activities, including the lunch and learn series by the Alumni SAGE Society and the Alumni Gala, and he shared information about digital engagement through UIS Unite. Mr. Schrage reported on recent graduate engagement, the student philanthropy program, and the oral history project. He presented year-to-date fiscal year performance, shared information about its alumni board, and referenced emerging discussions. Mr. Schrage concluded his presentation by stating that he is proud of the university, and he commended his colleagues at the alumni associations and across the University System, as well as those at the University of Illinois Foundation. The presentation was followed by a round of applause.

Mr. Ruiz thanked Mr. Schrage for the report. Mr. Ruiz and Mr. Schrage briefly discussed the interaction between the University of Illinois Foundation and the UIS Alumni Association.

Dr. McKinney left the meeting at 10:55 a.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Mr. Ruiz introduced the reports from Board committee chairs, noting that all committees met the previous day.

Report from Chair,
Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee

Mr. Ruiz asked Ms. Blackwell, who serves as vice chair of the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee, to provide a report from that committee. She said she attended the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee meeting the previous day with Ms. Craig Schilling, Dr. McKinney, and Mr. Milhouse. She said Mr. Gutman joined via remote videoconference. She said Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert, Ms. Mizan, Mr. Basta, and Mr. Humphrey attended as guests. Ms. Blackwell said the committee approved the minutes of the last meeting that was held on January 14, 2026. She said the committee reviewed the items within the purview of the committee on the Board's agenda, and she listed the items. Ms. Blackwell said the committee also reviewed items no. 1 and no. 2 from the agenda of the meeting of the Board of Trustees as the sole member of Prairieland Energy, Inc. Ms. Blackwell said Mr. Joe Barnes, chief digital risk officer, University of Illinois System, gave a presentation on the annual Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA) Risk Assessment and Reporting. She said the committee also received an update from Mr. Milhouse on the Illinois Quantum and Microelectronics Park, LLC. Ms. Blackwell said Ms. Jennifer M. Creasey, assistant vice president, external and state relations, and Mr. Paul Weinberger, assistant vice president, federal relations, gave a legislative update, and

Ms. Blackwell gave brief summaries of the reports. She stated there was no old or new business discussed at the meeting.

Report from Chair,
University Healthcare System Committee

Mr. Ruiz, as chair of the University Healthcare System Committee, gave a report from that committee. Mr. Ruiz said the committee met the previous day and that he attended along with Mr. Cepeda, Dr. McKinney, Ms. Phalen, Dr. Traubert, Mr. Basta, and Mr. Humphrey. He said Ms. Blackwell, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, and Ms. Mizan attended as guests. Mr. Ruiz said the committee held an executive session to discuss pending, probable, or imminent litigation against, affecting, or on behalf of the University. He said the committee approved the minutes of the meeting held on January 14, 2026. Mr. Ruiz said Dr. Robert A. Barish, vice chancellor for health affairs, Chicago, gave opening remarks and highlighted a recent site review by the Commission on Dental Accreditation. He said Dr. Barish announced that the College of Dentistry residency program will welcome its first residency class in July 2027. Mr. Ruiz said the committee reviewed the items within the purview of the committee on the Board's agenda, and he listed the items. He said Mr. Scott Jones, interim chief executive officer and chief operating officer, University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, gave the CEO Report, and Dr. Jonathan M. Radosta, chief medical officer, University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, presented the quality data report for UI Health. Mr. Ruiz said there was no new or old business.

Report from Chair,
Audit, Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee

Mr. Ruiz asked Mr. Cepeda, chair of the Audit, Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee, to give a report from that committee. Mr. Cepeda said the committee met the previous day and that he attended the meeting with Mr. Engle, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Phalen, and Mr. Ruiz. He reported that Ms. Blackwell, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Dr. Traubert, Ms. Mizan, Mr. Basta, and Mr. Humphrey joined as guests. Mr. Cepeda said that the committee approved the minutes of the last meeting, held January 14, 2026. Mr. Cepeda said the committee reviewed the recommended agenda items within the purview of the committee, and he listed those items. Mr. Cepeda said the committee heard a presentation from Ms. Julie A. Zemaitis, executive director, University Audits, University of Illinois System, who gave a summary of internal audit activity through the second quarter ended December 31, 2025. Mr. Cepeda said that there was no old or new business discussed.

Report from Chair,
Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Mr. Ruiz asked Ms. Craig Schilling, chair of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee, to give a report from that committee. Ms. Craig Schilling stated that the committee met the previous day and that she attended the meeting with Ms. Blackwell, Dr. Traubert, Ms. Mizan, Mr. Basta, and Mr. Humphrey. She said Mr. Gutman joined via

remote videoconference. She said Mr. Cepeda, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Phalen, and Mr. Ruiz joined as guests. Ms. Craig Schilling reported the committee approved the minutes of the meeting of January 14, 2026. She said the committee reviewed the agenda items within the purview of the committee on the Board's agenda, and she listed those items. Ms. Craig Schilling reported that the committee heard a presentation on promotion and tenure at the University of Illinois System from Dr. William T. Bernhard, executive vice provost for academic affairs, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign; Dr. Mike Stieff, vice provost for faculty affairs, University of Illinois Chicago; Dr. Layne Morsch, associate provost faculty affairs, University of Illinois Springfield; and Dr. Donald Wink, professor, Department of Chemistry, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, University of Illinois Chicago. Ms. Craig Schilling said the presentation was followed by a robust discussion on elements of the review process, the importance of tenure to recruiting faculty, and the benefits of tenure to the University and state. She said no old or new business was discussed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Ruiz announced a public comment session and said each speaker would have three minutes to address the Board. He indicated there was one public commenter for the meeting. Mr. Ruiz said that the public commenter speaking at today's meeting made a request that is consistent with the *Procedures Governing Appearances Before the Board of Trustees*, which are available on the Board's website.

Mr. Ruiz invited Mr. Thomas Gebhardt to comment. Mr. Gebhardt introduced himself as the president of UPI Local 4100, representing clerical, culinary, and custodial employees at the University of Illinois Springfield. He emphasized the group's commitment to serving students and described the essential work performed daily by support staff, characterizing these employees as the front line of the university. Mr. Gebhardt highlighted significant disparities in compensation, stating that support staff at the institution are among the lowest-paid in the state of Illinois across comparable sectors, and he said that comparable positions are paid more at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign than the University of Illinois Springfield. He referred to workload concerns and illustrated the financial strain faced by many in his bargaining unit by sharing that a recent purchase of new tires for his vehicle cost approximately \$1,000, leaving him with only \$100 to cover two weeks of expenses. Mr. Gebhardt referenced the university's stated aspiration to be a world-class institution and expressed skepticism that current treatment of support staff aligns with that goal. He reiterated the important role of support staff in the functioning of the campus and stated demands for more federal and State funding for the university and for fair and equal pay for employees across the state, referencing an offer by the university of a 1 percent increase during collective bargaining negotiations. Mr. Rice noted that Mr. Gebhardt's time had expired, and that the issues raised are currently being collectively negotiated under the bargaining agreement.

Mr. Ruiz thanked Mr. Gebhardt for his comments.

AGENDA

Mr. Ruiz announced that the agenda for this meeting would now be considered. All Board members recorded as present at the start of the meeting were in attendance, with the exception of Dr. McKinney. Mr. Ruiz commented that the items were discussed extensively at meetings of the Board committees, which are open to the public. He explained the items for which a voice vote of the Board is requested would be first and that the secretary would read the titles of these items. He invited the Board to discuss any open issues.

By consensus, the Board agreed that one vote would be taken and considered the vote on agenda item no. A1 through 28. The recommendations were individually discussed but acted upon at one time.

(The record of the Board action appears at the end of each item.)

Approve Minutes of Board of Trustees Meetings

(A1) The secretary presents for approval the minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting of January 15, 2026, and February 26, 2026.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, these minutes were approved.

Revise University of Illinois System Policy on Acceptance
of Transfer Credit for Undergraduate Admissions

(1) The University of Illinois System Policy on Acceptance of Transfer Credit for Undergraduate Admissions was most recently revised on January 19, 2017. Since then, the national accreditation landscape has changed in the following two ways: “regional” accrediting bodies are now classified as institutional accrediting agencies, and institutional accreditors must be recognized by the U.S. Department of Education but may opt whether to seek recognition from the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA). This requires adjustment of the current policy language pertaining to the CHEA recognition status of “regional accreditors,” which refers to regional accreditors instead of institutional accreditors and requires CHEA recognition. The language of the policy was also restructured for clarity. The modified policy was shared with and approved by the University of Illinois System Academic Affairs Policy Council and the Academic Affairs and Academic Programs Committee.

On, January 17, 2026, President Timothy L. Killeen approved an interim policy to allow the University of Illinois System universities to update their catalogs to remain aligned with national accreditation terminology and practice when necessary while the standard review and approval processes outlined in the original policy proceed. Executive Vice President Jones shared the interim policy as an informational item to the University Senates Conference on January 20, 2026.

This action is requested to approve the permanent policy (materials on file with the secretary). The revisions correct the discrepancy described above and clarify language to align with current accreditation terminology and practice. It does not change the underlying standards for transfer credit or the intent of the policy to ensure that transfer work from institutions recognized by accrediting bodies is considered for credit. Transfer credit decisions made on or after July 1, 2020, that are consistent with this update should remain valid and considered compliant with University standards.

The Board 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 recommends approval.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

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

(2) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System; and the president, University of Illinois Foundation, recommend the appointment of Mr. Dale Wright, currently interim vice chancellor for advancement, Urbana, and interim senior vice president, University of Illinois Foundation, as vice chancellor for advancement, Urbana, and senior vice

president, University of Illinois Foundation, non-tenured, on a twelve-month service basis, on 100 percent time, with an annual salary of \$384,000.00, beginning March 20, 2026. The position reports jointly to the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System,; and the president, University of Illinois Foundation.

Mr. Wright served as interim vice chancellor for advancement, Urbana, and interim senior vice president, University of Illinois Foundation, from May 6, 2025, through February 15, 2026. Mr. Wright served as vice chancellor for advancement designate, Urbana, and senior vice president designate, University of Illinois Foundation, from February 16, 2026, through March 19, 2026, under the same conditions and salary arrangement.

This recommendation was forwarded from the chancellor, Urbana, and the president, University of Illinois Foundation, based on the advice of the search committee.³

³ Robin Neal Kaler, *chair*, chief of staff and vice chancellor for administrative strategy, Office of the Chancellor; Germán A. Bollero, professor of biometry, Department of Crop Sciences, Robert A. Easter Chair, and dean, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences; Michael J. Devocelle, associate dean for finance and administration, The Grainger College of Engineering; Barry Dickerson, managing director of corporate relations, Gies College of Business; Nathan T. Goebel, senior director of advancement, School of Social Work; Kevin Jackson, professor, Department of Accountancy, Gies College of Business, and vice provost for undergraduate education, Office of the Provost; Howard Milton, executive senior associate director of athletics and chief development officer, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics; Venetria Kirsten Patton, professor, Department of English, professor, Department of African American Studies, and Harry E. Preble Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Eva Marie Pomerantz, professor, Department of Psychology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and director,

The Board 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 recommends approval.

(A biographical sketch is on file with the secretary.)

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this appointment was approved.

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

(3) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System; and the president, University of Illinois Foundation, recommend the appointment of Mr. William “Bill” Bole as vice chancellor for advancement, Chicago, and senior vice president, University of Illinois Foundation, non-tenured, on a twelve-month service basis, on 100 percent time at an annual salary of \$425,000, effective April 16, 2026. The position reports jointly to the chancellor,

Center for Social and Behavioral Science; Gene E. Robinson, professor, and Swanlund Endowed Chair, Department of Entomology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, and executive director and chief executive officer, Discovery Partners Institute; Jennifer Nicole Steiling, senior human resource associate, Illinois Human Resources; William A. Turner, assistant dean for advancement, College of Law

University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System and the president, University of Illinois Foundation.

Mr. Bole brings more than 25 years of advancement leadership in higher education and academic medicine, with demonstrated success in building high-performing teams, strengthening philanthropic strategy, and securing transformational gifts aligned with institutional priorities. Mr. Bole was most recently chief advancement officer at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. He previously held senior advancement leadership roles at Lehigh University and University of Pennsylvania Medicine, where he led comprehensive campaign strategy, major and principal gift development, and health system philanthropy across complex academic and clinical operations, experiences that positioned him well to lead University of Illinois Chicago's advancement enterprise.

This appointment follows a national search, in consultation with a search committee,⁴ supported by the executive search firm WittKieffer, and a broad range of stakeholders across the university and UI Health.

⁴ Eileen Collins, *chair*, dean, College of Nursing; Tarini Bedi, distinguished professor, Department of Anthropology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences; Nicky Boothe, dean, UIC Law; Christy Devocelle, chief operating officer, chief financial officer, and UIF board treasurer, University of Illinois Foundation; Matthew Fajack, vice chancellor for finance and administration; Elizabeth Fulmer, chief of staff, Office of the Chancellor; Chandra Harris-McCray, vice chancellor for strategic marketing and communications; Andy Mitchell, assistant vice chancellor and director of sustainability; Jonathon Radosta, chief medical officer, UI Health; Tom Royston, interim vice chancellor for innovation and strategic partnerships; Annette Wright, interim dean of students; Tiffany Gonzales, search coordinator, executive assistant to the chancellor

The Board 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 recommends approval.

(A biographical sketch is on file with the secretary.)

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this appointment was approved.

Reappoint Members to the Advisory Board, Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC) in Springfield, Chicago

(4) The Division of Specialized Care for Children (DSCC) is the Illinois Title V agency that provides care coordination for families and children with special healthcare needs and financial assistance for those who meet financial and medical eligibility requirements.

In 1957, the Illinois General Assembly created an advisory board for the DSCC to advise the administrators of the University of Illinois Chicago regarding DSCC. The Board of Trustees is charged with appointing members to this advisory board.

The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, recommends the following reappointments to the DSCC Advisory Board for the term December 1, 2025, through November 30, 2028:

ERIN HICKEY, MD, is an assistant professor of medicine at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Chicago and an attending physician in Internal Medicine and Pediatrics (Med-Peds) at UI Health, where she also serves as medical director of the Lifespan Disability Clinic. She completed Med-Peds residency at the University of Chicago, followed by fellowships in clinical ethics and academic leadership, and is board certified in both internal medicine and pediatrics. Dr. Hickey's work focuses on improving healthcare for individuals with intellectual, developmental, and physical disabilities through clinical care, medical education, and research. She leads and teaches innovative curricula on disability medicine, ethics, and transition to adulthood; mentors medical trainees; and supervises inpatient resident teams. As principal investigator and co-investigator on multiple federally funded projects, including a \$2.0 million HRSA grant, her research addresses disability-related health disparities, communication access, and gaps in care during transitions from pediatric to adult systems, with findings published in leading peer-reviewed journals and presented nationally.

MATTHEW MISCHLER, MD, FAAP, FACP, is a clinical professor of Internal Medicine and Pediatrics at the University of Illinois College of Medicine at Peoria and serves as program director of the Med-Peds Residency Program at UICOMP/OSF St. Francis Medical Center. A board-certified internist, pediatrician, and pediatric hospitalist, he is a nationally recognized educator and academic leader with nearly two decades of experience in undergraduate and graduate medical education. Dr. Mischler has held numerous institutional leadership roles, developed innovative curricula in high-value care, simulation, and virtual reality-enhanced education, and received multiple awards for excellence in teaching, mentorship, and humanism. His scholarly work spans medical education, patient safety, simulation, and pediatric hospital medicine, with publications in leading peer-reviewed journals and contributions to major medical education textbooks. He is deeply committed to advancing physician development, improving transitions of care, and enhancing outcomes for children and adults with complex medical needs through education, quality improvement, and interdisciplinary collaboration.

