Julie Wurth reports that the UI student senate is asking for a task force to come up with a mascot to unify the campus.

UI-Springfield chancellor to spend next year as consultant

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SPRINGFIELD — The chancellor of the University of Illinois-Springfield, who announced his resignation this week, will stay on an additional year as a special assistant, with his full chancellor’s salary.

Richard Ringeisen will resign as chancellor effective Oct. 31.

In a proposal to be discussed by the board of trustees next week, interim President Stanley Ikenberry will recommend that Ringeisen be appointed as chancellor emeritus.

In the agreement, to be voted on March 10, Ringeisen will resign. From Nov. 1, 2010 through Dec. 31, 2011, Ringeisen would serve as consultant for long range planning and special assistant to the president, at an annual salary of $273,500.

In addition, Ringeisen will be subject to any salary adjustment program applied to comparable level University administrators during the period of the agreement.

The UI’s chief spokesman, Tom Hardy, called it “a good practice and standard practice” to maintain institutional knowledge.

Ringeisen has served for nine years as chancellor, an unusually long tenure, Hardy said.

The trustees meet at 8 a.m. March 10 in the Conference Center, Chancellor Ballroom, 1900 S. First St., C. Interim Chancellor Robert Easter said last week that the UI is going to host the meetings in Champaign this time after decades of meeting in Urbana, at the Illini Union.

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