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SC.25.19

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN SENATE

URBANA SENATE OBSERVER

(Final; Information)

SC.25.19      Report on the May 22, 2025, Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois System in Urbana

Chairperson Jesse H. Ruiz took roll call, and the meeting was convened before breaking into Executive Session.

Chair Ruiz resumed the meeting after the session, called it to order, and started with a recognition of President Stanley Ikenberry. President Killeen provided comments on President Ikenberry's life and legacy. Chair Ruiz swore in Bryan Traubert as a Trustee. This was followed with a vocal performance of the state song, *Illinois*, by Simon Tiffin. President Killeen introduced university officers and observers.

In his remarks, President Killeen shared that there were many affirming Illinois system commencement services in May celebrating the 19,000+ students who graduated this term. The President also talked about the economic value of a degree from Illinois and the larger societal value. He noted that about 75 percent of system graduates stay in Illinois.

Chancellor Robert Jones provided remarks, which served as his last time in Illinois addressing the Board. Chancellor Jones recounted a list of accomplishments achieved over the last 8 years of his service, including but not limited to historic enrollment numbers of undergraduate, graduate, and online students, a 4% growth in tenure-system faculty, and increased resources to provide need-based financial aid.

Professor Joyce Tolliver presented on the topic of "Shared Governance in Anxious Times," highlighting the role of the University Senates Conference, especially during the difficulties presented this past semester. Healthy shared governance is built on shared responsibility, mutual commitment to the principle of shared governance, and clear communication (not just pro forma engagement). Demonizing adversarial approaches, as exemplified in some national news reports, are antithetical to the shared governance ethos. Among other values, we can continue the practice of shared governance by making assumptions of good faith, maintaining a commitment to "staying at the table," and engaging with clearer and regular communication. Chair Ruiz inquired about how the BOT used to more actively meet with USC, with an interest in reengaging with this practice.

The four Board Committee reports provided background to various items on the action agenda for today.

University Healthcare System Committee, Trustee Jesse Ruiz, Chair  
Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee, Trustee Joseph Gutman, Chair  
Audit, Budget, Finance, and Facilities Committee, Trustee Ramón Cepeda, Chair  
Academic and Student Affairs Committee, Trustee Tami Craig Schilling, Chair

Trustee Tami Craig Schilling recognized the student representatives who are rotating off the Board of Trustees, Quinn Basta, UIC, and Christian Johnson, UIS (Happy Birthday, Christian!). Brief remarks from student representatives followed.

Public comment was presented, topics included a formal request for recognizing the work of Dean Clarence Shelley and antisemitism on UIUC campus and in Washington, D.C. A speaker disrupted comments to suggest the BOT could be charged a misdemeanor for denying their right to speak during public comments (purportedly about a litigation issue).

Chair Ruiz spoke to passing the resolution to honor Chancellor Jones, with President Killeen and Trustees providing additional comments of praise in nothing short of a well-earned Chancellor Jones Love Fest.

The following action items were approved (items affected Urbana highlighted):

*Presented to the **Board as a Whole**:*

Resolution for Robert J. Jones

*The following recommendations have been reviewed by the **Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee** prior to advancement to the Board as a Whole:*

*Amend Bylaws of the Board of Trustees*

Appoint Members to the Athletic Board, Urbana

Amend Multiyear Contract with Head Varsity Coach, Football, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, Urbana

Amend Multiyear Contract with Head Varsity Coach, Men's Basketball, Division of Intercollegiate Athletics, Urbana

*The following recommendation has been reviewed by the **Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee** and the **Academic and Student Affairs Committee** prior to advancement to the Board as a Whole:*

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

*The following recommendation has been reviewed by the **Governance, Personnel, and Ethics Committee** and the **Audit, Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee** prior to advancement to the Board as a Whole:*

Reappoint Chief Internal Auditor

*The following recommendation has been reviewed by the **University Healthcare System Committee**, prior to advancement to the Board as a Whole.*

Delegate Authority to Members of the University Health System Committee to Approve Designation of Responsibility for the University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics Antibiotic Stewardship and Infection Prevention and Control Programs, Chicago

Delegate Authority to Approve Criteria for University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics Medical Staff Privileges, Chicago

Delegate Authority to Review University of Illinois Hospital and Clinics Medical Staff Corrective Action Recommendations, Chicago

*The following recommendations have been reviewed by the **Academic and Student Affairs Committee** prior to advancement to the Board as a Whole:*

Approve Revisions to the University of Illinois System Residency Status Policy

Approve Transportation Fee, Chicago, Academic Year 2025-2026

Appoint Interim Dean, School of Information Sciences, Urbana

Appoint Dean, College of Health, Science, and Technology, Springfield

Appoint Interim Dean, College of Public Affairs and Education, Springfield

Appoint Fellows to the Center for Advanced Study, Urbana

Appoint Associates to the Center for Advanced Study, Urbana

Appoint Faculty Fellows to the Institute for the Humanities, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Chicago

Establish the Master of Veterinary Science in Applied Veterinary Sciences, College of Veterinary Medicine and the Graduate College, Urbana

Establish the Master of Science in Child Health, College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences and the Graduate College, Urbana

Establish the Bachelor of Liberal Studies in Liberal Studies, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Urbana

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Inclusive and Special Education, College of Education, Chicago

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

Establish the Master of Business Administration in Management Science, College of Business and Management, Springfield

Establish the Bachelor of Science in Marketing, College of Business and Management, Springfield

Rename, Reorganize, and Revise the Master of Science in Public Health, Concentration in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, School of Public Health and the Graduate College, Chicago

Rename, Reorganize, and Revise the Doctor of Philosophy in Public Health, Concentration in Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, School of Public Health and the Graduate College, Chicago

## **Roll Call Agenda**

*The following recommendations have been reviewed by the **Audit, Budget, Finance and Facilities Committee** prior to advancement to the Board as a Whole:*

Approve Preliminary Operating Budget for Fiscal Year 2026

Approve Project Budget for Nurse Anesthesia Program (NAP) Simulation Lab, Chicago

Approve Project Budget for Innovation Center Expansion, Chicago (Capital Development Board Project)

Approve Project Budget for Computer Design Research and Learning Center, Chicago (Capital Development Board Project)

Approve Project Budget for Library Commons, Springfield (Capital Development Board Project)

Purchase Recommendations

*Presented to the **Board as a Whole**:*

Disclose Certain Minutes of Executive Sessions Pursuant to Open Meetings Act

Authorize Settlement (*Crispiniana Domingo v. Justin Wooden*)

The meeting recessed at 12:15 pm and will reconvene for the retreat.

Respectfully submitted,

Jon Hale