The open meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois was called to order by Chair Kennedy at 10:10 AM. The Board had previously met in executive session beginning at 8 AM.

President Designate Easter welcomed the Board and guests to the meeting and introduced University officers, senior administrators and faculty representatives present. President Easter specifically introduced new VP/UIS Chancellor Koch and UIS Provost Lynn Pardie. He also updated the Board on the completion of the Blue Waters computer and university commencements noting specifically the increase in the number of first generation students. He shared the following approximate number of graduates this year: 12,500 baccalaureate degrees, 6,000 masters degrees and 600 professional degrees and certificates. President Easter said that he was looking forward to the upcoming senior administration’s retreat.

Vice President/UIC Chancellor Paula Allen-Meares welcomed the Board and the audience to her campus and expressed gratitude to President Easter for having met with the Senate Executive Committee, deans and other campus leaders. She reported that UIC’s research rankings with the National Science Foundation as well as an international ranking have improved.

Chancellor Allen-Meares reported on numerous faculty awards and accomplishments, success of the Brilliant Future Campaign to raise $650 million ($675 million raised already) and the fact that UIC’s Police Department has received full accreditation (first in Illinois). She referred to her campus’ master plan, aiming to develop a greener environment through a number of new projects. In other updates, Chancellor Allen-Meares reported on the following: a recent conference at UIC that honored Bayard Rustin, adviser to Martin Luther King Jr.; the success of the campus’ high school which graduated about 150 students this year, all of whom were accepted at four year schools; Take a Stand Against Bullying event; the 12th World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates (April 23-25, 2012, Chicago); athletics accomplishments; alumni giving; commencement and the 30th anniversary of the creation of UIC through merger of east and west campuses (September 19, 2012).

Committees of the Board reported on their recent meetings. Trustee McMillan reported that the Audits, Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee met on May 21st and will meet again on July 8th. Trustee Strobel reported that the Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee had met May 17th and was scheduled to meet on July 28 again. This committee has been very involved in planning the Board / senior administrators and faculty leaders’ retreat. Trustee Koritz reported that the University Healthcare System Committee has focused on the state Medicaid cuts and its impact on the university.
Finally, Trustee Hasara reported that the Academic and Student Affairs Committee had met the day before. At this point, departing student trustees were recognized and thanked for their service.

Vice President/UIC Chancellor Paula Allen-Meares offered a campus dashboard report. She offered the following as categories of performance metrics: Student Access and Enrollment; Student Outcomes; Tuition and Financial Aid; Faculty and Scholarship; Research Performance and Financial Indicators. She mentioned that UIC will advance six overarching goals as follows: 1) Focus on our academic excellence, student access, and student success; 2) Emphasize transformative impact and social good; 3) Grow our translational, entrepreneurial and engaged research and discovery enterprise to include many approaches to knowing; 4) Foster diversity and a global perspective; 5) Honor and partner with Chicago and the State to enhance the human condition of its citizens and 6) Innovate within to build greater efficiencies and future strengths. She elaborated on each of these goals and offered indicators for each one. A discussion of these goals continued with Board members.

The Board went into executive session during lunch. Regular meeting of the Board resumed at 1:40 PM with a presentation by Jerry L. Bauman, PharmD, Professor and Dean on the history, accomplishments, student demographics, finances and high ranking (3 out of 125) of the College of Pharmacy.

Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA) Christophe Pierre gave a presentation titled Underrepresented Minority (URM) Faculty Recruitment and Retention. He offered statistics on the demographics of tenure system faculty including numbers and percentages of African American, Hispanic and white faculty at different ranks and different campuses. He pointed out that, according to U.S. Department of Education, URM PhDs in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) areas account for 0.85% of all PhDs awarded in 2009-10. He further noted that 35% of the U.S. doctoral degrees conferred in STEM fields in 2009-10 were awarded to women. VPAA Pierre spoke about a number of programs and initiative by the University President, VPAA, UIUC and UIC for recruitment and retention of women and minority faculty.

Maureen Parks updated the Board on the activities of the Task Force for Prevention of Sexual Abuse. Vice President Schook gave a presentation on the Economic Development of University Related Organizations (URO’s).

The Board approved a number of curricular and capital proposals listed in their agenda.


Don Chambers, faculty member at UIC and Chair of the University Senates Conference (USC), presented on behalf of the faculty. He thanked Dr. Robert Easter for his acceptance of the University’s presidency at this critical time. Chambers reported on UIC Senate’s course and curricula approvals and noted that the campus is listed in two rankings as among top 30 public schools. He pointed out the campus’
tremendous growth and consolidation especially in medical sciences. Chambers said that USC is looking forward to the university Board/administration/faculty leaders’ retreat coming up later this summer.

Layton Olson, a Chicago attorney, spoke during the Public Comments portion of the meeting about how the University can better participate in the 150 year anniversary of the Morrill Land Grant Act. He also spoke about the importance of the Pell Grant program and emphasized reducing students’ educational debt.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abbas Aminmansour

* Webcast and audio recordings of the Board meeting are available at: http://www.uillinois.edu/trustees/audio.cfm