Chairman Kennedy remarks

After the executive session of the board, Chairman Kennedy’s remarks included thanks to Trustee McMillan for chairing the retreat in his absence and to President Easter and Trustee Strobel for organizing the retreat. Chairman Kennedy restated the commitment of the University of Illinois to solve health disparities in the USA using the unique assets of the university. In order to do this, it is required to integrate capacities to create synergy across the university.

President Easter remarks

President Easter remarked the energizing nature of the retreat in how to move forward. Legislative session resulted in a flat appropriation. In these times flat is not a bad outcome. Across the board, students are interested in enrolling in our campuses: Freshmen enrollment is up 18% at UIS, 5.2% at UIUC, and 1% at UIC. In the last of board of trustees meeting, a student spoke about concerns charges of tuition and fees during internships that do not include any activities on campus. Urbana’s council of undergraduate deans is reviewing the policies.

Prof. Nick Burbules recognition

Chairman Kennedy highlighted the importance of shared governance prior to introducing Prof. Burbules to be recognized for his service as chair of USC. Chairman Kennedy read long list of accomplishments of Prof Burbules in terms of his research and remarkable service to the university.

Introduction of new student trustees

Trustee Hasara led the installation of student trustees.

Trustee Pam Stroebel introduced her mentee Mr. Jamaal Hollins (Springfield).

Trustee James Montgomery introduced his mentee Mr. Mike Cunningham (Urbana).

Trustee Edward McMillan introduced his mentee Ms. Danielle Leibowitz (Chicago).

Chancellor Allen-Meares remarks

Chancellor Allen-Meares presented first highlights of UIC. Some of the accomplishments mentioned were faculty accomplishments (i.e., Siva Sivnanthan honored at the White House, Minority health Research Institute received a grant of $15 million to study health disparities). The Chancellor held a series of internal (i.e., town hall meetings) and external meetings (Gates Foundation; Trade mission to Mexico) as well as the Chancellor’s Lecturers (Speakers such as M. Roy Wilson and Larry Faulkner).

Chancellor Allen-Mears introduced Dr. Saul Weiner (Vice Provost for Planning and Programs). Dr. Weiner outlined the strategic planning cycle at UIC that is based on shared governance. Slide 13 of the
Chancellor’s presentation (available at: http://www.trustees.uillinois.edu/trustees/agenda/July-24-25-2013-BOT/p-1-UIC-Welcome.pdf) illustrates the process that always starts at the faculty level since faculty understands better the consequences of planning. The cycle of planning starts from a shared vision, and continues with RCM-based decision making, RCM implementation, and accountability. Chairman Kennedy asked if Urbana has a similar position as Dr. Weiner’s. UI Chicago is the only one who has this position.

Committee Reports


The main issues presented were the Health System Facilities Revenue Bonds, capital projects, and audit processes.

B) Trustee Hasara presented her report on the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. Minutes of latest meeting will be available at: http://www.bot.uillinois.edu/academic-and-student-affairs#minutes

The main issues presented were appointments including the appointment of Jerry Bauman, dean of the College of Pharmacy at UIC, as interim vice president for health affairs effective Sept. 1, as well as the efforts of the university to comply with the new legislation related to rehiring of retirees.


The main issues presented were faculty promotions, appointment of deans in Urbana, as well as the policy on rehiring of state retirees.


The main issues presented were a more positive budget for the hospital due to changes in Medicare, expansion of Medicare passed in Illinois, and the improvement of the hospital’s dashboard however the areas of improvement are critical.

Chancellors research performance dashboard reports

A) Chancellor Allen-Meares UIC

According to Chancellor Allen Meares the research performance of UIC is at par or better than peer institutions. UIC’s growth in patents received has been significant in the last five years. Important action items include the development of cross-disciplinary mentorship and research support and internal
funding opportunities designed to develop multi-disciplinary research. OVCR’s return on investment is extremely positive: For each seed dollar invested internally, UIC receives $14 in extramural funding.

B) Chancellor Wise UIUC

Chancellor Wise started her presentation highlighting the fact that of all the universities included in the peer group, only two do not have a college of medicine. The dashboard indicates below the median research performance compared to its peer group. Even in a comparison between Urbana and two peers that do not have a medical school (Berkley and Texas), UIUC does not perform better in overall research. However, in NSF funding Urbana receives more funding than its peer median. Patents are flat but the numbers are very high.

The main goals of UIUC are to expand research in quality, impact, and visibility as well as campus-wide research initiatives. Some of the most important activities include support and streamline administrative processes, create opportunities for diverse populations and perspectives, and to create a proposal development office.

