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### U. of I. Springfield chancellor to get salary for 14 months after leaving post

#### Richard Ringeisen will retain his \$273,500 salary under retirement agreement

By Jodi S. Cohen, Tribune reporter

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The retiring chancellor of University of Illinois' campus in Springfield will retain his \$273,500 salary for 14 months after he leaves the post this fall, according to a retirement agreement released Wednesday.

The agreement, to be voted on by the university's board of trustees at its meeting next week, comes as University of Illinois officials have repeatedly said they are under severe financial constraints.

Richard Ringeisen, 65, the UIS chancellor since 2001, is expected to step down Oct. 31. He would then serve as special assistant to the president and consultant for long-range planning through Dec. 31, 2011, before retiring from the university.

U. of I. interim president Stanley Ikenberry said there is "nothing extraordinary" about Ringeisen continuing to receive his chancellor salary.

"You are not talking about runaway compensation here," Ikenberry said. "His compensation is about the level that you would ordinarily pay a major academic administrative officer at the University of Illinois."

When he hired Ringeisen in 2001, then-president James Stukel offered him a "one-year administrative salary" equal to his chancellor salary upon retirement, according to a letter provided to the Tribune.

"He will spend the bulk of his time chronicling where we are now and the possibilities for the next decade in terms of the development of the Springfield campus," Ikenberry said. He also will participate in fundraising activities and help with the transition to new leadership.

During nearly a decade as chancellor, Ringeisen is credited with significantly boosting the Springfield campus' profile and transforming it into a more traditional university. As it aims to be one of the top small public liberal arts universities in the country, the number of students and faculty increased and the campus added many buildings.



It also has been on the forefront of offering academic programs online.

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