KATHY DENISE SWAFFORD, MD, is a board-certified pediatrician in general pediatrics and child abuse pediatrics with extensive clinical, academic, and leadership experience. She has served as medical director of the Children's Medical and Mental Health Resource Network in Anna, IL, since 2009 and previously owned and practiced at Swafford Pediatrics for more than two decades. Dr. Swafford earned her MD from the Medical College of Georgia and completed her pediatric residency, chief residency, and fellowship in pediatric nephrology at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston. A licensed physician in Illinois and Missouri, she has held academic appointments at Southern Illinois University School of Medicine since 1987 and has provided long-standing leadership on state and regional boards addressing child abuse and neglect, immunization policy, emergency medical services for children, rural health, and

maternal and child health. She is the recipient of multiple professional honors, including the Illinois Rural Health Association Rural Physician of Excellence Award, and is an active member of the American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, Association of Professionals Solving the Abuse of Children, and The Ray E. Helfer Society.

The Board 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.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, these appointments were approved.

Approve the *University of Illinois 2025 Community Assessment of Needs Report and Implementation Plan*, University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, Chicago

(5) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the vice chancellor for health affairs, recommends the adoption of the *2025 University of Illinois Community Assessment of Needs (UI-CAN) Report* (materials on file with the secretary) and the associated 2025 UI-CAN Implementation Plan (materials on file with the secretary) to meet the Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA) requirements described below.

In March 2010, the Affordable Care Act outlined new federal requirements that all tax-exempt, charitable hospitals must complete a CHNA every three years. The CHNA must define and assess a hospital's primary service area, as well as identify the

high priority health needs that exist in those communities. Additionally, the hospital is required to develop an implementation plan outlining strategies for addressing the identified health needs. As the authorized body of the University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, the Board of Trustees must adopt the *2025 UI-CAN* Report and the associated implementation plan.

The *2025 UI-CAN Report* was finalized in December 2025 and identified five high priority health-related needs:

1. Access to healthcare
2. Behavioral health
3. Food access and food insecurity
4. Violence and safety
5. Aging population

As an urban research university and an academic health center, the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) is working with faculty, students, staff, and external stakeholders to address these needs, as described in the *2025 UI-CAN Implementation Plan*. The implementation plan proposes leveraging the strength of UIC and its partners to meet the health-related needs identified in the *2025 UI-CAN* report and includes:

1. Implementing the 4Ms model for age-friendly care;
2. Pilot and expand outpatient social drivers of health screening and share findings;
3. Further develop patient and community awareness of the University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics community initiatives within clinical settings;
4. Expand food-related resources for patients and communities;
5. Develop an updated community resources directory for patients and the public to help them find the resources they need;

6. Implement a program that provides domestic violence support services and education to patients, campus, and community members.

The *2025 UI-CAN Report* and implementation plan has been shared extensively with appropriate UIC groups and stakeholders.

The Board 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.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Approve Revisions to Mission Statement of Graduate Medical Education, University of Illinois College of Medicine and University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics, Chicago

(6) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the vice chancellor for health affairs, recommends the adoption of revisions to the Mission Statement of Graduate Medical Education, University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) College of Medicine and University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics.

The Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) requires institutions sponsoring graduate medical education programs to have, among

other requirements, a written statement documenting the sponsoring institution's commitment to graduate medical education by providing the necessary financial support for administrative, educational, and clinical resources, including personnel. This is a key institutional requirement without which accreditation cannot be granted.

The ACGME further requires that this statement be reviewed, dated, and signed at least once every five years by the designated institutional official, a representative of the Sponsoring Institution's senior administration, and a representative of the governing body, and thus is due for its five-year revision.

The mission statement below was approved by the designated institutional official and the Graduate Medical Education Committee and subsequently approved by the senior associate dean for education of the College of Medicine, the dean of the University of Illinois College of Medicine, and the chief medical officer of the University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics.

“Educating and training residents and fellows to meet the ever-evolving health needs of the state of Illinois, the nation, and the world is paramount to the mission of the University of Illinois Chicago Graduate Medical Education Program and Office. We strive to prepare future physicians from diverse backgrounds to serve the public with expertise, integrity, and compassion, grounded in evidence-based knowledge, skills, practice, and professionalism. We aim to enhance and ensure the viability, quality, and advancement of our healthcare system and network by instilling in our trainees the importance of lifelong learning as a critical component of safe and evidence-based patient care.

“The Graduate Medical Education Office provides a structured environment that facilitates our educational programs' ability to assist our trainees in their personal and professional development, while fostering learning environments where our trainees can excel in clinical service, research, and teaching. All standards for our educational programs are

grounded in the core competencies and milestones for each specialty articulated by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

“In fulfilling our commitment to Graduate Medical Education, we have the support of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois, Deans of the College of Medicine, university and hospital administrators, faculty of the College of Medicine, and the membership of the Graduate Medical Education Committee. All are committed to providing and advocating for the necessary financial support for administrative, educational, and clinical resources, including personnel needed and required to support graduate medical education programs in a comprehensive manner here at the University of Illinois Chicago College of Medicine.”

The Board 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 recommends approval.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

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

(7) According to State statute, no student trustee may vote on those items marked with an asterisk.

In accordance with Article IX, Section 3 of the University of Illinois *Statutes*, the following new appointments to the faculty at the rank of assistant professor and above, and certain administrative positions, are now presented for action by the Board of Trustees.

The Board 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.

Faculty New Hires Urbana

Submitted to the Board of Trustees March 19, 2026

Name	College	Proposed UI Job Title	Appointing Unit	Tenure Status	Job FTE	Service Description	Service Begin Date	Salary per year
Lee, Su A	Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences	Assistant Professor	Animal Sciences	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$90,000.00
Tang, Yili	Granger College of Engineering	Assistant Professor	Civil and Environmental Engineering	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$118,000.00
Zeng, Yuanchen	Granger College of Engineering	Assistant Professor	Civil and Environmental Engineering	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$118,000.00
Jennings, Joey Nathaniel	Liberal Arts and Sciences	Assistant Professor	Sociology	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$98,000.00
Li, Yunxin	Liberal Arts and Sciences	Assistant Professor	East Asian Languages and Cultures, School of Literatures, Cultures, and Linguistics	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$82,000.00
Shen, Lin	Liberal Arts and Sciences	Assistant Professor	Earth Science and Environmental Change, School of Earth, Society, and Environment	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$93,000.00
Siglos, Jr., David Galagar	Liberal Arts and Sciences	Assistant Professor	Asian American Studies	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$89,000.00
Beeson, Samantha Kaye	Veterinary Medicine	Assistant Professor	Veterinary Clinical Medicine	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	12-Month	08/16/2026	\$149,000.00
Crakes, Katti Robin	Veterinary Medicine	Assistant Professor	Veterinary Clinical Medicine	Initial/Partial Term	1.00	12-Month	06/15/2026	\$150,000.00
Crakes, Katti Robin	Veterinary Medicine	Assistant Professor	Veterinary Clinical Medicine	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	12-Month	08/16/2026	\$150,000.00

* No student trustee may vote on those items marked with an asterisk

**Salary reflected is for specific range of service dates

***100% tenure will be held in this unit

* No student trustee may vote on those items marked with an asterisk

** Salary reflected is for specific range of service dates

***100% tenure will be held in this unit

**Faculty New Hires Chicago
Submitted to the Board of Trustees March 19, 2026**

Name	College	Proposed UI Job Title	Appointing Unit	Tenure Status	Job FTE	Service Description	Service Begin Date	Salary per year
Villegas-Downs, Michelle	Nursing	Assistant Professor	Human Development Nursing Science	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$101,000.00
Wu, Dahee	Nursing	Assistant Professor	Human Development Nursing Science	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$101,000.00
Malik, Amna	University Library	Assistant Professor	University Library	Probationary, Yr 1	1.00	12-Month	08/16/2026	\$71,500.00
Malik, Amna	University Library	Digital Publishing Librarian	University Library	Non-Tenured	0.00	12-Month	08/16/2026	\$0.00
Total Annual Salary								\$71,500.00

* No student trustee may vote on those items marked with an asterisk
 **Salary reflected is for specific range of service dates
 ***100% tenure will be held in this unit

* No student trustee may vote on those items marked with an asterisk
 ** Salary reflected is for specific range of service dates
 ***100% tenure will be held in this unit

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

Emeriti

AHMED RASHAD ABDEL-KHALIK, Professor Emeritus of Accountancy, December 31, 2025

*Out of Cycle Promotion & Tenure**To the rank of Associate Professor on Indefinite Tenure*

ANGEL NOE GARCIA, Associate Professor of English, on Indefinite Tenure, and Associate Professor, Latina/Latino Studies, without change in tenure, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, effective March 20, 2026

To the rank of Professor, Without Change in Tenure

EMANUEL ROTA, Professor of History, Professor of Comparative and World Literature, School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics; Professor, Unit for Criticism; Professor, European Union Center, Illinois Global Institute; Professor, French and Italian, School of Literatures, Cultures and Linguistics; Professor, Center for Global Studies, Illinois Global Institute; and Professor, Program in Jewish Culture and Society, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, without change in tenure, effective March 20, 2026

CHICAGO

Emeriti

LISA G. FROHMANN, Associate Professor Emerita of Criminology, Law, and Justice, January 1, 2026

BRADFORD RAY JOHNSON, Professor Emeritus of Endodontics, February 1, 2026

SHERRI L. YONG, Clinical Professor Emerita of Health Sciences Education and Pathology, October 1, 2024

Administrative Professional New Hires Chicago
Submitted to the Board of Trustees March 19, 2026

Name	College or Administrative Unit	Proposed UI Job Title	Appointing Unit	Tenure Status	Job FTE	Service Description	Service Begin Date	Salary per year
Martin, Melissa	Business Administration	Head	Accounting	Non-Tenured	0.00	Academic Year	04/01/2026	\$20,061.00
Martin, Melissa	Business Administration	Professor	Accounting	Indefinite Tenure	1.00	Academic Year	04/01/2026	\$354,909.64
Martin, Melissa	Business Administration	Honors College Faculty	Honors College	Non-Tenured	0.00	Academic Year	04/01/2026	\$0.00
							Total Annual Salary	\$374,970.64
Xie, Qian	Dentistry	Head	Endodontics	Non-Tenured	0.00	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$40,000.00
Xie, Qian	Dentistry	Interim Director, Post Graduate Programs	Endodontics	Non-Tenured	0.00	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$20,000.00
Xie, Qian	Dentistry	Associate Professor	Endodontics	Indefinite Tenure	1.00	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$215,000.00
							Total Annual Salary	\$275,000.00
Campbell-Lee, Sally Ann	Medicine	Head	Pathology	Non-Tenured	0.00	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$70,000.00
Campbell-Lee, Sally Ann	Medicine	Chief of Service	Pathology	Non-Tenured	0.00	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$60,000.00
Campbell-Lee, Sally Ann	Medicine	Professor	Pathology	Indefinite Tenure	0.51	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$227,149.00
Campbell-Lee, Sally Ann	Medicine	Physician Surgeon	Pathology	Non-Tenured	0.49	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$222,851.00
							Total Annual Salary	\$580,000.00
Thompson, Trevonne Marcelle	Medicine at Rockford	Regional Dean	Administration	Non-Tenured	0.90	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$422,717.00
Thompson, Trevonne Marcelle	Medicine	Professor	Emergency Medicine	Indefinite Tenure	0.05	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$13,642.00
Thompson, Trevonne Marcelle	Medicine	Physician Surgeon	Emergency Medicine	Non-Tenured	0.05	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$13,642.00
Thompson, Trevonne Marcelle	Medicine	Center Affiliate	Center for Global Health	Non-Tenured	0.00	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$0.00
							Total Annual Salary	\$450,001.00

**Salary reflected is for specific range of service dates
 ***Salary for one month of summer service during each summer of appointment as Head/Chair/Director
 ****Salary for two months of summer service during each summer of appointment as Head/Chair/Director
 *****Annual increases based on University salary program, as applicable

Administrative Professional New Hires Springfield

Submitted to the Board of Trustees March 19, 2026

Name	College or Administrative Unit	Proposed UJ Job Title	Appointing Unit	Tenure Status	Job FTE	Service Description	Service Begin Date	Salary per
Stewart, Keith	Facilities and Services	Director of Construction - Designate	Facilities and Services	N/A	1.00	12-Month	03/16/2026	\$140,000.00/year
Stewart, Keith	Facilities and Services	Director of Construction	Facilities and Services	N/A	1.00	12-Month	03/20/2026	\$140,000.00/year

* No student trustee may vote on these items marked with an asterisk

**Salary reflected is for specific range of service dates

***Salary for one month of summer service during each summer of appointment as Head/Chair/Director

****Salary for two months of summer service during each summer of appointment as Head/Chair/Director

*****Annual increases based on University salary program, as applicable

Administrative Professional New Hires System Offices
 Submitted to the Board of Trustees March 19, 2026

Name	College or Administrative Unit	Proposed UI Job Title	Appointing Unit	Tenure Status	Job FTE	Service Description	Service Begin Date	Salary per year
Lohman, Gretchen A.	Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs	Assistant Vice President, Academic Programs and Services	Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs	N/A	1.00	12-Month	03/23/2026	\$175,000.00/year
Weisenbeck, Brooke	Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs	Chief of Staff	Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs	N/A	1.00	12-Month	04/01/2026	\$230,000.00/year
Ealy, John R.	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	Senior Director, I-Card Programs and MSC	I-Card Urbana	N/A	1.00	12-Month	03/23/2026	\$162,609.24/year
Nagy, Renee Jean	Executive Vice President and Vice President for Academic Affairs	Director, Planning and Budgeting	University Office of Planning and Budgeting	N/A	1.00	12-Month	03/23/2026	\$131,000.00/year

* No student trustee may vote on those items marked with an asterisk
 **Salary reflected is for specific range of service dates
 ***Salary for one month of summer service during each summer of appointment as Head/Chair/Director
 ****Salary for two months of summer service during each summer of appointment as Head/Chair/Director
 *****Annual increases based on University salary program, as applicable

Intercollegiate Athletics Multi-Year Contracts, Urbana

Submitted to the Board of Trustees March 19, 2026

Division of Intercollegiate Athletics New Multi-year Contracts

Name	Proposed UI Job Title	Multi-Year Contract Begin Date	Multi-Year Contract End Date	Job FTE	Service Description	Salary per	Contract Year
Bradford, Ronnie	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$300,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
			1/31/2028	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$325,000.00/year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028
Cooper, Roger Jonathan	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026	1/31/2028	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$275,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
Elliott, Jared G	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$250,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
			1/31/2028	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$275,000.00/year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028
Hauck, Robert Lawrence	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$700,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
			1/31/2028	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$750,000.00/year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028
Hunter, Jeremy G	Head Varsity Coach, Wrestling	3/20/2026		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$185,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 06/30/2027
				1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$190,000.00/year	07/01/2027 - 06/30/2028
				1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$195,000.00/year	07/01/2028 - 06/30/2029
			6/30/2030	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$200,000.00/year	07/01/2029 - 06/30/2030
Linehan, Michael David	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026	1/31/2028	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$200,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
Thomas, Jordan Levon	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$450,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
			1/31/2028	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$500,000.00/year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028
Wheatley, Tyrone Anthony	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$400,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
			1/31/2028	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$425,000.00/year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028

Division of Intercollegiate Athletics Multi-year Extensions

Lumney, Barry	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$1,400,000.00/year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
				1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$1,450,000.00/year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028

