

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS  
AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



**Office of the Senate**  
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SC.09.11

## Report of the University Board of Trustees Meeting of May 21, 2009

### **Breakfast Meeting:**

Trustees Schmidt and Carroll held a breakfast meeting with campus observers and Senate Chairs from the three campuses. Please see Appendix A for list of items discussed at the breakfast meeting.

### **Board Meeting:**

The University of Illinois Board of Trustees held a regularly scheduled meeting at the Chicago campus of the University of Illinois on Thursday May 21, 2009. The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Niranjan Shah at 10AM. Trustee Eppley introduced and welcomed new trustee Edward McMillan to the Board. Trustee Dorris thanked the three outgoing student trustees and presented each with a certificate of recognition for their service on the Board. Chair Shah reported that the University of Illinois had just offered about 19,000 degrees during the recent commencements at its three campuses. He also thanked President B. Joseph White for his reconsideration of the direction of the Global Campus.

Trustee Montgomery and University Vice President / Chief Financial Office Walter Knorr gave the report of the Finance and Investment Committee. UIC Chancellor Paula Allen-Meares welcomed the Board to her campus and shared information of interest with the Board. She noted that the UIC campus submitted grant proposals for over \$183M under the federal stimulus act. She pointed out numerous awards and recognitions received by the UIC faculty and students and observed that the UIC campus had just awarded about 6,000 degrees during its recent commencement. Governor Quinn and Chicago Mayor Daley were in attendance at the UIC Commencement. U of I Chancellor Richard Herman also gave his campus report and noted that about 8,000 undergraduate and professional degrees were awarded at the Champaign-Urbana campus commencement including 107 participants in the Illinois Promise program. He added that about his campus had submitted about 5,000 grant proposals as well for a total request for funds of about \$858M. UIS Chancellor Richard Ringeisen also gave a report of his campus and noted that the Springfield now has six named professorships.

The Public Comments portion of the meeting included a presentation by a UIC faculty member regarding the Advanced Chemical Technology Building (ACTB) project at UIC and noted that the project had been approved years ago, but had not materialized yet. It was noted that the Board had approved the project, but the State had not released the funds for the project. Chair Shah expressed support for the project. Additional public comments were made by UIC students expressing concern about their Tuition Differential and increasing cost of education and at the same time referenced the Board agenda item to increase coach Weber's proposed total annual compensation. Trustee Eppley offered to meet with students at a later time to discuss their concerns. A number of other trustees agreed to join the discussion. Students held a rally outside the building for some time during the Board meeting.

President B. Joseph White read a statement regarding the Global Campus (GC) and the resolution on the Board agenda ([click here](#) for an electronic version). He commented that the University's commitment to the original goals set forth by the Global Campus remains but added that the Global Campus may operate differently in the future. Trustee Schmidt remarked about the market for BS degree completion; the drive / who will decide on which programs and courses will be developed and standardization of community college course levels. Trustee Eppley requested a public commitment from campus chancellors and provosts to the mission of the Global Campus and noted that GC 2.0 places more pressure on the campuses. The chancellors reaffirmed their campuses commitments to the goals of the Global Campus. In related discussions, it was noted that the Global Campus costs the University about \$250,000 per month to operate. Board members emphasized that it is important that we establish new programs before accepting students. In response to an inquiry, President White observed that our commitment to students already in the Global Campus programs remains intact and that they will be offered the opportunity to complete their programs regardless of the future direction of the Global Campus. The proposed Board resolution states, "The Board directs that this work be undertaken expeditiously and that it be completed and implemented, as recommended by the task force report, by January 1, 2010." However, in a discussion, the Board requested that the three campuses offer their plans to the Board at its July meeting in advance of the implementation deadline. The Board resolution passed.

In the afternoon portion of the Board meeting, the Budget and Audit Committee of the Board offered its report. Vice President and CIO Walter K. Knorr presented university's Fiscal Year 2010 Preliminary Budget as follows. Figures are in thousands of dollars.

