



SJ-R.COM

The State Journal-Register • Springfield, IL • The Oldest Newspaper in Illinois

Incoming U of I president makes Springfield stop

By **MATT HOPF**

THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

Posted May 13, 2010 @ 11:59 AM

Last update May 14, 2010 @ 06:12 AM

Michael Hogan, the new president of the University of Illinois, says he knows there will be challenges for all three campuses in the U of I system.

Donning a University of Illinois Springfield tie, Hogan was introduced to the smallest of the three campuses Thursday.

He told a standing-room-only crowd he is ready to lead the university.

"This is a challenging time, but for me it is a terrific opportunity, because the University of Illinois is one of the world's jewels of public higher education," he said.

The state needs to invest in universities, Hogan told reporters. Tuition at the U of I is expected to increase by 9.5 percent for freshmen this fall.

Hogan also has to restore the image U of I, which was damaged by an admissions scandal that led to the resignation of the former president, B. Joseph White, along with the chancellor of the Urbana campus, Richard Herman.

Interim president Stanley Ikenberry and the U of I board "have put that admissions issue behind them and behind the university," Hogan said. "We're going to make sure it doesn't happen again. So we're looking ahead and not behind right now."

Ikenberry hasn't given Hogan any advice on dealing with the university's problems.

"I don't think he needs any advice on that," Ikenberry said. "He's had a 30-year tutorial in dealing with pressures.

Hogan lauded the Springfield campus for its liberal arts education.

"Here at the University of Illinois Springfield we are home to one of the nation's most outstanding liberal arts universities," Hogan said. "With about 5,000 students and an average class size of just 15, we offer one of the most personalized academic experiences you can find at public university anywhere in the United States."

Hogan, 66, has been the president of the University of Connecticut since 2007. Prior to that, he served as executive vice president and provost at the University of Iowa.

Matt Hopf can be reached at 782-3095.

Salary of \$620,000

The \$620,000 salary future University of Illinois president Michael Hogan will receive is a \$170,000 increase from that of former president Joseph White's \$450,000.

If Hogan remains at the U of I for five years, he will receive an additional \$225,000.

University spokesman Tom Hardy said Hogan's salary is in line with Big Ten school presidents at Penn State and the University of Minnesota, and lower than those of the presidents of Ohio State University, the University of Michigan and Northwestern University.

Hardy also said that Hogan's pay is slightly less than he makes now at the University of Connecticut.

The U of I Board of Trustees is expected to approve Hogan as president at a meeting Thursday in Chicago.

Copyright 2010 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed

Comments (8)

Porchiaknows

21 hours ago

Report Abuse

You must be logged in to report abuse.

Report Abuse