					1/31/2029		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$1,500,000.00	year	02/01/2028 - 01/31/2029
Neu, Michael D	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026					1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$300,000.00	year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
					1/31/2028		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$325,000.00	year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028
Sitkowski, Artur	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026					1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$300,000.00	year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
					1/31/2028		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$325,000.00	year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028
Stepp, Justin S	Assistant Varsity Coach, Football	3/20/2026					1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$625,000.00	year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
					1/31/2028		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$650,000.00	year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028
Taurisani, Mark D	Associate Director of Athletics, Football Chief of Staff	3/20/2026					1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$400,000.00	year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027
					1/31/2028		1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$425,000.00	year	02/01/2027 - 01/31/2028
Wright, Tenarius Rodrell	Associate Head Coach, Football Strength and Conditioning	3/20/2026					1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$750,000.00	year	03/20/2026 - 01/31/2027

Intercollegiate Athletics Multi-Year Contracts, Chicago

Submitted to the Board of Trustees March 19, 2026

Division of Intercollegiate Athletics New Multi-year Contracts

Name	Proposed UI Job Title	Multi-Year Contract Begin Date	Multi-Year Contract End Date	Job FTE	Service Description	Salary per year	Contract Year
Zavaia, Paul	Head Coach, Track and Field	05/01/2026	06/30/2029	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$74,000.00	July 1 – June 30

Division of Intercollegiate Athletics Multi-year Extensions

Name	Proposed UI Job Title	Multi-Year Contract Begin Date	Multi-Year Contract End Date	Job FTE	Service Description	Salary per year	Contract Year
Nikolic, David	Head Coach, Women's Soccer	05/16/2024	12/31/2028	1.00	Athletics Year-Round	\$132,386.00	January 1 – December 31

**Annual increases based on University salary program as applicable

ADDENDUM
March 19, 2026
Urbana

Faculty New Hires Urbana

Name	College or Administrative Unit	Proposed UI Job Title	Appointing Unit	Tenure Status	Job FTE	Service Description	Service Begin Date	Salary per	Previously approved
Sequeira Trovao, Nidia Isabel	Veterinary Medicine	Assistant Professor	Pathobiology	Initial/Partial Term	1.00	Academic Year	01/16/2025 01/16/2026	\$98,000.00/year	Sep 2025
Sequeira Trovao, Nidia Isabel	Veterinary Medicine	Assistant Professor	Pathobiology	Probationary, Yr1	1.00	Academic Year	08/16/2026	\$98,000.00/year	Sep 2025

ADDENDUM

**March 19, 2026
Chicago**

Emeriti Chicago

672312070	Robert J. Cabay , Associate Professor of Clinical Pathology Emeritus, September 1, 2025 August 30, 2025	Jan 2026
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On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, these appointments were approved.

Approve Sabbatical Leaves of Absence, Urbana, Chicago, Springfield, 2026-2027

(8) The chancellors/vice presidents at Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield recommend that the following members of the faculty be granted sabbatical leaves of absence in accordance with the provisions of the University of Illinois *Statutes* and on the terms and for the periods indicated.

The programs of research and study for which leaves are requested have been examined at each respective university. The executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs has reviewed the applications for the leaves and recommends approval of 132 leaves for Urbana-Champaign; 81 leaves for Chicago; six leaves for Springfield; and no leaves for University Administration. (A list of those recommended has been filed with the secretary of the Board for record.)

(For the record and to provide an annual compilation, in 2025-2026, 125 leaves were taken at Urbana-Champaign; 57 leaves were taken at Chicago; ten leaves were taken at Springfield; and no leaves were taken by University Administration.)

The Board 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 Procedures*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs in these recommendations.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, these leaves were granted as recommended.

Approve Student Health Insurance Rate for Urbana, Chicago, Springfield,
Academic Year 2026-2027

(9) The chancellors/vice presidents for each university recommend approval of student health insurance rates for Academic Year 2026-2027. The student health insurance rate, combined with the Student Health Service Fee, provides financial support for the healthcare programs that are tailored to meet the needs of the students at the universities. Students may choose not to participate in the student health insurance program by providing evidence of comparable insurance coverage from other sources. Attached is a summary of the student health program coverage.

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign will again be underwritten by United Healthcare. The cost will increase by \$30 per semester for undergraduate students (3.5 percent) and \$37 per semester for graduate/professional students (3.4 percent).

The increased costs are due to a continued increase in the number of students waiving out of the plan, overall growth in mental healthcare utilization, some larger trauma/injury situations, and greater utilization of services, including prescription drug usage and cost.

The University of Illinois Chicago offers the CampusCare student health insurance program for all students. UIC projects a material operating deficit for CampusCare due to changes in utilization patterns and rising per-claim costs, mirroring trends across the broader healthcare market. Primary cost drivers include pharmacy utilization, especially high-cost therapies, as well as expanded use of mental health services and higher costs for inpatient and outpatient care. The cost for the CampusCare program will increase by \$56 per semester (8.0 percent), which will not fully offset the projected losses for the coming year.

The University of Illinois Springfield will be underwritten by United Healthcare, the same provider as last year. The cost will decrease by \$14 per semester for all students (1.3 percent).

The current student health insurance rates for Academic Year 2025-2026 and the proposed rates for 2026-2027 are displayed below.

UNIVERSITY	<u>CURRENT RATE PER SEMESTER</u> <u>Academic Year 2025-2026</u>	<u>PROPOSED RATE PER SEMESTER</u> <u>Academic Year 2026-2027</u>
<i>Urbana-Champaign</i>	<u>Undergraduate</u> \$846	Undergraduate \$876
	<u>Graduate</u> \$1,088	Graduate \$1,125
<i>Chicago</i>	All students \$697	All students \$753
<i>Springfield</i>	All students \$1,124	All students \$1,110

The rates displayed are for typical undergraduate, graduate, and professional students. Students needing coverage for their spouse and/or dependents

voluntarily pay a separate charge. Rates may vary for the summer session. The student health insurance rates at each university continue to be competitive compared to those at peer institutions, especially given the scope and breadth of the benefits provided.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs and vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller concur with these recommendations.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Approve Transportation Fee, Chicago, Academic Year 2026-2027

(10) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, recommends the approval of the optional U-Pass and U-Pass+ fees for University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) students for Academic Year 2026-2027.

UIC has an existing contract with the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) for an opt-in CTA U-Pass, which allows unlimited rides on CTA buses and elevated trains to

students who choose to pay a fee. Under the current contract, students pay \$163 per semester if they choose to opt-in, and there will be no increase for Academic Year 2026-2027. Additionally, the Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), working with the CTA and Metra, also offers a U-Pass+ plan, which students can opt-in, which adds unlimited rides on commuter trains serving the city of Chicago and suburbs. The cost of the U-Pass+, which includes ridership on the CTA and Metra, will also see no increase and will remain at \$379 per semester. A portion of both fees covers UIC administrative costs. Students at the College of Medicine pay a higher cost for the U-Pass (\$169) and will pay a higher cost for the U-Pass+ (\$392) due to their differing academic calendar, and those rates will remain the same for Academic Year 2026-2027.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs and vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller concur with these recommendations.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Appoint Dean, College of Public Affairs and Education, Springfield

(11) The chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president University of Illinois System, recommends the appointment of Dr. Gregg B. Johnson as Dean of the College of Public Affairs and Education. The position is on a twelve-month, 100 percent time academic professional appointment, renewable annually, at a total annual salary of \$174,000. The appointment will begin on July 1, 2026.

Dr. Johnson will also hold the rank of professor in the School of Politics and International Affairs, on indefinite tenure, on an academic year service basis, on zero percent time, non-salaried.

Dr. Johnson succeeds Dr. Miriam Wallace, who has served in the interim role since July 2025. Prior to his appointment as dean, Dr. Johnson served as dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at Valparaiso University. He holds a PhD in political science from the University of Arizona and has seven years of experience as a department chair. He has held faculty appointments since 2010 and has held the rank of professor since 2021. Dr. Johnson has been actively engaged in shared governance, serving as a member of the faculty senate and as vice chair of the executive committee. He brings senior leadership experience as a bilingual educator, with a demonstrated record of strategic innovation, disciplined execution, and effective risk management. His expertise includes budgeting, curriculum development, experiential learning, and student-centered initiatives.

This recommendation was forwarded from the chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System, based on the advice of the search committee.⁵

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

(A biographical sketch is on file with the secretary.)

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this appointment was approved.

⁵ Robert Blankenberger, *chair*, professor, School of Public Management and Policy, College of Public Affairs and Education; Brandon Bolte, assistant professor, School of Politics and International Affairs, College of Public Affairs and Education; Ryan Bye, executive director strategy and partnerships, Student Affairs; Cecilia Cornell, vice provost and director of graduate education, Academic Affairs; Brooke Depenbusch, assistant professor of legal studies, College of Public Affairs and Education; Chrissy DeWerff, administrative assistant, College of Public Affairs and Education; Jae Sik Ha, associate professor, School of Communication and Media, College of Public Affairs and Education; Pamela Hoff, professor of education, College of Public Affairs and Education; Mark Morten, director of academic resources and business operations, Academic Affairs; Clarissa Richardson, assistant professor of psychology, College of Health, Science, and Technology; Sid Solomon, student

Appoint Associates to the Center for Advanced Study, Urbana

(12) Each year, the Center for Advanced Study awards appointments as associates in the Center for Advanced Study, providing one semester of release time for creative work. Associates are selected in an annual competition from the tenured faculty of all departments and colleges to carry out self-initiated programs of scholarly research or professional activity.

The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, recommends Stephanie Hilger, Kohei Kishida, Xin Liu, Avital Livny, Leonard McKinnis, and Margaret Ng as associates selected for the 2026-2027 academic year. Brief descriptions of their projects follow.

STEPHANIE HILGER, professor and interim head, Germanic languages and literatures and comparative and world literature, *Bodies of Knowledge: Eighteenth-Century Medicine as a Humanistic Interdiscipline*

Bodies of Knowledge seeks to denaturalize the present-day separation between the sciences and the humanities by recovering the interdisciplinary nature of eighteenth-century debates about the body. By discussing physician-writers, the role of women as producers and objects of medical knowledge, and the centrality of the bodies of racial others in eighteenth-century medicine, the book engages theories of embodiment and the intersectional identities of sex, race, and ability.

KOHEI KISHIDA, associate professor, philosophy, *A Programming Language Approach to Quantum Speed-Up*

Quantum programming languages will be an indispensable element of scalable and practical quantum computing. Professor Kishida's project aims to use a programming-language perspective to elucidate what makes possible the computational speed-up promised by quantum technologies.

XIN LIU, professor, astronomy, *Physics-Informed Machine Learning for Weak Gravitational-Lensing Cosmology*

This project will develop a physics-informed machine learning framework for weak gravitational-lensing cosmology, embedding fundamental symmetries directly into deep learning models. The work will provide a new approach to measure the subtle distortions of galaxies with high precision, laying the

foundation for future discoveries with the Rubin Observatory's Legacy Survey of Space and Time.

AVITAL LIVNY, associate professor, political science, *Count Us In: The Surprising Benefits of Ethnic Enumeration*

The enumeration of ethnic groups in national censuses provides governments with the data they may need to target vulnerable populations, although members of enumerated groups may also take important symbolic meaning in being officially included in a national headcount and may be able to use the resulting data to advocate more effectively on their group's behalf. Combining detailed case studies with extensive data on which, when, and how ethnic groups are enumerated. Professor Livny proposes to complete work on a book manuscript (*Count Us In*) that explores the many facets of ethnic enumeration politics and specifies the role of ethnic headcounts in discrimination and inclusion.

LEONARD MCKINNIS, associate professor, African American studies and religion, *Everyday Muslim: Material Religion and the Performance of Black Identity in the Nation of Islam*

This project deepens our understanding of African American religious life in North America by centering the everyday experiences of believers in the Nation of Islam (NOI), a twentieth-century new religious movement. Drawing on ethnographic data, it highlights how spirituality is lived and Black identity performed in the daily practices of NOI adherents.

MARGARET NG, associate professor, journalism, *Platform Migration: How Digital Nationalism and Mass User Exodus Rewire Public Spheres*

This proposal investigates how regulatory bans, algorithmic shifts, and geopolitical tensions drive platform migration, fueling digital nationalism and reshaping digital sovereignty in an increasingly fragmented society.

The Board 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 recommends approval.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, these appointments were approved.

Appoint Fellows to the Center for Advanced Study, Urbana

(13) Each year the Center for Advanced Study awards appointments as fellows in the Center for Advanced Study, providing one semester of release time for creative work. Fellows are selected in an annual competition from the untenured faculty of all departments and colleges to carry out self-initiated programs of scholarly research or professional activity.

The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, recommends Christopher Kempf, Benedek Kurdi, Carlos Ramirez, JooYoung Seo, and Fan Yang as fellows selected for the 2026-2027 academic year. Brief descriptions of their projects follow.

CHRISTOPHER KEMPF, assistant professor, English, *THE ECONOMY*

THE ECONOMY is a collection of poems centered on the 2008 subprime-mortgage crisis, and which examines across nine long-poems a set of economic assumptions and financial instruments ranging from free markets and mortgage tranches to corporate downsizing and securitization. Against the aspiration to abstraction in such economies, which flout geopolitical space, and which operate independent of underlying assets, *THE ECONOMY* materializes their effects in the real world, on the local and logistical, the intimate, and infrastructural.

BENEDEK KURDI,⁶ assistant professor, psychology, *The Role of Epistemic Agency in Belief Updating*

This project examines how epistemic agency (the freedom to choose what information to engage with and how) influences whether and how humans update their beliefs. The results will not only provide novel insight into the cognitive mechanisms of belief acquisition and change but also inform the key translational endeavor of fostering cooperation across ideological and other group boundaries.

⁶ This faculty member has been recommended for appointment as a Beckman Fellow in the Center for Advanced Study, named for the donor of a gift that permits additional recognition for outstanding younger faculty who have already made distinctive scholarly contributions to their respective fields.

CARLOS RAMIREZ, assistant professor, music, *Sound and Power in Puerto Rico*

Sound and Power in Puerto Rico places sound (music, speech, and soundscapes) at the center of Puerto Rican history. Through case studies spanning five centuries, from Taíno ritual instruments to Cold War tourism and the call of the coquí frog, the book shows how sound has shaped colonial power, resistance, and identity.

JOOYOUNG SEO,⁶ assistant professor, Information Sciences, *Bridging Visual and Nonvisual Data Insights through AI-Powered Multimodal Data Representations*

The project addresses the data-visualization divide between sighted and blind people across academia (researchers, teachers, and students alike). Grounded in the PI's personal and professional experience as a blind data scientist, the project will develop and disseminate an AI system that generates accessible multimodal data representations (visual plots, tactile shapes, readable text, auditory sonification, and interactive chat) from natural-language prompts.

FAN YANG,⁶ assistant professor, social work, *AI-Guided Simulation of User Acceptance for Culturally Responsive Parkinson Care Intervention*

This project advances Parkinson CareLoop, a human-centered intervention that links accurate wearable sensing with equitable, low-burden care workflows and uses AI-guided simulation to optimize user acceptance and cultural responsiveness. Building on a bio-inspired device, the study integrates robotic-arm datasets with multi-agent AI simulations of patients, caregivers, and clinic staff to create a ready-to-use intervention that improves early detection, continuous monitoring, and sustained engagement for individuals with Parkinson's disease.

AMANDA YOUNG,⁶ assistant professor, mathematics, *Establishing Rigorous Foundations for Quantum Phases of Matter*

Professor Young will spend Fall 2026 participating in the Mathematics of Many-Body Entanglement Program at the Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences in Cambridge. Here, she will participate in new collaborations with fellow mathematicians, physicists, and computer scientists to further the theoretical underpinnings of entangled states of quantum matter.

The Board 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 recommends approval.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, these appointments were approved.