C) Chancellor Koch UIS

Chancellor Koch explained that UIS as a master-level institution based on a teacher-scholar model needs to be measured differently than UIC or UIUC. Some of the centers that perform relevant research include COLRS (Online pedagogy), the Center for State Policy and Leadership, and scholars of Lincoln studies. The research goals of UIS include the strengthening of the infrastructure that supports research, the development of undergrad research as well as grant-seeking efforts.

UI Hospital dashboard

Dr. Bryan Becker, Associate VP for Operations UI Hospital & Health Sciences System, presented the dashboard of the hospital. Although Medicaid reimbursement was higher than projected, the hospital’s revenue was relatively flat due to lower managed care revenue and lower census. The operating income was slightly higher than projected due to control of expenses. It is important to note that other hospitals in Chicago had significant census declines. Some of the metrics in the dashboard (such as patient satisfaction) are of vital importance as the ACA is implemented. Therefore it is imperative to climb from the bottom of the peer group. Some of the areas that the hospital personnel are focusing its attention are readmissions as well as infections (i.e., catheter-associated urinary tract infection).
Illini 4000

Ms. Kelleher and Ms. Cross presented the laudable work of Illini 4000. This student-based non-for-profit organization has raised more than $500,000 for cancer research. The main event of this organization is a 68 day cross-country bike ride.

Presentation by Dean Michael Mikhail, College of Business Administration, UIC

Dean Mikhail started his presentation announcing the undergraduate program is in the first place in Chicago according to US News & World Report. The faculty of the college currently include 74 faculty members (52 tenured/tenure track), 2,255 undergraduates, and 810 graduates. The mission of the CBA is to be the “destination of choice for talented students seeking an undergraduate or graduate education”. The college plans to achieve this vision by having Innovative programs, cutting edge research, strong links with the Chicago business community, and expand opportunities through its entrepreneurship programs.

VP Schook update on UILabs

VP Schook reported the efforts to collaborate and coordinate UILabs with the campuses and administration (for example, the agreement with UI foundation to serve as fiscal sponsor). A website was launched: uilabs.org. Finally, the DoD announced a Digital Manufacturing & Design Innovation Institute Request for Information. UILabs plans to lead a consortium of industry, academic, government, and community partners. $70 million in federal funding needs to be matched (1:1). The proposal will be submitted in October.

VP Knorr financial report

VP Knorr presented the current state of financial affairs of the university. The most important elements of his presentation were the credit rating agencies negative outlook for debt issued by the university not necessarily due to the current financial situation of the institution (which is in a better financial standing than in previous years) but by the possible impact of pensions legislation. The salary increase for faculty and staff was 2.75%. This increase was paid by tuition and budgetary reallocation. For FY 2014 it is expected a flat appropriation (but payment delays are expected) also the Affordable Care Act and State Medicaid changes will impact significantly the hospital.

Loren Taylor report on the University of Illinois Alumni Association

Mr. Taylor, President and CEO of UIAA, presented a comprehensive advancement model that integrates the campuses, the Alumni association, and the Foundation to help, among other things, in the fundraising activities of the university. Recently the Alumni Association has embraced the use of market data to understand better the alumni of the three campuses. The benchmarking compared to other
large universities, indicate that there is room for improvement in terms of paid membership as well as revenues. The strategies planned include a life cycle approach to alumni relationships, mass market mentality, and alumni-centric methodologies, and messaging.

**Thomas J. Farrell report on University of Illinois Foundation**

Mr. Farrell, President of UIF, presented the growth of new business in the three campuses. According to the results for FY 13, UIUC’s new business grew 89% while Chicago and Springfield suffered drops of 23% and 44% percent. The UIF is working on diverse development activities such as visits, solicitations, event activities, and volunteer engagement.

**Nick Burbules remarks**

Dr. Burbules, as chair of the University Senates Conference, presented his last report as chair. In this report, Dr. Burbules described positively the relationships between USC and the administration as well as with the Board of Trustees. It is important to note that qualified member of academia considered the shared governance in our university is one of the strongest in the nation. Regardless of this positive assessment, Dr. Burbules presented his concerns of the effects on shared governance of collective bargaining. The potential negative effects of collective bargaining at the University of Illinois include a hostile relationship between faculty and administration; collective bargaining in one campus can affect the functions of university-level governance such as the USC; and the possibility that faculty representatives in the campus senates or USC regard themselves more as representatives of their union and encounter themselves in conflicting situations.

**Public comment section**

Two political science undergraduate students presented Resolution 402 that create a program for housing for homeless students. The backers of this resolution believe that students who are homeless would benefit in many ways if UIC was able to offer affordable housing to this group of at-risk students.