

# Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement

## Annual Report

2010/2011

The Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement met four times over the course of 2010/2011. Each semester, the committee met once with Vice Chancellor for Public Engagement, Steve Sonka, and once with Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement, Jim Schroeder.

The meetings were primarily informational and a mechanism for communication between the Vice Chancellors, faculty, academic professionals, and students. This year the focus was on the Stewarding Excellence program and its recommendations for public engagement and advancement activities.

In meetings with Vice Chancellor Jim Schroeder, the committee learned more about the work of the office for Institutional Advancement, the status of the Brilliant Futures campaign, and campus and university initiatives for restructuring Advancement operations. Increased connections between alumni relations, fundraising, communications, and marketing are a focus in the Advancement model being explored. To offset gaps in state support, fundraising is currently focusing on scholarships in order to offer as much financial aid to students in need, as possible.

In meetings with Vice Chancellor Sonka, the committee heard about initiatives and programs, such as the March 9 Public Engagement Symposium and the Technology, Entertainment, Design (TED) program. In addition, restructuring of Public Engagement programs through the Stewarding Excellence initiative are likely to reassign administratively some of the operations currently part of the office of Public Engagement: Illinois in Washington; Office of Corporate Relations; Office of Sustainability; and, Campus Community Interface. Discussions about implementation of Stewarding Excellence are ongoing.

The committee had a productive year in terms of becoming better informed (and therefore better ambassadors) about the work being done by the campus units focused on public engagement and institutional advancement.

Respectfully submitted,

Members of the Senate Committee on Public Engagement and Institutional Advancement:

Bob Aherin

Chris Fennell

Tracey Klees

Nancy O'Brien (Chair)

Elizabeth Rockman

Jim Shriner

Katherine Syer

Mary Beth Versaci

Jim Schroeder (Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement), *ex officio*

Steve Sonka (Interim Vice Chancellor for Public Engagement), *ex officio*