Award Honorary Degree, Chicago

(14) The University of Illinois Chicago Senate recommends that an honorary degree be conferred on the following person at the May 8, 2026, College of Medicine Commencement ceremony. The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, recommends approval of this nomination.

BRUNO PASQUINELLI—the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters

Mr. Pasquinelli was born in Chicago’s historic Little Italy and comes from a family deeply rooted in the community surrounding the University of Illinois Chicago for more than 80 years. Alongside his brother, he co-founded Pasquinelli Construction Company, which grew into one of the nation’s largest homebuilding enterprises, operating across nine states and more than 120 developments. Over the past two decades, he has been a steadfast advocate for the University of Illinois Chicago, championing its mission and supporting its continued growth and impact.

Mr. Pasquinelli’s philanthropic leadership has been transformational, with contributions exceeding \$16.0 million to UI Health, the College of Medicine, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the College of Business Administration, and the Honors College. His generosity has had particular impact in advancing health equity, medical education, and the quality of clinical care.

Beyond his personal giving, Mr. Pasquinelli has played a vital role in strengthening institutional advancement and community engagement. He has encouraged major philanthropic partnerships, including support for the Walter Payton Liver Center, and has introduced prominent civic leaders to the university and its mission. His vision also led to the establishment of a dedicated robotic surgery training space that evolved into the Surgical and Interventional Training Center, opened in 2020. Mr. Pasquinelli also endowed the Enrico Benedetti Chair in Transplant Surgery to advance excellence in transplant care and education.

In 2022, Mr. Pasquinelli and his wife provided funding to help establish the Bruno and Sallie Pasquinelli Outpatient Surgery Center, providing state-of-the-art facilities that expand access to high-quality care and enhance the patient experience while supporting physicians and clinical innovation. Collectively, his contributions reflect a sustained commitment to health equity, innovation in

medicine, and educational excellence aligned with the mission of the University of Illinois Chicago.

Mr. Pasquinelli's nomination was recommended through the established shared governance process, including review by the University Senate and its committees, and advanced to the chancellor for consideration and transmittal to the president and Board of Trustees.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this degree was authorized as recommended.

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Public Health,
College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

(15) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the College of

Applied Health Sciences to establish the Bachelor of Science in Public Health (BS in Public Health).

The establishment of this major is part of a larger initiative in the Department of Health and Kinesiology to revise the curriculum in community/public health. Public health is essential for improving the quality of life in various communities, both locally and globally. The importance of public health professionals was readily apparent during the recent pandemic, as experts contributed to informing the public about best practices for preventing disease and contributed to emergency health policies. The proposed BS in Public Health will train students to fulfill these important roles in society, particularly at a time when job opportunities are expected to grow faster when compared to other occupations. Graduates will be prepared for diverse careers within the public health sector, including roles as health educators, outreach coordinators, healthcare administrators, health policy analysts, health program managers, epidemiologists, community health coordinators, emergency response coordinators, and preparedness and compliance specialists.

While the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health (BS in Community Health) fully prepares students for a successful career in public health, the title is not clearly recognized by prospective students. Because potential employers may not fully recognize the breadth and depth of skills and knowledge community health students possess, the title can hinder current students in securing internship sites during their senior year and when seeking post-graduate employment within the broader field of

public health. Public health spans government, business, and nonprofit sectors, covering a broad range of health domains, such as epidemiology, health policy, health administration, health education, and community health. As a subarea of public health, community health may be perceived as limited even among health professions and organizations. This perception can limit potential for collaborations in teaching, research, and outreach. During faculty searches, the program's name has caused confusion among candidates considering teaching in the Department of Health and Kinesiology, which can impact the department's ability to attract and retain high-quality faculty. Additionally, the BS in Public Health is the most common program name, including among peer institutions.

Strategic planning and curriculum review exercises in the department conducted from 2020 to 2022 provide overwhelming support for establishment of a public health major and elimination via phasedown of the existing community health major. This sentiment is reflected in faculty discussions and survey results from current students and alumni.

Proposing a new program in public health and eliminating the existing one in community health is sought rather than revising the community health curriculum. In addition to the new name of the major, a new Classification of Instructional Programs code is sought for the BS in Public Health, new concentrations are being proposed, the hours that comprise the core of the major are being slightly increased with the hours

comprising the concentrations decreased, and the curriculum is being updated to reflect current offerings.

Companion report items request establishment of concentrations in Community Health Practice, Epidemiology, Health Administration and Policy, and Health Education & Promotion for the proposed BS in Public Health. A companion action item seeks elimination via phasedown of the existing BS in Community Health. The concentrations tied to the major in Community Health (Health Education, Health Planning & Administration, and Rehabilitation & Disability Studies) are included in companion report items requesting elimination via phasedown. All current BS in Community Health students may complete the existing program in which they are enrolled or may switch to the new program in public health when it becomes available.

No impact on faculty, staff, facilities, or equipment is anticipated because the existing BS in Community Health, is to be replaced with a new BS in Public Health. All the courses included in the proposed major are already being taught. There are no significant changes anticipated to class size, teaching loads, and/or student-faculty ratios.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Establish the Doctor of Social Work in Social Work,
School of Social Work and the Graduate College, Urbana

(16) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the School of Social Work and the Graduate College to establish the Doctor of Social Work in Social Work.

The proposed Doctor of Social Work in Social Work (DSW) expands the academic offerings in the School of Social Work, which currently hosts Bachelor of Social Work, Master of Social Work, and Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work programs. The DSW will provide an advanced practice-oriented pathway for seasoned social work professionals, focusing on leadership, evidence-based practice, and systemic change. The program will enhance practitioners' advanced knowledge and skills to address complex social issues through applied interventions, leadership in diverse

settings, and advocacy for systemic equality. Students will engage in coursework and a capstone project that integrate theory with practice, preparing them to lead innovation and promote transformative solutions in the social work field. The program will be delivered entirely online using a blended format of both synchronous and asynchronous components.

The DSW is a professional practice doctorate, distinct from the research-oriented PhD. While there is no formal standard requiring a specific culminating project for DSW programs, there is a growing consensus across institutions that practice doctorates in social work are best served by a rigorous capstone project rather than a traditional dissertation. Nearly all DSW programs in the country use a capstone project or applied project in lieu of a dissertation. This approach also mirrors other professional doctorates which also emphasize applied scholarship over original research. In alignment with this model, the proposed DSW culminates in a capstone experience divided across two courses. Rather than producing a theoretical research study, students engage in a substantial, practice-based project that addresses a leadership challenge, organizational need, or systems-level issue. Through this project, students apply advanced knowledge, conduct systems and stakeholder analyses, design and implement an intervention or strategic plan, and evaluate its outcomes. For the oral exam, students present their applied project to a faculty committee and demonstrate their ability to synthesize theory, evidence, and advanced practice methods to justify their decisions and evaluate outcomes. This oral exam, paired with the completed capstone deliverables, functions as

the doctoral final examination while remaining consistent with the practice-doctorate model of assessment. The capstone reflects the applied nature and goals of the DSW, equipping social work leaders to effect change, improve services, and strengthen organizations. It maintains doctoral-level rigor while providing a more appropriate and impactful demonstration of practice expertise rather than a traditional dissertation.

The proposed DSW is designed to make optimal use of the School of Social Work's current faculty resources. One current faculty member will assume the role of program director on a 40 to 50 percent appointment, which will necessitate a slight reduction in the director's teaching load. To ensure course delivery is not adversely impacted, the school plans to bring on an additional adjunct instructor to cover the courses impacted by this reallocation. Beyond this adjustment, all other aspects of faculty allocation will remain consistent. Class sizes will continue at their current levels, teaching loads for faculty other than the director will remain unchanged, and overall student-to-faculty ratios will be maintained. The school has received central investment funding to cover startup costs with the expectation to be net positive by the third year. As the program grows, additional faculty or advisors may become necessary. Tuition revenue is expected to cover needs for additional expenses including adjunct faculty, IT fees, recruiting, and program administration. At steady state, the program will be self-supporting, generating revenue through tuition and fees. Current facilities are adequate to support the program at full implementation with no needs for renovation or construction.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Establish the Master of Science in Law,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

(17) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the Master of Science in Law.

The proposed Master of Science in Law (MS in Law) will equip professionals in business, technology, and compliance roles with practical legal knowledge to advance their careers without pursuing a full Juris Doctorate degree (JD),

addressing a growing need for non-lawyer expertise in regulated industries. This fully online program builds on foundational jurisprudence. Graduates develop skills to navigate complex regulations, mitigate risks, and drive ethical decision-making. Unlike a JD, which trains practicing attorneys to identify what the law is in hard cases, litigate, and make arguments in court, the MS in Law focuses on applied legal knowledge of basic legal frameworks and compliance. Unlike an Master's Degree in Business Administration (MBA), it prioritizes legal strategy over general management.

These differences allow for a program that meets growing market demands. The College of Law hired Eduvantis, a third-party marketing consultant that specializes in market research for higher education. Based on this market study, the online master of science targets people employed and seeking to gain legal skills for their current roles, people seeking promotions via legal expertise, people transitioning to legal-adjacent fields, and people entering non-lawyer legal roles. The proposed program will equip students with practical, high-impact legal skills to navigate regulatory complexes, mitigate risks, communicate strategically with legal counsel, and drive ethical innovation in dynamic industries. The curriculum emphasizes real-world applications through case studies. The MS in Law will prepare graduates for occupations such as compliance officer, information security analyst, human resources specialist, human resources director, financial risk specialist, and technology policy advisor. The online, asynchronous format of the program is tailored to ambitious working professionals in

business, compliance, technology, and related fields who are seeking to advance their careers without pausing their professional lives.

Companion report items seek establishment of several graduate certificates (Legal Foundations for Professionals, Advanced Business Law, AI Privacy & Governance in Law, Cybersecurity Law & Resilience, Employment Law & Workplace Dynamics, Ethics & Corporate Governance, and Law of Emerging Technologies) that can be stacked into the MS in Law. There are also companion report items seeking establishment of two concentrations (Business Compliance and Tech & Privacy) available for students in the MS in Law.

The College of Law will need three additional specialized faculty to support the proposed MS in Law. Though the bulk of course creation could be provided by a combination of current College of Law faculty and the college's established adjunct program, the plan for the program is to include guardrails to ensure minimal impact on the college's existing faculty's capacity to support the core JD program. Specifically, a current grant from the university earmarks funds for course creation and periodic refreshes, ensuring high-quality, up-to-date materials through a combination of full-time faculty contributions and adjunct expertise. The grant funds allow for three new, specialized faculty hires with expertise in areas like artificial intelligence governance, cybersecurity law, and intellectual property. The grant is available for three years, after which time tuition revenue from this self-supporting program is projected to cover any additional faculty support needed.

Because the courses for the proposed program are exclusive to graduate students whereas in-person JD courses will remain separate, the curricular structure minimizes impact on class sizes and student-faculty ratios for JD students. Teaching loads for current faculty will remain largely unaffected long-term, as specialized hires will manage MS in Law course delivery, allowing the program to scale with minimal disruption to JD instruction.

The grant includes funds earmarked to hire a dedicated career support staff person and advisor, who will focus on the areas of JD-adjacent job growth that are critical for this specific group of students. That support will continue with tuition revenue from the program, which is projected to become revenue positive in the fifth year based on enrollment projections.

Because the program is fully online, it will not require any additional classroom or laboratory space. Once fully implemented, the program will require office space for some administrative staff and the three specialized faculty. To meet these needs, the College of Law will reconfigure existing individual offices and/or shared suite spaces, thus necessitating no facility renovations or new construction to launch or support the program.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Establish the Master of Science in Policy Economics,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

(18) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the Master of Science in Policy Economics.

This proposal seeks to elevate the existing concentration in Policy Economics within the Master of Science in Economics into a stand-alone degree program, the Master of Science in Policy Economics (MS in Policy Economics). The primary motivation for this change is better reflection of the academic structure, professional relevance, and curricular independence of the program. The reclassification as a stand-alone degree program preserves the program's mission and structure and

ensures it continues to serve the groups of students currently served by the concentration in Policy Economics in Master of Science in Economics. These groups include mid-career professionals working in government or business seeking to strengthen their economic and policy analysis skills to advance professionally; students preparing for doctoral study in economics, finance, or public policy seeking to build a strong foundation in microeconomics, macroeconomics, and econometrics; and recent graduates and early-career professionals seeking careers in applied economic analysis in the public and private sectors. Graduates pursue roles in central banks, government ministries, consulting firms, economic research institutes, and international organizations, as well as for continued study at the doctoral level.

Elevating the concentration to a stand-alone degree will not alter the curriculum, admissions process, faculty involvement, size, or administrative structure. The MS in Policy Economics will remain self-supporting and is expected to maintain current enrollment levels and tuition structure. There are no impacts expected on faculty, staff, or facility resources. The faculty, staff, and facilities currently supporting the concentration will continue to support the stand-alone major. The existing academic infrastructure is sufficient to sustain high-quality delivery of the program.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Establish the Master of Science in Economic Modeling, AI, and Data Science,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

(19) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the Master of Science in Economic Modeling, AI, and Data Science.

The Master of Science in Economic Modeling, AI, and Data Science (MS in EMAIDS) responds to rapid advances in computational power, the explosion of available data, and the growing role of artificial intelligence (AI) in economic research and practice. Economists are increasingly using data science, including AI and machine learning methods, to tackle complex problems, generate more accurate forecasts, and uncover relationships that were previously inaccessible through traditional tools. From predictive analytics in labor markets to algorithmic pricing models in industry, modern

economists are combining theory-driven modeling with AI-powered pattern recognition, classification, and forecasting. By integrating AI into the data-science foundation, graduates will be prepared to navigate and to lead in this evolving space.

The MS in EMAIDS combines a strong foundation in economics and data science with a discovery-based learning experience. Students will gain a solid grounding in core economic concepts and analytical frameworks, integrated with practical applications in data science and AI. They will develop the theoretical knowledge and quantitative skills needed to uncover complex economic relationships, manage and analyze large datasets, and apply AI-enhanced methods for forecasting, classification, and pattern recognition. Graduates will be prepared to deliver evidence-based policy recommendations and strategic solutions across diverse sectors, including business and finance, government, healthcare, and environmental organizations.

Current faculty resources will be sufficient to support the proposed program, with no new hires needed. Course capacity exists to accommodate the increased demand. The Department of Economics will hire one administrator to support the proposed program and will appoint a program director. The program will be fully supported by tuition revenue. Existing facilities are adequate to support the program's implementation. As the program reaches steady state, some reconfiguration of existing office space may be necessary to accommodate administrative staff and provide a dedicated meeting space for the program's students.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Establish the Master of Science in Neuroscience,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

(20) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to establish the Master of Science in Neuroscience.

The proposed Master of Science in Neuroscience (MS in Neuroscience) will be directed toward students seeking advanced preparation for professional school or future careers in academia, industry, or government. The MS in Neuroscience will

provide students with a strong educational foundation in neuroscience, a personalized and hands-on research experience for those whose future career plans require this background skillset, an extensive experience in scientific writing and presentation skills, and ample professional development opportunities so that they will excel in future doctoral programs, professional programs, industry, or government careers. The program will have two tracks, a course-based track and a research-based track. In both tracks, students are provided with a thorough foundation in neuroscience to ensure they have the necessary understanding of the molecular and cellular biological science underpinning the study of neuronal systems and brain function at multiple levels, while also having access to the tools and training in the skillsets needed to navigate complex behavior and information processing involved in neural networks and integrative physiological systems, and a variety of neurological disorders. Both tracks will equip students with the knowledge, tools, and skills to manage, analyze, and interpret datasets from across various neurobiological systems in preparation for neuroscience careers in healthcare systems, pharmaceutical industry, biologically and environmentally relevant government agencies, and data-intensive biomedical research areas.

