

MINUTES  
Board of Trustees Illinois State University  
President Search Committee Meeting  
October 31, 2023

Committee members present: Danielle Beasley, Dr. Kathryn Bohn, Angela Bonnell, Janice Bonneville, Leanna Bordner, Vijay Devabhaktuni, Ash Ebikhumi, Taylor Flinn, Tim Griffin, Dr. Martha Horst, Dan Kelley, Joe McDonald, Dr. Danielle Miller-Schuster, Eduardo Monk, Jr. Dr. Bob Navarro, Dr. Nancy Novotny, Dr. Derek O'Connell, Dr. Bahae Samhan, Dr. Klaus Schmidt, Archana Shekara, Dr. Julie Webber, Jill Wilberg, Dr. Ani Yazedjian

Committee members present virtually: Dr. Heather Dillaway, Scott Jenkins, Julie Jones, Dr. Erin Mikulec, Darren Tillis,

Committee members absent: Justin Lawson

Staff present: Jean Ann Dargatz, Katy Killian, Ryan Kraft, Meghan Lugo, Lisa Mason and Carrie Haas, Counsel.

Trustee Chair Kathryn Bohn called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Chair Bohn noted for the record that notice of the meeting had been posted in accordance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act. She also noted that anyone participating virtually in the meeting must state their reason for not being physically present. Accepted reasons are personal illness or disability; employment purposes or the business of the public body; a family or other emergency or unexpected childcare obligations.

Trustee Navarro took roll call. After confirming there was an in-person quorum, he took roll for those attending virtually. Trustee Jenkins, Trustee Tillis, Heather Dillaway, and Erin Mikulec requested to attend the meeting by virtual participation for the accepted reasons.

A motion to allow Trustee Jenkins, Trustee Tillis, Heather Dillaway, and Erin Mikulec to participate virtually was made by Trustee Ebikhumi and seconded by Tim Griffin. Vote in favor. The motion was approved and the individuals were allowed to participate by video conference.

The motion to approve the agenda was made by Dan Kelley and seconded by Trustee Ebikhumi. Vote in favor. The agenda was approved.

Trustee Bohn called for public comments of which there were none.

Trustee Jones requested to attend the meeting by video conference for employment reasons.

A motion to allow Trustee Jones to participate virtually was made by Bob Navarro and seconded by Leanna Bordner. Vote in favor. The motion was allowed.

Trustee Bohn welcomed the search committee and thanked them for their willingness to serve in this important capacity. She discussed the importance of their presence at this and future search committee meetings.

Trustee Bohn gave the Charge to the search committee outlining the Committee's expectations and goals.

Representatives from Parker Executive Search and Illinois State Human Resources led discussion regarding the search process and procedures including discussing the importance of confidentiality, critical meetings, and the vetting process.

Parker Executive Search then led a discussion on the Committee's expectations and qualifications of the next President and the draft position description. Parker Executive Search stated a draft job description would be available soon for committee input.

Representatives from Parker Executive Search asked the committee for input on what qualifications they seek from the next President of Illinois State University. Committee members provided input as requested identifying the follow attributes/qualifications:

- High energy
- Established leader
- Politically astute
- Involved in fundraising
- Someone who listens
- Shows support for staff
- Supports students
- Community engagement
- Trusted partner in the community
- Personable – able to interact in a profound way
- Vision and execution for what is next
- Support for nontraditional students
- Respect for shared governance
- Effective communicator with faculty
- Respect for the academic side of the house
- Forward thinking
- Financial strength and acumen
- Entrepreneurial
- Strategy to address enrollment
- Honest
- Galvanize around a shared vision
- Puts university first
- Humble
- Approachable
- Sincere

Parker Executive Search asked for input from the Committee about what makes Bloomington/Normal attractive to recruiting a new President.

Carrie Haas, Counsel, discussed legal and procedural issues for the search committee including confidentiality agreements, importance of in person attendance, Freedom of Information Act considerations, Open Meetings Act requirements and communication about the search. She stressed any media inquiries should be forwarded to Eric Jome, Director of Media Relations, FOIA requests to Molly Hartrup in Media Relations, while general search questions should be to Chair Bohn at [boh@ilstu.edu](mailto:boh@ilstu.edu).

Chair Bohn thanked the committee for their attendance and engagement. She asked Parker to share future meeting dates as soon as they could with the committee.

Chair Bohn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dan Kelley motioned with Trustee Ebikhumi seconding the motion; all in favor, meeting was adjourned at 10:01 a.m.