	Fiscal Year 2009	Fiscal Year 2010	Change (dollars)	Change (%)
University Funds	\$1,702.5	\$1,763.4	\$60.9	3.6%
Restricted Funds	\$2,462.3	\$2,766.2	\$303.9	12.3%
Total	\$4,164.8	\$4,529.6	\$364.8	8.8%

Carrie Hightman, Chair of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) gave an invited presentation to the Board regarding the IBHE's Public Agenda, considered to be a blueprint for the state's higher education for the next decade. She noted that the Public Agenda drives state's policy, legislature and budget for higher education. Goals of the Public Agenda are as follows:

- Goal I: Increase educational attainment to match best-performing states.
- Goal II: Ensure college affordability for students, families and taxpayers.
- Goal III: Increase the number of high-quality post-secondary credentials to meet the demands of the economy and an increasingly global society.
- Goal IV: Better integrate Illinois' educational, research and innovation asset to meet economic needs of the state and its regions.

Chair Hightman challenged University of Illinois to make the Public Agenda its agenda and particularly encouraged the University's leadership role in attaining goals I and IV of the Public Agenda. For more information about IBHE and its Public Agenda, please visit <http://www.ibhe.org>.

The Board meeting ended after Student Trustees' Reports; Business Presented by the President of the University; Business Presented by the Chair of the Board; Old Business; New Business and Announcements.

Respectfully submitted,  
Abbas Aminmansour  
Campus Observer

Appendix A  
 Items Discussed with Trustees Schmidt and Carroll  
 Breakfast Meeting with Campus Observers and Senate Chairs  
 May 21, 2009

The following items were agreed upon (via conference call) by those attending the breakfast meeting and submitted in advance of the meeting for discussion.

1. Global Campus: Thank you. The faculty appreciate that the Board of Trustees has listened to the concerns that were raised. We view this as a significant moment and as an example of how shared governance can work. *(Informational item)*
2. Educational Policy: The Urbana-Champaign campus is actively engaged in establishment of interdisciplinary programs that utilize existing resources of colleges to offer new and innovative degree programs through cross collaboration. These efforts are supported by the Chancellor, Provost and the academic Senate. One such program (Bachelor of Science in Health - - approved by the Board of Trustees on January 15, 2009 and by IBHE on January 27, 2009) will be implemented in Fall of 2009. A number of additional programs are under development. *(Informational item)*
3. ACTB: The UIC Senate strongly supports the full funding of the Advanced Chemical Technology Building, and is concerned that it not be passed over for more recent University capital projects. What are the trustees doing to achieve this goal?  
*It was observed that the Board of Trustees had approved the project several years ago, but the State had not released the funds for the project yet. Trustee Schmidt noted that given the circumstances, if the Board were to revisit any previously approved projects, it would have to re-prioritize them based on our current needs.*
4. Change in Board Bylaws: What is the impetus of creating a new Student Affairs Committee of the Board? Will the student trustees continue to be members of the Academic Affairs Committee?  
*The Board Secretary sent the following message regarding this issue to Professor Elliot Kaufman, Chair of USC:*  
*“Dear Elliot,*  
*The reason the Student Affairs Committee was brought back as a standing committee of the Board was to provide a means for consideration of student concerns in the arena of student life.*  
*The attempt to subsume student affairs within the Academic Affairs Committee was not adequate to cover the broad range of issues confronting students at the University. Indeed, it is a challenge to find time to consider the myriad academic affairs issues that are presented to this committee. The student trustees are no longer members of the Academic Affairs Committee, and are now vice chairs of the Student Affairs Committee.*  
*I discussed these facts with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Dr. Schmidt and Dr. Carroll respectively when this suggestion was made and they both concurred in the decision.”*
5. Coach’s contract: At a time when students are facing higher and higher tuition and faculty and staff may, once again, be denied a reasonable salary program, a coach's contract is being lavishly renegotiated. What is the message that trustees think this sends to the academic side of our enterprise?  
*The Board agenda stated that: “The proposed increases would mean that Coach Weber’s total annual compensation, including the \$200,000 annual*

*contribution to the deferred compensation account, would increase from \$1,000,000 to \$1,250,000 effective May 1, 2009, and to \$1,500,000 effective January 15, 2010.”*

*Comments were made that although athletics have self supporting budget, such raises at this time may not be most appropriate. It was also noted that realities of competition for coaches and going salary rates impact such decisions.*