Students in the course-based track will receive thorough preparation in molecular and cellular biology, neuroendocrinology, neurophysiology, neurochemistry, neuropathology, neuroanatomy, genomics, and structural neurobiology. The curriculum will include coursework and laboratory classes as well as research opportunities and

discovery experiences such as advanced optogenetics and neuroimaging technologies. A thesis is not required for the course-based track.

Students in the research-based track will receive preparation in the same topics as the course-based track. In addition, they will receive high-quality research opportunities that prepare them for future research careers. While a thesis is not required, students will be required to present at a university-sponsored poster session.

Current faculty and staff resources will be sufficient to support the proposed program, with no new hires needed. Course capacity exists to accommodate the increased demand. Existing facilities are adequate to support the program's implementation.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Economics,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

(21) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Chicago Senate and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, recommends the establishment of the Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Economics.

The proposed Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Economics (BS in Computer Science and Economics) builds on an already established (and Board-approved) model that combines a set core of computer science (CS) courses and a selection of courses from a discipline within the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences (LAS). This CS + LAS model is designed to facilitate the creation of undergraduate degree programs that will prepare students to pursue technical or professional careers in arts and sciences areas that nonetheless require a sound grounding in computer science.

As such, the BS in Computer Science and Economics combines training in the design, implementation, and maintenance of computing software applications with a thorough understanding of the economic analysis of market behavior and the role of policy interventions. The program is a response to increasing demand for the combination of analytic and quantitative skills typically provided in economics coursework with a strong computational background.

All CS + LAS degrees combine at least 24 credit hours of coursework in an LAS discipline with three foundational courses in mathematics/statistics and a core of

five CS courses. Additionally, the BS in Computer Science and Economics includes a required CS course in economics and computation and four additional CS selective courses. In total, students are required to take 11 credit hours in mathematics and statistics, 31 to 32 credit hours in CS coursework, and 27 credit hours of coursework in economics. The degree requires 120 credit hours in total.

University of Illinois Chicago's budget allocation process provides funding based on the tuition revenue generated by programs. No additional investment of funds beyond tuition revenue will be required. The proposed degree will not require new resources, will be covered by making full use of existing teaching resources, and will be housed in the Department of Economics. The implementation of the program will not require any new staff, as advising will be provided by the existing advisor for the economics major and the department's director of undergraduate studies.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Establish the Master of Arts in Communication, Digital Media, and AI, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Chicago

(22) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Chicago Senate and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, recommends the establishment of the Master of Arts in Communication, Digital Media, and AI.

The Master of Arts in Communication, Digital Media, and AI will be offered as an online-only program for professionals and individuals who want to bolster their undergraduate degrees and/or remain competitive in a career marketplace that values a deep understanding of digital media technologies. This degree will equip graduates to advance media creative industries toward innovative, ethical, sustainable, and inclusive artificial intelligence (AI) practices. Students will learn critical assessment skills, while developing applied skills, such as data analytics, AI use, research methodologies, ethics, and communicating within diverse organizational, digital, and public cultures. The degree is designed to be completed in two years, but students can opt for an accelerated timeline and complete requirements in one calendar year.

The program will require 32 credit hours of coursework, including five required courses (20 credit hours) and 12 credit hours from a designated list of electives. The curriculum includes courses in digital journalism, social media analysis, social responsibility, public engagement, issues management, digital privacy, social advocacy, influencer marketing, leadership, access and equity, strategic communication, AI and technology, digital information, and the impact of AI. The program will be offered through asynchronous online courses offered in eight-week terms as part of the University of Illinois Chicago's commitment to increase online programs at the university.

The degree will be managed in partnership between the Department of Communication and UIC Extended Campus, with the latter providing program marketing, student recruitment, and student retention services. Program start-up costs (i.e., marketing and online course development) are provided by UIC Extended Campus and the funds are repaid over time when the program has positive net revenue. In addition, UIC's budget allocation process provides funding based on the tuition revenue generated by programs. No additional investment of funds beyond tuition revenue will be required. The new degree program draws on existing faculty, staff, facilities, and resources within the college.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Establish the Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering Technology,
College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield

(23) The chancellor, University of Illinois Springfield, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Springfield Senate and the College of Health, Science and Technology, recommends approval of a proposal to establish the Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering Technology.

The Bachelor of Applied Science in Engineering Technology (BAS-ET) will prepare graduates to bridge the gap between foundational engineering theory and hands-on technical application. The program is designed to meet the growing regional and state demand for skilled engineering technologists who can integrate knowledge across multiple disciplines to solve complex problems and drive industrial innovation.

The proposed BAS-ET was developed in response to the growing need across Illinois and the nation for professionals who combine foundational engineering knowledge with practical, hands-on technical skills. It combines classroom instruction, laboratory experiences, and industry-integrated projects to cultivate adaptable professionals capable of operating within diverse engineering environments. Students gain both broad technical proficiency and practical skills through interdisciplinary coursework, collaborative projects, and work-based learning.

Aligned with the standards of the ABET Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC), the BAS-ET emphasizes applied, project-based learning and workforce readiness rather than professional licensure as a Professional Engineer (PE). The program supports students entering or advancing in fields such as automation, manufacturing, systems management, and emerging technologies. The objectives of the degree include integrating engineering principles with applied laboratory and design experience, preparing students to pivot as technologies evolve through interdisciplinary and problem-based coursework, developing project management and entrepreneurial competencies for leadership in technical environments.

The 120-hour degree program will be offered face-to-face, online, and in blended formats. This multimodal design allows learners to complete coursework while maintaining employment and family responsibilities. With its flexibility, the degree is expected to be of interest to traditional students, transfer students, and working professionals.

The BAS-ET will be initially offered in the College of Health, Science, and Technology with the intent to house it in a newly established School of Engineering, within the college, once approval for that unit is obtained. Administrative support will be provided by the college. A director, three new faculty, a coordinator, and an advisor will be hired. The University of Illinois System will provide a repayable advance to support year 0 and year 1 startup costs as estimated in the business model. The director will oversee the BAS-ET and accreditation preparation, as well as three new full-time faculty members to teach foundational courses. University of Illinois Springfield has existing infrastructure to support the initial areas of focus. Renovation that is needed to house the expanded program will be addressed in the School of Engineering proposal that is forthcoming. Although initial program startup funding is required for expenses, such as laboratory equipment and software licenses, these are moderate and scalable.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Rename and Revise the Bachelor of Arts in Public Health,
School of Public Health, Chicago

(24) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Chicago Senate and School of Public Health, recommends the renaming and revision of the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. The degree will be renamed as the Bachelor of Science in Public Health Sciences.

The School of Public Health offers both Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS) degrees in public health. Both degrees require a total of 120 credit hours, including the same four pre-public health courses and the same 13 core public health courses. The major distinction between the two programs is that the BA degree requires 18 credit hours of selective courses in the social and behavioral sciences and the BS degree requires 18 credit hours of selective courses in bench, lab, and applied sciences. Currently, first-year students are admitted to the pre-major until they reach 60 credit hours, complete prerequisite coursework, and apply to either the BA or BS. Students then move through their final two years as a cohort.

Feedback from students, alumni, and faculty has identified redundancy in coursework, a lack of engagement with public health disciplines beyond a community health context, challenges with the scheduling and structure of the cohort model, and limited differentiation between the two degrees. There is also student interest in being able to take degree coursework over a full four years.

Given this feedback, both the BA and BS degrees are being renamed and revised. This action specifically seeks to rename the BS in Public Health as the BS in Public Health Sciences consistent with other Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)-accredited schools that offer both BA and BS degrees. The change in name clarifies the different foci of the two programs. Subsequently, students will be directly admitted into the BS degree, and the strict cohort model of degree progression will end. Students will have opportunities for building community and workforce preparation with new credit-bearing public health seminars in the first three years of the program. The revised curriculum: (1) consolidates and reorganizes some coursework; (2) adds public health sciences content; (3) requires fieldwork or other experiential learning component; and (4) clarifies that 9 selective credit hours should fulfill one of the following objectives: pre-medicine/pre-professional studies, a minor, a specific public health disciplinary focus, progression into the joint BS/Master of Public Health program, or other focus area chosen in consultation with an advisor.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Rename and Revise the Bachelor of Science in Public Health,
School of Public Health, Chicago

(25) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Chicago Senate and School of Public Health, recommends the renaming and revision of the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. The degree will be renamed as the Bachelor of Science in Public Health Sciences.

The School of Public Health offers both Bachelor of Arts (BA) and Bachelor of Science (BS) degrees in public health. Both degrees require a total of 120 credit hours, including the same four pre-public health courses and the same 13 core public health courses. The major distinction between the two programs is that the BA

degree requires 18 credit hours of selective courses in the social and behavioral sciences and the BS degree requires 18 credit hours of selective courses in bench, lab, and applied sciences. Currently, first-year students are admitted to the pre-major until they reach 60 credit hours, complete prerequisite coursework, and apply to either the BA or BS.

Students then move through their final two years as a cohort.

Feedback from students, alumni, and faculty has identified redundancy in coursework, a lack of engagement with public health disciplines beyond a community health context, challenges with the scheduling and structure of the cohort model, and limited differentiation between the two degrees. There is also student interest in being able to take degree coursework over a full four years.

Given this feedback, both the BA and BS degrees are being renamed and revised. This action specifically seeks to rename the BS in Public Health as the BS in Public Health Sciences consistent with other Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)-accredited schools that offer both BA and BS degrees. The change in name clarifies the different foci of the two programs. Subsequently, students will be directly admitted into the BS degree, and the strict cohort model of degree progression will end. Students will have opportunities for building community and workforce preparation with new credit-bearing public health seminars in the first three years of the program. The revised curriculum: (1) consolidates and reorganizes some coursework; (2) adds public health sciences content; (3) requires fieldwork or other experiential learning component; and (4) clarifies that 9 selective credit hours should fulfill one of the following objectives:

pre-medicine/pre-professional studies, a minor, a specific public health disciplinary focus, progression into the joint BS/Master of Public Health program, or other focus area chosen in consultation with an advisor.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Community Health,
College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

(26) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate, recommends approval of a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to eliminate the Bachelor of Science in Community Health.

This elimination via phasedown is part of a larger initiative in the Department of Health and Kinesiology to revise the curriculum in community/public health. While the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health (BS in Community Health) fully prepares students for a successful career in public health, the title is not clearly recognized by prospective students. Because potential employers may not fully recognize the breadth and depth of skills and knowledge community health students possess, the title can hinder current students in securing internship sites during their senior year and when seeking post-graduate employment within the broader field of public health. Public health spans government, business, and nonprofit sectors, covering a broad range of health domains, such as epidemiology, health policy, health administration, health education, and community health. As a subarea of public health, community health may be perceived as limited even among health professions and organizations. This perception can limit potential for collaborations in teaching, research, and outreach. During faculty searches, the program's name has caused confusion among candidates considering teaching in the Department of Health and Kinesiology, which can impact the department's ability to attract and retain high-quality faculty.

Strategic planning and curriculum review exercises in the department conducted from 2020 to 2022 provide overwhelming support for establishment of a public health major and elimination via phasedown of the existing community health major. This sentiment is reflected in faculty discussions and survey results from current students and alumni.

Proposing a new program in public health and eliminating the existing one in community health is sought rather than revising the community health curriculum. In addition to the new name of the major, a new Classification of Instructional Programs code is sought for the BS in Public Health, new concentrations are being proposed, the hours that comprise the core of the major are being slightly increased with the hours comprising the concentrations decreased, and the curriculum is being updated to reflect current offerings.

The concentrations tied to the major in Community Health (Health Education, Health Planning & Administration, and Rehabilitation & Disability Studies) are included in companion report items requesting elimination via phasedown. A companion action item seeks establishment of a major in Public Health with report items requesting establishment of concentrations in Community Health Practice, Epidemiology, Health Administration and Policy, and Health Education & Promotion. All current BS in Community Health students may complete the existing program in which they are enrolled or may switch to the new program in Public Health when it becomes available.

No impact on faculty, staff, facilities, or equipment is anticipated because the existing BS in Community Health is to be replaced with the new BS in Public Health. All the courses included in the proposed major are already being taught. There are no significant changes anticipated to class size, teaching loads, and/or student-faculty ratios.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Eliminate the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Italian,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

(27) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Chicago Senate and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, recommends the elimination of the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, major in Italian.

The Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, major in Italian has been suspended since 2009. At that time, neither student enrollments nor the number of tenure-track faculty in the Department of Hispanic and Italian Studies were sufficient to sustain an undergraduate degree. Between 2004 and 2007, the degree typically graduated no more than two students per academic term. While there were hopes to revive the degree, resources are not available to reinvest in faculty lines and students have not demonstrated

a high demand for advanced-level Italian literature and cultural studies courses taught in Italian.

The department will continue to offer introductory and intermediate Italian language courses, as well as courses taught primarily in English that can be used toward the minor in Italian and Italian American Studies. Formally eliminating the degree will make the university's program inventory more accurate and provide prospective students with a more realistic view of their academic options.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

Eliminate the Master of Arts in Theatre, College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts
and Graduate College, Chicago

(28) The chancellor, University of Illinois Chicago, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the advice of the University of Illinois Chicago Senate, College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts, and the Graduate College, recommends the elimination of the Master of Arts in Theatre.

The Master of Arts in Theatre was suspended in 2001 but never officially decommissioned, as there was hope the program might be reinstated if student interest and academic resources were generated. None of the courses affiliated with the degree are currently taught. Given the extended time the degree has been inactive, and with no current plans to assess need or interest in redeveloping the degree, it will be formally eliminated.

The Department of Theatre continues to offer undergraduate coursework in acting, voice, movement, directing, playwriting, and design, and awards three bachelor's degrees in acting; theatre and performance; and theatre design, production, and technology. The elimination of the Master of Arts in Theatre will make the university's program inventory more accurate and provide prospective students with a more realistic view of their academic options.

The Board 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 executive vice president and vice president for academic affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further senate jurisdiction is involved.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval. This action is subject to further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Mr. Milhouse, this recommendation was approved.

By consensus, the Board agreed that one roll call vote would be taken and considered the vote on agenda item no. 29 through 36. The recommendations were individually discussed but acted upon at one time.

Award Contract for Services to Assist in the Selection of a President

(29) The Board of Trustees wishes to employ the services of an executive search firm to assist with the process of searching for a new president of the University of Illinois System to replace President Timothy L. Killeen, who will step down at the conclusion of his contract on June 30, 2027.

In August 2020, the Illinois Public Higher Education Cooperative (IPHEC), of which the University is a member, published solicitation reference number IPHEC2102, a request for proposal (RFP) to provide executive search firm services across 17 different categories based on type of search. In January 2021, IPHEC published

its intent to award 14 vendors across the 17 categories with some firms being awarded in multiple categories. The RFP, evaluation process, and award were in compliance with the competitive sealed proposal requirements outlined in 30 ILCS 500/20-15. In January 2026, IPHEC published its intent to renew 13 of the 14 vendors' awards under solicitation IPHEC2102 for a renewal term from January 2026, through January 20, 2031.

In February 2026, the University submitted a request for quote under the IPHEC2102 solicitation to nine awardees under the "Presidential" category specific to the executive search for president of the University of Illinois System. Four awardees responded and proposals were assessed by an evaluation team, and a single highest-ranked respondent was identified.

With the approval of this item, the Board hereby awards a contract to AGB Search LLC to provide services to the University in identifying and recruiting prospective candidates for the position of president of the University of Illinois System and assisting in coordinating the selection of a new president. These services will include generating a pool of qualified applicants; reviewing additional background information for many of these applicants; assisting the search committee with myriad tasks, including assessment of applicants and conducting interviews with prospective candidates; making reports to the committee and to the Board, as requested, during the search process; and providing logistical assistance as needed to arrange meetings with prospective candidates. The total contract amount will vary depending on the final cost of candidate travel expenses.

