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November 12, 2009

**Trustees finalize 2010 budget, request 2011 funds from state**  
*Board also streamlines committees and names Easter interim chancellor*

SPRINGFIELD, Ill. — The University of Illinois Board of Trustees at its regular meeting in Springfield today approved the University's fiscal 2010 operating budget and approved the 2011 fiscal budget request for operating and capital funds from the state of Illinois.

In other action, the trustees re-organized the board's committee structure and named Robert A. Easter the Urbana campus' interim provost/chancellor.

The Board of Trustees approved a 2010 fiscal year (July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010) operating budget of \$4.7 billion.

General revenue funding from the state of Illinois is \$747.1 million, the same appropriation as fiscal 2009. The 2010 appropriation includes \$45.5 million from federal stimulus funds that will not be available for the 2011 fiscal year. Sponsored research revenues increased \$85 million due to federal stimulus funds.

The board also was informed of a plan to set aside \$20 million in the 2010 budget in the event of the potential loss of state funds. The board endorsed holding back another \$45 million by reducing positions, managing attrition and leaving vacancies unfilled. The board also approved cutting non-personnel expenditures such as travel, equipment, contractual services and commodities.

The board approved a fiscal 2011 (July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011) state budget request for operating and capital funds. The University seeks \$96.7 million, a 6.4 percent increase to help hold down tuition increases and maintain the quality of the University. The request also proposes to secure in the operating budget funds for facilities maintenance as well as funds to meet operating and cost increases.

A fiscal 2011 capital budget of \$484.2 million identifies 10 building and renovation priorities, beginning with a repair and renovation request of \$60 million for the three campuses: Urbana-Champaign at \$33.6 million, Chicago at \$24 million and Springfield at \$2.4 million. Two library renovation projects at the Urbana and Springfield campuses total \$85 million. A pharmacy building renovation at UIC seeks funding of \$73.2 million.

Trustee Chairman Christopher G. Kennedy said state of Illinois funding for the University of Illinois is essential in the difficult economic climate.

“The University of Illinois is essential to the prosperity of the state and its citizens,” Kennedy said. “We at the University will husband our resources carefully while maintaining academic quality.

“Adequate funding by the state of the University’s operating and capital budgets must be maintained as an investment in Illinois’ future.”

The trustees also changed the board’s committee structure by reducing the number of permanent committees from 14 to five. The new committees, chairs and members are:

- Executive Committee: chairman, Kennedy; members, Edward L. McMillan and Pamela B. Strobel.
- Academic and Student Affairs Committee: chair, Karen Hasara; members, Francis G. Carroll, Timothy N. Koritz, Lawrence Oliver II, and Carlos Tortolero.
- Audit, Finance and Facilities Committee: chairman, McMillan; members James D. Montgomery, Oliver, Strobel and Derek Felix.
- Governance, Personnel and Ethics Committee: chair, Strobel; members, Hasara and Montgomery.
- Hospital Committee: Koritz, members, Carroll, Tortolero, Matthew Reschke, Bogdan Zavorotny.

By a unanimous vote, the trustees broadened the responsibilities of Interim Provost Robert A. Easter. He will be the Urbana campus’ Interim Provost/Chancellor effective immediately. University of Illinois chancellors report to the University president. Easter will continue to hold these positions until a permanent chancellor and provost are named and have assumed their responsibilities.

Easter was named interim provost and associate chancellor by the trustees in July after Provost Linda Katehi announced she was resigning to accept the chancellor position at the University of California at Davis. Easter served as dean of the College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences from 2002-09. He was head of the animal sciences department from 1996-2001 and has been on the animal sciences faculty since 1976. As interim provost, Easter serves as the Urbana campus’ chief academic and budgetary officer, and the campus’ deans and directors of academic units report to him.

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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 70,000 students, 24,000 faculty and staff, and campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield. The U of I awards more than 18,500 undergraduate, graduate and professional degrees annually.