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*Note to journalists: A print quality photo of Michael J. Hogan is available online:
<http://www.uillinois.edu/president/Photos.cfm>*

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Hogan to head Illinois Science & Technology Coalition *Group advocates research to grow state's economy, jobs*

CHICAGO – University of Illinois President Michael J. Hogan on Monday was elected chairman of the board of directors of the Illinois Science & Technology Coalition (ISTC), a statewide association that promotes research and innovation to foster economic growth.

Hogan, the first educator to head the Chicago-based coalition's eight-member board, replaces outgoing chair Gerald J. Roper, president and chief executive officer of the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce.

"Innovation is the foundation of economic expansion and a key to our state's future," said Hogan, who became the U of I's 18th president last July. "Research breakthroughs create industry in fields that were once unheard of, fueling new waves of jobs and prosperity."

ISTC seeks to forge collaboration among leading businesses, universities and research laboratories in Illinois, creating partnerships that yield groundbreaking research ideas, attract funding from government and private foundations, and create jobs.

Hogan led a similar effort last year at the U of I, where a vice president's position was restructured to focus on research and promote collaboration among the University's campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield.

The U of I received more than \$700 million in separately funded research grants during the 2010-11 academic year, and ranked eighth among all public research universities in federal research funding. The university helps turn discovery into industry at research parks on its Urbana-Champaign and Chicago campuses, and through IllinoisVENTURES, a company created to help start-up firms take technology from laboratories to the marketplace.

Among other initiatives, ISTC is currently managing the new Illinois Innovation Council, created this year by Gov. Pat Quinn to promote economic growth through research discovery. The council is comprised of key business executives from a variety of critical sectors, along with science, technology and university leaders, including U of I Interim Vice President for Research Lawrence Schook.

ISTC also has helped lead “smart grid” initiatives in Illinois – collaborative efforts to modernize the state’s electrical supply network through the development of advanced technologies that have attracted national and international recognition and support. Along with energy, other coalition research priorities include health care and biotechnology, food innovations and nanotechnology.

ISTC partners include industry leaders such as Motorola, Abbott Laboratories, Baxter International, Astellas Pharma, GTL Resources, Eaton Corp. and Comcast, along with top research institutions such as the U of I, Northwestern University and the Argonne National Laboratory.

The organization’s roots trace back more than two decades to the launch of the Illinois Coalition, a public-private partnership that advocated for science and technology-based economic development.

Before joining the U of I, Hogan served as president of the University of Connecticut, provost of the University of Iowa and as an executive dean at The Ohio State University. A native of Waterloo, Iowa, he earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of Northern Iowa, and master’s and doctoral degrees from the University of Iowa.

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The University of Illinois is a world leader in research and discovery, the largest educational institution in the state with more than 76,000 students, 24,000 faculty and staff, and campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield. The U of I awards more than 19,000 undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees annually.