The Board hereby authorizes and empowers the vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller and other officers of the Board to make, execute, and deliver all such instruments and documents on behalf of the Board as may be deemed by them necessary or appropriate in connection with this action and which are in conformity with its intents and purposes. Funds for this agreement are available from institutional funds.

The Board 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.

On motion Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Ms. Blackwell, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Mizan, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert; No, none; Absent, Dr. McKinney, Governor Pritzker.

(The student advisory vote was: Aye, Mr. Basta, Mr. Humphrey.)

Approve Project Budget for Renovation, Altgeld Hall and Replacement, Illini Hall, Urbana (Capital Development Board Project)

(30) In March 2025, the Board of Trustees approved a budget increase for the renovation of Altgeld Hall and replacement of Illini Hall with a new project budget of \$250.5 million. The project plan has four phases. Phase 1, demolition of Illini Hall, has

been completed. Phase 2, the complete exterior renovation of Altgeld Hall, is nearing completion. Phase 3, construction of the new Illini Hall, is underway. The project is managed by the Capital Development Board (CDB) and uses a single-prime delivery method for each phase. Project delays and cost escalations require a \$56.0 million increase in the project budget to cover the scope of Phase 4, the interior renovation of Altgeld Hall, bringing the total project budget to \$306.5 million. State funds totaling \$56.0 million have been released to cover this difference.

The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers, recommends approval of an increase in the budget for this total project by \$56.0 million to \$306.5 million.

The Board 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.

Funds for this project are available from the institutional funds operating budget of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, the Academic Facilities Maintenance Fund Assessment Fund, and the State of Illinois capital appropriations.

The president of the University of Illinois System concurs.

On motion Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Ms. Blackwell, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling,

Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Mizan, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert; No, none; Absent, Dr. McKinney, Governor Pritzker.

(The student advisory vote was: Aye, Mr. Basta, Mr. Humphrey.)

Employ Architect/Engineer for Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science Addition, Urbana (Capital Development Board Project)

(31) In November 2025, the Board of Trustees approved the Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science Addition project, with a preliminary estimated budget of \$78.0 million. The Grainger College of Engineering, through a recent feasibility study, identified the need for a new facility to serve as a hub for research, innovation, and scholarship in next-generation computing technologies. The project for the Thomas M. Siebel Center for Computer Science Addition will provide additional space for the Siebel School of Computing and Data Science, supporting the university's teaching, research, and service missions by enabling the hiring of additional faculty, graduate students, and support staff. The facility will support research in exascale computing, artificial intelligence (AI) innovation, data science, machine learning, hybrid cloud technology, quantum information science and technology, human-computer interaction, digital manufacturing, and industry-university collaborations that can drive economic development for the university and the State of Illinois.

For the project to proceed, employing an architect/engineer for the required professional services is necessary. The selection of the architect/engineer for this project was in accordance with the requirements and provisions of Public Act 87-673

(Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act).⁷

Pursuant to 20 ILCS 3105/12, architect selections on projects with State appropriated funds must be approved by both the Capital Development Board and the Board of Trustees.

Accordingly, the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers, recommends that the Board of Trustees request the Capital Development Board employ HDR Architecture, Inc. for the professional services required for this project. The Capital Development Board will negotiate the professional fees for the firm employed in accordance with its procedures.

The Board 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.

⁷ A selection committee consisting of Brent Lance (Capital Development Board), Tyler D. McKay (Capital Development Board), Scott Satterlee (Capital Development Board), Jesse Martinez (Capital Development Board), Greg Swanson (Capital Development Board), Abel Vera Iglesias (Facilities and Services, UIUC), and Qu Kim (The Grainger College of Engineering, UIUC) evaluated and interviewed the following firms: LMN Architects, LLP, IL; Booth Hansen, Ltd., IL; HDR Architecture, Inc., IL; and Bohlin Cywinski Jackson, PA. The selection committee recommends HDR Architecture, Inc., IL, as best meeting the criteria for the project and the needs of the university.

Funds for this project are available from the institutional funds operating budget of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, gift funds, and State capital appropriations.

The president of the University of Illinois System concurs.

On motion Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Ms. Blackwell, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Mizan, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert; No, none; Absent, Dr. McKinney, Governor Pritzker.

(The student advisory vote was: Aye, Mr. Basta, Mr. Humphrey.)

Approve Project Budget and Amend Professional Services Consultant Contract for Ikenberry Residence Hall 4 and Demo 0091, 0092, Urbana

(32) The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's University Housing is beginning implementation of the Ikenberry Commons Strategic Plan (ICSP) - 2022 update to respond to the university's growing enrollment and need to provide high-quality living accommodations for the undergraduate first-year, live-on requirement. The first phase of implementation includes constructing a new residence hall with integrated dining and demolishing the Taft Hall and Van Doren Hall (TVD). Demolition of TVD will remove 82,912 gross square feet. The proposed new building is estimated to be approximately 160,000 gross square feet.

In November 2025, a professional services consultant was engaged to support the conceptualization phase. The intent is to amend the contract for full professional services to complete the design.

For the project to proceed through design, it is necessary to approve the project, approve the project budget, and amend the professional services contract. The selection of the professional services consultant for this project was in accordance with the requirements and provisions of Public Act 87-673 (Architectural, Engineering, and Land Surveying Qualifications-Based Selection Act).⁸

Accordingly, the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers, recommends approval of the project budget to \$12,000,000, an increase of \$10,787,000. A firm budget will be developed during the design process. Preliminary analysis estimates the entire project will require a total budget of \$181,500,000 upon receipt of construction bids. Subsequent approvals will be sought as information is received. In addition, the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-

⁸ A selection committee consisting of Mark Roessler, *chair*, (Facilities and Services, capital projects), Kelly Jo Hoffmann (Facilities and Services, engineering and construction services), Alma Sealine (Housing, assistant vice chancellor for auxiliary health and wellbeing and executive director of University Housing), Matthew Brown (Housing, director of facilities), Sandy Yoo (System Office of Capital, Utilities, and Real Estate, architect and associate director), and Tenea Harris (Office of Procurement Diversity, supplier diversity manager,) interviewed the following firms: Cannon Design, Chicago, IL; Goettsch Partners, Inc., Chicago, IL; Booth Hansen, Ltd., Chicago, IL; and Holabird & Root, LLC, Chicago, IL. The committee recommended Goettsch Partners, Inc., Chicago, IL, as best meeting the criteria for the project.

Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers recommends that Goettsch Partners of Chicago, IL, continues to be employed and their contract amended for remaining schematic design, design development, construction documents, bidding, construction, and post-construction phases of the project, and associated supplemental services. The firm's fees will not exceed \$9,310,373.

The Board 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.

Funds for this project are available from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign's Institutional Funds Operating Budget, with anticipated reimbursement from the proceeds of a future sale of Auxiliary Facilities System Bonds.

The president of the University of Illinois System concurs.

Table 1: Diverse Vendor Participation

Awarded Vendor	Prime Contract \$ / Diverse Subcontractor Certification	Diverse Subcontractor Value	Subcontractor % of Work
Goettsch Partners, Inc.	\$9,310,373		
	MBE (ASA)	\$3,222,999	35%
	SDVOSB	\$280,327	3%
	WBE	\$355,807	4%
	Total	\$3,859,133	41%

On motion Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Ms. Blackwell, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Mizan, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert; No, none; Absent, Dr. McKinney, Governor Pritzker.

(The student advisory vote was: Aye, Mr. Basta, Mr. Humphrey.)

Approve Energy Conservation Project and Award Professional and Construction Services Contract, College of ACES Buildings, Urbana

(33) In November 2024, the Board of Trustees approved a Professional Services Award for the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences (ACES) Buildings, not to exceed \$1,500,000. The Public University Energy Conservation Act (110 ILCS 62/1 et seq.) allows the university to undertake “energy conservation measures” (ECMs) by engaging energy service companies. The guaranteed energy savings agreement shall include a written guarantee from the energy service company (ESCO) that, within 20 years, the energy or operational cost savings, or both, will meet or exceed the costs of the ECMs. The ESCO shall reimburse the public university for any shortfall of guaranteed energy savings projected in the contract.

The university has identified the following University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign facilities as candidates for this program: Animal Sciences Laboratory; ACES Library, Information, and Alumni Center; Turner Hall Greenhouses; Edward R. Madigan Laboratory; Jonathan Baldwin Turner Hall; Plant Sciences Laboratory; and National Soybean Research Center. These buildings, constructed between 1952 and 2001, consist

of research, teaching, and office spaces and have major infrastructure and mechanical systems that have reached the end of their useful lifespans. An energy audit was conducted on these buildings to identify energy conservation measures to implement, with the goal of achieving energy and operational savings that will fund or repay design and construction costs in accordance with the Public University Energy Conservation Act.

The ECMs (also referred to herein as the “project”), in an amount not to exceed \$40.0 million, will include, but are not limited to, lighting upgrades, building envelope weatherization, water conservation, steam trap replacement, building automation system upgrades, installation of an energy recovery system, reglazing and upgrading greenhouse building envelopes, and sealing ductwork.

Accordingly, the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers, recommends that the ECMs be approved with a budget of \$40.0 million.

Additionally, for the project to proceed, an ESCO must be engaged to provide the required professional and construction services. The selection of the ESCO for this project was in accordance with the requirements and provisions of the Public

University Energy Conservation Act.⁹

Accordingly, the chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the concurrence of the appropriate administrative officers, recommends that Veregy Central LLC of Chesterfield, MO, be employed for the professional and construction services award for Energy Performance Contracting at the College of ACES Buildings in Urbana be approved. The ESCO's fees will be approximately \$38,100,000. Supporting diverse business enterprises is a critical requirement of this contract, and Veregy has committed to meeting or exceeding the following utilization rates: 30 percent for minority-owned business enterprises and 3 percent for veteran-owned business enterprises.

The Board 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.

⁹ A selection committee consisting of Matt Edmonson, *chair* (assistant director, University Office of Capital Programs and Real Estate Services); Frank Colacicco (associate director, Utilities Distribution); David Hardin (associate director, Energy Management Systems and Controls); Sylvia McIvor (associate director, Energy Performance Contracting); Dale Morrison (associate director, Procurement Diversity); and Doug Wolters (senior director of operations, College of ACES) interviewed and ranked as most qualified the following firms: ENGIE Services U.S. Inc., Oakland, CA; NORESO, LLC, Des Plaines, IL; Performance Services, Inc., Indianapolis, IN; and Veregy Central, LLC, Chesterfield, MO. The committee recommends Veregy Central, LLC, Chesterfield, MO, as best meeting the criteria for the project.

Funds for this project are available from the institutional funds operating budget of the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with an anticipated resulting reimbursement through guaranteed energy cost savings and proceeds of future external financing.

The president of the University of Illinois System concurs.

Table 1: Diverse Business Utilization

Awarded Vendor	Prime Contract \$	Diverse Subcontractor Value	Diverse Subcontractor % of Work
Veregy Central LLC, Chesterfield, MO	\$ 37,424,731		
	MBE (AFA)	\$50,000	< 1%
	MBE (ASA)	\$8,000	< 1%
	MBE (HA)	\$1,100,000	3%
	VOSB	\$1,200,000	3%
	WBE	\$7,500,000	20%
	Total	\$9,858,000	26%

On motion Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Ms. Blackwell, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Mizan, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert; No, none; Absent, Dr. McKinney, Governor Pritzker.

(The student advisory vote was: Aye, Mr. Basta, Mr. Humphrey.)

Purchase Recommendations

(34) Following are purchase contracts proposed by each university and the System Office (on file with the secretary). The purchases are to be funded from State

appropriations or institutional funds as appropriate. Unless otherwise specified or indicated, purchases are based on the lowest acceptable bid. The vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller has approved all purchases to be funded from State appropriations in accordance with the *Bylaws of the Board of Trustees* and *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*.

The Board 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*, the *Bylaws of the Board of Trustees*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The president of the University of Illinois System concurs.

The total amount of these purchases was:

From Institutional Funds

Purchases	\$28,325,000.00
Renewals.....	\$85,000,000.00

A complete list of the purchases, renewals, and change orders with supporting information (including the quotations received) was sent to each member of the Board in advance of the meeting.

On motion Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, the purchases recommended were authorized by the following vote: Aye, Ms. Blackwell, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Mizan, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert; No, none; Absent, Dr. McKinney, Governor Pritzker.

(The student advisory vote was: Aye, Mr. Basta, Mr. Humphrey.)

Authorize Settlement

(35) The University counsel recommends that the Board approve settlement of *Estate of Gomez v. Wissner, MD, et al.*, in the amount of \$2.90 million. The plaintiffs allege that the defendants' failure to diagnose and treat structural heart disease ultimately resulted in the death of 67-year-old Daniel Gomez.

The Board 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 vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller concurs.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

On motion Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Ms. Blackwell, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Mizan, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert; No, none; Absent, Dr. McKinney, Governor Pritzker.

(The student advisory vote was: Aye, Mr. Basta, Mr. Humphrey.)

Authorize Settlement

(36) The University counsel recommends that the Board approve settlement of *Estate of Martinez v. Hassan, MD, et al.*, in the amount of \$1.60 million. The plaintiffs

allege that the defendants' failure to timely diagnose and treat hemorrhagic shock following laparoscopic sleeve gastrectomy surgery ultimately resulted in the death of 29-year-old Edgar Martinez.

The Board 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 vice president/chief financial officer and comptroller concurs.

The president of the University of Illinois System recommends approval.

On motion Mr. Basta, seconded by Mr. Cepeda, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Ms. Blackwell, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Gutman, Mr. Milhouse, Ms. Mizan, Ms. Phalen, Mr. Ruiz, Dr. Traubert; No, none; Absent, Dr. McKinney, Governor Pritzker.

(The student advisory vote was: Aye, Mr. Basta, Mr. Humphrey.)

President's Report on Actions of the Senates

(37) The president presented the following report:

Establish the Undergraduate Minor in Entrepreneurship,
Gies College of Business, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the Gies College of Business to establish the undergraduate minor in Entrepreneurship. The proposed minor seeks to broaden access to the university's

entrepreneurial ecosystem by offering a transcribed credential that is available to all undergraduate students regardless of their major. Students pursuing the minor will be equipped with an entrepreneurial mindset and core skills such as iterative problem-solving, opportunity validation, and creative adaptability. By integrating ethical and societal considerations, the minor prepares students to contribute meaningfully across diverse professional and social contexts. Graduates with the minor are well-positioned to signal enhanced entrepreneurial capabilities, setting them apart as strong candidates for a variety of career opportunities and further academic pursuits.

Establish the Undergraduate Minor in Quantitative Information Science,
The Grainger College of Engineering, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from The Grainger College of Engineering to establish the undergraduate minor in Quantitative Information Science. The minor is designed to provide students with a multidisciplinary understanding of quantum information science (QIS) from core principles to cutting-edge applications. QIS is a rapidly developing field driven by expertise within electrical and computer engineering, physics, materials science and engineering, computer science, and mathematics. By realizing and controlling the basic features of quantum systems, new technologies can be built that provide enhanced computational performance, increased data security, and/or improved sensing capabilities. Establishing a pathway toward this new technology is a high priority at the state and federal levels. The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign has responded by making QIS a key area of research and investment, allowing for enhanced and

emphasized QIS educational opportunities at the university. The proposed minor aims to provide a comprehensive and modern educational experience for students interested in quantum computing and information technologies, leading to a variety of professional opportunities in science, engineering, and mathematics.

Establish the Concentration in Applied Exercise Science in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to establish the concentration in Applied Exercise Science in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology (BS in Kinesiology). Part of a wider-scale revision of the BS in Kinesiology, which is detailed in companion report items, this new concentration will provide coursework to prepare students who are interested in pursuing a fitness- or exercise-focused career. The courses will emphasize anatomy, physiology, fitness testing, exercise prescription, strength and conditioning, nutrition, coaching strategies, health assessment, and facility management. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that employment of fitness trainers and instructors is projected to grow much faster than average for all occupations between 2022 and 2032. This is primarily due to continued emphasis on exercise to combat obesity and the interest in older adults to remain active and prevent disease. In addition, employers increasingly recognize the benefits of health and fitness programs for their employees.

Establish the Concentration in Biobehavioral Health Science in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to establish the concentration in Biobehavioral Health Science in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology (BS in Kinesiology). Part of a wider-scale revision of the BS in Kinesiology, which is detailed in companion report items, this new concentration will provide coursework to prepare students interested in pursuing careers as behavioral interventionists or licensed therapist. The courses will emphasize anatomy, physiology, exercise psychology, health psychology, health behavior, cognition, obesity, sedentary behavior, psychophysiology, and health assessment. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that employment for mental health-related occupations is projected to grow much faster than average for all occupations between 2022 and 2032. Each year, millions of Americans seek support for their mental health. Behavioral interventionists or licensed therapists often rely on exercise, nutrition, and related strategies to treat addiction and a wide variety of mental health disorders.

Establish the Concentration in Health Sciences in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology,
College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to establish the concentration in Health Sciences in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology (BS in Kinesiology). Part of a wider-scale revision of the BS in Kinesiology, which is detailed in companion report items, this new concentration will provide coursework to prepare students for health-related professional programs. The courses will emphasize anatomy, physiology,

biomechanics, motor development and control, sport injury, rehabilitation, biological basis for health and disease, and health assessment. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that jobs in the health sciences are projected to grow much faster than average for all occupations between 2022 and 2032 with the health care and social assistance sector projected to grow the most rapidly of any sector. This is primarily due to the need to provide caregiving and therapy services to the rapidly growing aged population. The degree in kinesiology, which emphasizes the science of movement, forms the foundation of learning for physical therapists, medical doctors, physician assistants, athletic trainers, nurse practitioners, and other health practitioners. The proposed concentration will help students prepare for the continued education needed for these and other health professions.

Establish the Concentration in Community Health Practice in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to establish the concentration in Community Health Practice in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. Establishment of this concentration is part of a larger initiative to revise the curriculum in community/public health. As requested in companion action items, the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health will be phased down and ultimately eliminated, and it will be replaced by an updated program of study, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. The Community Health Practice concentration is a new addition to the proposed public health major, aimed at retaining the community-focused legacy of the major while

incorporating a contemporary approach. This concentration will prepare graduates to work in public, private, and not-for-profit institutions and agencies that provide health information, education, services, and care. Students will gain skills in community health assessment and the planning of local health initiatives while also developing expertise in funding and expenditures, modes of service delivery, and referral and reimbursement systems. Equipped to support underserved communities and promote health equity, students will be trained to manage or lead teams of community health workers and collaborate with local leaders. Another area of focus is emergency preparedness, planning, and response. Graduates will be prepared to work as emergency response coordinators, preparedness and compliance specialists, and more.

Establish the Concentration in Epidemiology in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health,
College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to establish the concentration in Epidemiology in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. Establishment of this concentration is part of a larger initiative to revise the curriculum in community/public health. As requested in companion action items, the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health will be phased down and, ultimately, eliminated, and it will be replaced by an updated program of study, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. The epidemiology concentration is a new addition to the proposed Public Health major, reflecting the commitment to meet the societal demand for public health professionals who can tackle infectious and chronic diseases within populations. This concentration

will equip graduates with the skills and knowledge necessary to work as epidemiologists, public health analysts, research scientists, data analysts, and in various other roles within the public health sector. They will gain experience through concentration courses that cover basic epidemiology, applied health data analysis, data management, data visualization, survey methodology, programming, and more.

Establish the Concentration in Health Administration and Policy in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to establish the concentration in Health Administration and Policy in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. Establishment of this concentration is part of a larger initiative to revise the curriculum in community/public health. As requested in companion action items, the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health will be phased down and, ultimately, eliminated, and it will be replaced by an updated program of study, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. The proposed concentration will prepare students to effectively navigate and lead within the complex landscape of healthcare systems, influence policy development, and improve health outcomes through strategic management and informed decision-making. The concentration name clearly emphasizes the focus on training students for administrative careers in healthcare settings, including hospitals and assisted living residences, as well as roles such as healthcare consultants, billing and coding specialists, health policy analysts, and various other professional roles within the public health sector.

Establish the Concentration in Health Education & Promotion in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to establish the concentration in Health Education & Promotion in the Bachelor of Science in Public Health.

Establishment of this concentration is part of a larger initiative to revise the curriculum in community/public health. As requested in companion action items, the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health will be phased down and, ultimately, eliminated, and it will be replaced by an updated program of study, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health. The concentration in Health Education & Promotion will help students understand behavior change, develop effective health messages, and use education and communication tools to improve public health outcomes. Graduates will be able to educate the public about health initiatives and healthy living and promote good health practices to improve overall health. Graduates will be equipped to serve as health educators, case managers, outreach coordinators, and various other roles in the public health sector.

Establish the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Business Law, College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the Graduate Certificate in Advanced Business Law. Designed for mid-career professionals in business, this certificate provides advanced legal transaction skills for mid-career

professionals in roles that require deeper understanding of complex business transactions and regulatory landscapes. Content is delivered online asynchronously and covers antitrust, securities, and organizational law. Students will be prepared for roles like financial risk manager, contracts management specialist, business development analyst, and corporate compliance analyst. The coursework is stackable into the proposed Master of Science in Law, a companion action item, enabling focused upskilling while appealing to attorneys seeking specialized business law experience for career shifts, enhancing its utility across diverse professional paths.

Establish the Graduate Certificate in AI Privacy & Governance in Law,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the Graduate Certificate in AI Privacy & Governance in Law. Targeting tech professionals, this certificate taps into the demand for Artificial Intelligence (AI) governance. Content is delivered asynchronously online and covers AI compliance, data privacy, and ethics. Students will be prepared for roles like AI risk manager. The stackable format enables focused upskilling and an entry point into the proposed Master of Science in Law, a companion action item. It also attracts attorneys seeking to upskill in AI specialties without a full degree, aligning with emerging tech market needs.

Establish the Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity Law & Resilience,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the Graduate Certificate in Cybersecurity Law & Resilience. This certificate focuses on tech and security professionals, addressing the national demand for cybersecurity expertise. Courses are offered asynchronously online with content to train on cyber threats, risk mitigation, and incident response, targeting cybersecurity consultants. Its stackable design supports upskilling and serves as an entry point to the proposed Master of Science in Law (MS in Law), a companion action item, while also appealing to attorneys aiming to specialize in cyberlaw without a full MS in Law, meeting high-growth industry demands.

Establish the Graduate Certificate in Employment Law & Workplace Dynamics,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the Graduate Certificate in Employment Law & Workplace Dynamics. This certificate addresses a niche market for HR and management professionals, responding to increased demand for workplace legal skills. Content is delivered asynchronously online and focuses on discrimination, employee rights, and benefits. The certificate's stackable design supports targeted upskilling and serves as an entry point into the proposed Master of Science in Law (MS in Law), a companion action item. It also serves attorneys aiming to specialize in employment law without a full MS in Law, catering to both non-lawyer and legal audiences.

Establish the Graduate Certificate in Ethics & Corporate Governance,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the Graduate Certificate in Ethics & Corporate Governance. This graduate certificate targets professionals in corporate roles, addressing demands for ethical governance skills. Offered asynchronously online, it delivers practical training in ethics, governance structures, and supply chain oversight, enhancing skills for compliance officers and managers. Its stackable format supports targeted upskilling and serves as a possible point of entry into the proposed Master of Science in Law (MS in Law), a companion action item, while also attracting attorneys who already have juris doctorate degrees (JD) looking to pivot into governance specialties without needing a full MS in Law degree, ensuring broad applicability and market relevance.

Establish the Graduate Certificate in Law of Emerging Technologies,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the Graduate Certificate in Law of Emerging Technologies. Aimed at innovators in technology fields, this certificate responds to increased demand for emerging tech legal skills. Courses are delivered asynchronously online and cover intellectual property, health tech privacy, and speculative tech law, preparing individuals for roles like IP Manager. The stackable structure enables targeting upskilling and serves as an entry point to the proposed MS in

Law, a companion action item, while also attracting attorneys seeking niche tech specializations without a full degree, enhancing its adaptability to future market trends.

Establish the Graduate Certificate in Legal Foundations for Professionals,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the Graduate Certificate in Legal Foundations for Professionals. This proposed program provides a critical entry point for professionals in business, technology, and compliance roles, offering foundational legal literacy to address a growing need for non-lawyer expertise in regulated industries. Courses are delivered asynchronously online, equipping mid-career learners with practical skills in legal systems, reasoning, and technology. The certificate targets upskilling for career enhancers and launchers in a variety of professions by providing a foundational overview of the law, legal reasoning, and the intersection of law with computer literacy. Its stackable design allows flexible entry into the proposed Master of Science in Law, a companion action item.

Establish the Concentration in Tech & Privacy in the Master of Science in Law,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the concentration in Tech & Privacy in the Master of Science in Law (MS in Law). Establishment of the MS in Law is a companion action item, and this report item seeks establishment of one of two concentrations to be available for students in the proposed MS in Law. Designed for

technology professionals and innovators, the concentration in Tech & Privacy delivers specialized legal knowledge to navigate artificial intelligence (AI), privacy, and cybersecurity challenges in a dynamic digital landscape. Content is delivered asynchronously online featuring practical simulations on data privacy, cyber risk mitigation, and emerging tech law. Ideal for those looking to advance in tech-driven industries, graduates will be prepared for roles like Information Security Analyst or Tech Policy Advisor.

Establish the Concentration in Business Compliance in the Master of Science in Law,
College of Law and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Law and the Graduate College to establish the concentration in Business Compliance in the Master of Science in Law (MS in Law). Establishment of the MS in Law is a companion action item, and this report item seeks establishment of one of two concentrations to be available for students in the proposed MS in Law. The Business Compliance concentration targets professionals in corporate, human resources, and regulatory roles, addressing markets like compliance officers and managers. Content is delivered asynchronously online and emphasizes organizational ethics and human resources law.

Revise the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology,
College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to revise the Bachelor of Science

in Kinesiology. Revisions include updating courses to reflect current offerings, revising the core curriculum to reduce the total number of courses required, adding three new concentrations, revising a fourth concentration, and reducing the minimum total hours required from 128 to 120. The proposed concentrations and reduced core allow students to focus their program in an area more tailored to their interests and post-graduation plans. Changes to the concentrations are included as companion report items.

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

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences to revise the Bachelor of Science in Sustainability in Food & Environmental Systems. Revisions include updating course requirements to reflect current options and adding elective options for the major's specialization courses to provide students with a wider range of choices. In addition, the total hours required for the program are reduced from a minimum of 126 to 120.

Rename and Revise the Concentration in Teacher Education K-12 in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to rename and revise the concentration in Teacher Education K-12 in the Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology. Part of a wider-scale revision of the BS in Kinesiology, which is detailed in companion report items, this revision renames the existing concentration from "Teacher Education K-12 to

“Teacher Education preK-12” to adhere to new Illinois State Board of Education requirements. Other changes include updating the concentration’s courses to reflect current options available to students pursuing this area of study.

Rename and Revise the Undergraduate Interdisciplinary Minor in Aging,
College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to rename and revise the undergraduate Interdisciplinary Minor in Aging. The revisions include updating courses to reflect current offerings and changing the name of the minor to “Aging and Health.” Through conversations with students, the faculty and staff in the Department of Health and Kinesiology learned the title “Interdisciplinary Minor in Aging” is confusing to students and does not provide a clear indication of what the program might entail. The proposed title of “Aging and Health” makes it clear to students that the focus of the minor is on human aging and one’s health as they age.

Eliminate the Concentration in Health Education in the
Bachelor of Science in Community Health, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to eliminate the concentration in Health Education in the Bachelor of Science in Community Health. Elimination via phasedown of the Bachelor of Science in Community Health and the concentrations associated with it, including the concentration in Health Education, are part of a larger initiative to revise the curriculum in Community/Public Health. As requested in

companion action items, the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health will be phased down and ultimately eliminated, and it will be replaced by an updated program of study, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health.

Eliminate the Concentration in Health Planning & Administration in the Bachelor of Science in Community Health, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to eliminate the concentration in Health Planning & Administration in the Bachelor of Science in Community Health. Elimination via phasedown of the Bachelor of Science in Community Health and the concentrations associated with it, including the concentration in Health Planning & Administration, are part of a larger initiative to revise the curriculum in Community/Public Health. As requested in companion action items, the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health will be phased down and ultimately eliminated, and it will be replaced by an updated program of study, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health.

Eliminate the Concentration in Rehabilitation & Disability Studies in the Bachelor of Science in Community Health, College of Applied Health Sciences, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Applied Health Sciences to eliminate the concentration in Rehabilitation & Disability Studies in the Bachelor of Science in Community Health. Elimination via phasedown of the Bachelor of Science in Community Health and the concentrations associated with it, including the concentration in Rehabilitation &

Disability Studies, are part of a larger initiative to revise the curriculum in community/public health. As requested in companion action items, the existing Bachelor of Science in Community Health will be phased down and, ultimately, eliminated, and it will be replaced by an updated program of study, the Bachelor of Science in Public Health.

Eliminate the Concentration in Policy Economics in the Master of Science in Economics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the Graduate College to eliminate the concentration in Policy Economics in the Master of Science in Economics. This concentration will be replaced with the proposed Master of Science in Policy Economics (MS in Policy Economics), a companion action item. A stand-alone degree better reflects the academic structure, professional relevance, and curricular independence of the program. Current students will be able to complete their program or may choose to switch to the MS in Policy Economics if still enrolled when that program becomes available.

Establish the Joint Master of Science in Health Information Management/Master of Science in Health Informatics, College of Applied Health Sciences and Graduate College, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, has approved the establishment of the Joint Master of Science in Health Information Management/Master of Science in Health Informatics.

The Master of Science in Health Informatics (MSHI) is a 38 credit-hour online degree completed in approximately 36 months. The Master of Science in Health Information Management (MSHIM) is a 39 credit-hour online degree completed in as few as 20 months. Both programs are offered by the Department of Biomedical and Health Information Sciences (BHIS) and accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (AHIMA).

The department proposes to establish a joint program, where students will earn 58 credit hours (instead of 77) in approximately 36 months. Designed for high-achieving graduate students, the joint program includes 20 credit hours of shared coursework, with students taking an additional 19 credit hours in each of the programs distinctly.

Establish the Minor in International Politics,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved the establishment of the minor in International Politics.

The minor spans the study of two subfields of political science: comparative politics and international relations. Comparative politics focuses on the study of politics within countries other than the United States, in every world region. International relations focuses on the interactions between countries. The minor will require 18 credit hours and draws entirely on existing course offerings. Students will be able to make one course substitution within the selective requirement. This would allow,

for example, students to substitute a topics course, a relevant study abroad experience, or a guided internship course conducted at one of the many foreign consulates in Chicago.

Establish the Concentration in International Politics in the
Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, Major in Political Science,
College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved the establishment of the concentration in International Politics in the Bachelor of Arts in Liberal Arts and Sciences, major in Political Science.

The major in Political Science offers two optional concentrations (Law and Courts and Urban Politics). This proposal adds a third optional concentration in International Politics. The concentration will span the study of two subfields of political science: comparative politics and international relations. The proposed concentration does not add credit hours to the standard major (33 total). Instead, it specializes the existing selective and elective requirements in the major. For one selective option, students will be able to substitute a topics course, a relevant study abroad experience, or a guided internship course conducted at one of the many foreign consulates in Chicago.

Establish the Concentration in Leadership in the Doctor of Public Health,
School of Public Health, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the School of Public Health, has approved the establishment of the concentration in Leadership in the Doctor of Public Health.

The degree requires 96 credit hours. Students take 17 required courses, along with 3 credit hours in electives. As part of the program, students complete an applied practice experience and take 18 credit hours in research coursework toward a dissertation.

The program already emphasizes leadership. However, in 2022, the program formally received approval from the Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH) to offer a concentration in Leadership. The program now seeks this as an official credential. The concentration requires 14 credit hours of coursework.

Establish the Minor in Biological Physics, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, has approved the establishment of the minor in Biological Physics.

Biological physics has emerged in recent years as a subfield of physics and an important area of study for biomedical science, aimed at understanding the physical principles that underlie biological phenomena. It combines concepts and techniques from physics, biology, chemistry, and mathematics to address fundamental questions in molecular and cellular biology.

As such, the minor in Biological Physics will train students in advanced techniques and concepts in the physical sciences as applied to phenomena in biology. The minor will require a minimum of 14 credit hours and will utilize existing courses from the departments of physics and biological sciences. The structure of the minor

includes a total of four selective courses (each selective being a choice of two courses) and a culminating course required for all students.

Revise the Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner Concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Nursing, has approved the revision of the Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice.

The degree program includes three categories of courses: core courses taken by all students, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse core courses taken by students across specialty concentrations, and focus area courses specific to one specialty concentration.

This proposal specifically revises the Adult-Gerontology Primary Care Nurse Practitioner focus area courses by (1) adding a third specialty disease management course, (2) moving from five focus area courses to six total, (3) increasing supervised direct patient care clock hours from 675 hours to 765 hours across three practicum courses, and (4) strengthening coursework and improving scaffolding throughout the curriculum to improve students' readiness for clinical practice. Overall, the total credit hours required to earn the degree with this focus area will decrease from 77 to 75.

Revise the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner Concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Nursing, has approved the revision of the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice.

The degree program includes three categories of courses: core courses taken by all students, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse core courses taken by students across specialty concentrations, and focus area courses specific to one specialty concentration.

This proposal specifically revises the Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner focus area courses by (1) adding a third specialty disease management course, (2) moving from five focus area courses to six total, (3) increasing supervised direct patient care clock hours from 675 hours to 765 hours across three practicum courses, and (4) strengthening coursework and improving scaffolding throughout the curriculum to improve students' readiness for clinical practice. Overall, the total credit hours required to earn the degree with this focus area will decrease from 77 to 75.

Revise the Family Nurse Practitioner Concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Nursing, has approved the revision of the Family Nurse Practitioner concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice.

The degree program includes three categories of courses: core courses taken by all students, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse core courses taken by students

across specialty concentrations, and focus area courses specific to one specialty concentration.

This proposal specifically revises the Family Nurse Practitioner focus area courses, by (1) moving from seven focus area courses to six total, (2) strengthening coursework and improving scaffolding throughout the curriculum to improve students' readiness for clinical practice, and (3) eliminating a course, given the addition of newly developed courses with redundant content. Overall, the total credit hours required to earn the degree with this focus area will decrease from 79 to 75.

Revise the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice, College of Nursing, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Nursing, has approved the revision of the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice.

The degree program includes three categories of courses: core courses taken by all students, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse core courses taken by students across specialty concentrations, and focus area courses specific to one specialty concentration.

This proposal specifically revises the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner focus area courses by (1) adding a prerequisite course to better address the neurobiology of psychiatric illness and pharmacological interventions, (2) combining two courses to better address the psychiatric needs of individuals, families, and communities through the lifespan, and (3) decreasing one course from 3 credit hours to 2 credits by

eliminating content covered in another course. Overall, the total credit hours required to earn the degree with this focus area will decrease from 85 to 82.

Revise the Nurse Anesthesia Concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice,
College of Nursing, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Nursing, has approved the revision of the Nurse Anesthesia concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice.

The program enrolled its first cohort in Fall 2025. However, while this concentration was being established via governance in 2024-2025, changes were in process to the Doctor of Nursing Practice and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) core requirements. As such, this proposal acknowledges these changes and presents revisions specific to the nurse anesthesia focus area to ensure the program meets accreditation standards. In this revision, the advanced physiology/pathophysiology requirement will now be met by an added APRN core course and an added focus area course (with the removal of another APRN core course and two focus area courses). The credit hours for two clinical residency courses are also being adjusted. Overall, the total credit hours required to earn the degree with this focus area will decrease from 114 to 112.

Revise the Master of Design in Graphic Design and Master of Design in
Industrial Design to Establish a Path for Students from Non-Design Backgrounds,
College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts and the Graduate College, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Architecture, Design, and the Arts and the Graduate College, has approved the

revision of the Master of Design in Graphic Design and Master of Design in Industrial Design to establish a path for students from non-design backgrounds.

Focused on independent research projects, students in these two degrees explore a topic of inquiry with the potential to inform and shape disciplinary knowledge. Applicants from any background are welcome, but students must demonstrate a record of professional experience in graphic or industrial design and present a considerable and significant portfolio of work. Both degrees are two-year programs requiring 64 credit hours.

To address growing interest from students with non-design backgrounds, the School of Design proposes the creation of an expanded three-year program for each degree. This additional year will take the form of a “preliminary year” (Year 1 of 3). This change will be accomplished by establishing a credit range for each degree program of 64 to 82 credit hours. Students entering the program with sufficient design experience will be admitted to the two-year track as it currently exists (64 credit hours). Students without sufficient design experience will be admitted to the three-year track (up to 82 credit hours).

Students on the three-year track will take up to 18 credit hours of graduate-level design coursework, comprised of two preparatory studio courses, an introduction to design practice seminar, and two advanced design selectives. Students will concurrently take up to 16 credit hours of undergraduate-level design coursework, depending on their level of preparation, that serve as prerequisites to advancing into the existing two-year

MDes curricula. These undergraduate credit hours do not count toward the total credit hours needed to earn the MDes degrees.

Rename and Revise the Minor in Professional Sales and Relationship Management,
College of Business Administration, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Business Administration, has approved the renaming and revision of the minor in Professional Sales and Relationship Management as the minor in Professional Sales.

The minor is open to students in the College of Business Administration and undergraduate students in other University of Illinois Chicago colleges. All students in the minor complete a required course, as well as three of four options from a selective list. The department proposes to revise the selectives list to better align the program's content with the skills needed in a career in sales. Specifically, two courses will be added as selectives to the minor, focusing on technology and on professional presentation, and one existing course will be removed. The title of the minor will also be simplified to better communicate to students and employers what the minor covers. While "relationship management" is relevant to the minor, it is not highlighted within the course content more so than other aspects of professional sales.

Eliminate the Campus Certificate in Disability Ethics,
College of Applied Health Sciences and Graduate College, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, has approved the elimination of the Campus Certificate in Disability Ethics.

The 12 credit-hour program was designed to enable students to address disability as a multi-dimensional phenomenon, critically analyze bioethics approaches, recognize perspectives in ethical debates, and apply ethical theories to life situations faced by people with disabilities.

Over the course of the program since 2015, only 30 students completed the certificate. Moreover, as the faculty sponsor of the program has retired, the program is no longer active and there are no students enrolled. The two core classes are no longer offered and will be eliminated, and any content on disability ethics has been merged into other graduate level classes.

Eliminate the Campus Certificate in Management and Leadership in
the Nonprofit Disability Organization, College of Applied Health Sciences
and Graduate College, Chicago

The University of Illinois Chicago Senate, with the recommendation of the College of Applied Health Sciences and the Graduate College, has approved the elimination of the Campus Certificate in Management and Leadership in the Nonprofit Disability Organization.

The intent of the 12 credit-hour program was to provide students with: (1) a systems level perspective on the role of state and federal government policy in disability services, (2) a broader, theoretical based perspective on organizations and human resources management, and (3) specific content knowledge in management related skill sets. However, the faculty sponsor of the certificate has retired. There are no students in the program, and most of the courses have not been offered in over 10 years.

Establish the Concentration in Health Promotion and Community Health,
College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield

The University of Illinois Springfield Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Health, Science, and Technology to establish the concentration in Health Promotion and Community Health within the Master of Public Health.

The concentration in Health Promotion and Community Health in the general Master of Public Health (MPH-General) includes the 32-hour core course requirements for the MPH-General degree plus 16 hours of specialized coursework. Coursework for the online concentration consists of two required core courses and two elective courses. The first core class course introduces students to concepts of social determinants of health, health disparities, social epidemiology, and related interventions and policies. The second core class focuses on how to design, implement, and evaluate public health interventions through collaborative community and clinical engagement. Students choose two public health related elective courses, one in data analysis and one in research methods, to complete the concentration.

Establish the Concentration in Epidemiology,
College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield

The University of Illinois Springfield Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Health, Science, and Technology to establish the concentration in Epidemiology within the Master of Public Health.

The concentration in Epidemiology in the general Master of Public Health (MPH - General) emphasizes technical skills in statistical programming for epidemiology

and the design and analysis of clinical trials. Students choosing this concentration will complete the 32-hour core course requirements for the MPH-General degree plus 16 hours of epidemiology coursework consisting of two required core courses and two elective courses. The first core class teaches students to use specialized statistical software for epidemiologic analysis, emphasizing real-world issues in statistical programming for epidemiology, while the second core class is a methods course addressing practical issues in the design and analysis of clinical data. Students choose two epidemiology elective courses to complete the concentration. The concentration will be offered in face-to-face format.

Eliminate the Minor in Liberty Studies,
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Springfield

The University of Illinois Springfield Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences to eliminate the minor in Liberty Studies due to lack of student interest. There are no students currently enrolled in the minor, which is housed in the liberal studies program.

Eliminate the Minor in Social Responsibility and Leadership Development,
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Springfield

The University of Illinois Springfield Senate has approved a proposal from the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences to eliminate the minor in Social Responsibility and Leadership Development due to lack of student interest. There are no students currently enrolled in the minor, which is housed in the liberal studies program.

This report was received for record.

Business Enterprise Program Report

(38) Attached is a report that responds to the Board of Trustees' request for periodic information on Business Enterprise Program expenditures. The report lists expenditures by Business Enterprise Program vendors for the period of July 1, 2025, through December 31, 2025.

This report was received for record.

Change Orders Report to the Board of Trustees

(39) On September 23, 2010, the Board of Trustees delegated the authority to the comptroller to approve change orders to University contracts and purchase agreements. Change orders related to medical center operations that exceed 25 percent of the original Board approved contract or purchase agreement and change orders that are not related to the medical center operations that exceed 5 percent of the original Board approved contract for construction or professional services or original Board approved purchase agreements for supplies or equipment will be reported to the Board at its next scheduled meeting.

The intent of this report is to provide the Board of Trustees a review of those changes germane to the respective projects which have occurred. A copy has been filed with the secretary of the Board.

This report was received for record.

Demographic Report for Active Employees with Active Position and
FTE Greater than 0%

(40) System Human Resource Services presented this report through March 2026. A copy has been filed with the secretary of the Board.

This report was received for record.

Executive Committee Report

(41) The following actions have been taken by the Executive Committee since the last meeting of the Board. These actions are now reported to the Board as a whole.

February 4, 2026, meeting of the Executive Committee

Approve Acquisition of 250 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Urbana

(1) The chancellor, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and vice president, University of Illinois System, with the concurrence of the administrative officers, recommends, subject to a satisfactory facility condition assessment and other required due diligence, that the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois (Board) be authorized to close a Purchase and Sale Agreement with South Wacker Chicago Real Estate Holding, Inc., a Delaware corporation, for the purchase of property located at 250 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, which is outside the Master Plan. The facility is to serve

the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) for the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI). The purchase price of the building is to be \$23,750,000, which includes broker commission of 3 percent or \$712,500. That equates to a purchase price of \$96.96 per square foot. That amount is considered to be at or below market value based upon recent comparable sales. An additional \$36,250,000 is expected to be paid for a construction project within the building.

The above-referenced property is a 244,954-square-foot, 16-story office building located in the West Loop of downtown Chicago on the waterfront. The building is adjacent to 200 South Wacker Drive, where UIUC has leased space since December 1997 and will continue to lease space until at least June 30, 2035. The building was built in 1958 and renovated in 2006. Some of the existing conditions may be used as they are, but there will be a renovation project to customize the spaces for the best utilization of DPI.

DPI currently leases space at 200 South Wacker Drive but needs a larger space for its growing program. The program is tasked with the development of tech talent, helping companies grow, and providing a place for companies, researchers, and students to collaborate on turning ideas into products and services. It's expected that partner entities will utilize space within the building and will contribute financially for use of the space.

There is also a single private tenant in the building that occupies 20,252 square feet (8 percent).

The Board 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.

Funds for this purchase are available from State of Illinois capital appropriations.

The president of the University of Illinois System concurs.

On motion of Mr. Cepeda, seconded by Ms. Craig Schilling, this recommendation was approved by the following vote: Aye, Mr. Cepeda, Ms. Craig Schilling, Mr. Ruiz; No, none.

Performance Metrics

(42) The University Office for Planning and Budgeting submitted the performance metric reports for the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, the University of Illinois Chicago, and the University of Illinois Springfield. Copies have been filed with the secretary of the Board.

These reports were received for record.

Secretary's Report

(43) The secretary presented for record changes to academic appointments for contract year 2025-26, new hires, resignations, notices of nonreappointment, and retirees rehired. A copy has been filed with the secretary of the Board.

University of Illinois System Fourth Quarter 2025 Investment Update

(44) The comptroller presented this report as of December 31, 2025. A copy has been filed with the secretary of the Board.

This report was received for record.

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

President Killeen reiterated his appreciation for the staff across the University System. He referred to the impact of research. President Killeen announced the passing of Dr. Anthony J. Leggett, who died March 8, 2026. He said Dr. Leggett was a British-American scholar and a Nobel Prize winner in physics. He said Dr. Leggett was a Wolf Prize winner and served as the John D. And Catherine T. MacArthur Professor of Physics at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. He said Dr. Leggett won the Nobel Prize in 2003 in physics for his groundbreaking research in theoretical condensed matter physics and the foundations of quantum mechanics. President Killeen commented on Dr. Leggett's sincere and warm manner and said he will be missed. President Killeen extended condolences to Dr. Leggett's family and colleagues.

Finally, President Killeen referenced Women's History Month and asked that all in attendance remember, appreciate, and recognize the enormous contributions women throughout the University System, including the thousands of women who are part of the faculty and staff, those who serve as trustees and leaders, and those who lead the universities as chancellors and administrators.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no business presented under this aegis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Ruiz announced that the Board is scheduled to meet in Urbana on May 21, 2026, and on July 15 and 16, 2026, also in Urbana.

At 11:30 a.m., Mr. Ruiz announced that the Board would recess, reconvening at 11:45 a.m.

MEETING OF THE BOARD RECONVENES

The meeting reconvened at 11:52 a.m., with all Board members previously recorded as being present in attendance, except Dr. McKinney, who left at 10:55 a.m.

MOTION FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:52 a.m., Chair 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: University employment or appointment-related matters (subsection 1).” On motion of Mr. Basta, seconded by Ms. Blackwell, 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 further topics to discuss, the executive session ended at 1:14 p.m.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

At 1:15 p.m., the regular meeting resumed, and Chair Ruiz requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. On motion of Ms. Craig Schilling, seconded by Dr. Traubert, the meeting adjourned. There were no “nay” votes.

JEFFREY A. STEIN
Secretary

JESSE H. RUIZ
Chair