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[Home](#) > [News](#) > [University of Illinois](#) > [Printer-friendly](#)

New UI president starts to get accustomed to this place

By *Paul Wood*

Created 07/01/2010 - 6:07am

CHAMPAIGN – Hours before he officially becomes president of the University of Illinois, Michael Hogan had a little face time with students at the Illini Union Book Store.

Hogan and his wife, Virginia, were getting their photo IDs taken at the store on Wednesday.

"Do I have a UIN?" the president asked, referring to a university ID number.

The president got to cut in line, and he apologized for it.

"We're both freshmen," he told incoming student Joseph Choi, who will study bioengineering. Choi, who is from Long Island, N.Y., didn't know who the president was.

"He seems really nice, though," Choi said afterward.

A sample of students at the Illini Union, done by a reporter and three high school journalists, found only two students who did have a handle on who Hogan is.

"I think he's going to do a really good job. He's well-prepared," said St Clair Morris, a junior in African American Studies from Chicago.

"I don't know much about him, but he seems OK. I really liked (former President) Joe. I don't think he deserved losing his job for a clout list. I imagine every university has one, and I don't think he had much to do with it," said Brian Rosten, a senior in chemical engineering from Clinton.

Hogan, the former president of the University of Connecticut, moved into the president's home in Urbana on Monday afternoon, UI spokesman Tom Hardy said.

Hogan said the house on Florida Avenue is a little overwhelming.

"I'm not used to this," he said. "I'm from Iowa."

Hogan said he won't do anything at midnight to mark the beginning of his term.

He expected Thursday to be extremely busy, with a video-conference first thing with Chicago and Springfield, a press conference and then a drive to Chicago to meet staff there.

He will have to lead a search for a new chancellor and cope with a state reimbursement lag that has been as much as half a billion dollars. But interim President Stanley Ikenberry will be there to help.

As for the photo ID, the new president said he was pleased.

"I look tan," he said.

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First day of school for new U. of I. president

By Jodi S. Cohen, Tribune reporter

5:21 PM CDT, June 30, 2010

New University of Illinois President Michael Hogan spent his first full day on the Urbana-Champaign campus Wednesday much like a new freshman would: He got a photo ID, moved personal items into his home, and walked through the quad.

Hogan, the university's 18th president, officially starts Thursday, taking over as the university faces financial challenges amid a larger state budget crisis. He will start the day with a meeting with his senior staff before a series of scheduled media interviews. He will then tour the Chicago campus.

"He is excited to be here and to finally be getting started," said U. of I. spokesman Thomas Hardy. "There is obvious enthusiasm among the students he has met on campus and staff that he has had an opportunity to meet."

Hogan, 66, a former University of Connecticut president, will likely focus his comments tomorrow on the university's financial challenges, his experience dealing with similar crises and his eagerness to get started.

"That's going to entail what he would refer to as a listening tour, getting around and meeting a lot of people and getting up to speed," Hardy said.

In accordance with the five-year contract he signed last week, Hogan's salary will be \$620,000, and he also will get \$45,000 after his first month in office, an amount he would have been entitled to if he had stayed at UConn until September.

If he stays at U. of I. for five years, he will be eligible for \$225,000 in retention pay. If he returns to a faculty position after leaving the presidency, his salary will be equal to the average of the university's 10 highest faculty salaries, excluding the Colleges of Medicine and Dentistry.

Other perks include a car and driver, a house in Urbana and a condo in Chicago, up to six tickets for athletic, artistic and cultural events, and club memberships.

Hogan, an expert in the history of American diplomacy, steps in as the university has furloughed employees, raised tuition and studied ways to reduce costs as the state continues to fall behind in payments. When the 2010 fiscal year ended Wednesday, U. of I. was owed \$279 million from the state.

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Hogan begins term as UI president with optimism, concern

[Melissa Silverberg](#) Editor in Chief [Contact me](#)

NEW Posted: July 1st, 2010 - 8:51 AM

Updated: July 1st, 2010 - 11:00 AM

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Michael Hogan officially begins his term as UI president Thursday and said while he is optimistic about the future of the University, he is very concerned about the issues it's facing over the next year.

Hogan addressed the media Thursday morning after a meeting with his leadership team where he said he is working to get up to speed on the the problems facing the University.

"There's no end to the issues UI faces," Hogan said. "But I prefer to be optimistic and remind myself what a great University this is."

Hogan said he is still learning about the budget and doesn't want to seem like an expert until he knows more.

The incoming president also thanked his predecessor, interim-president Stanley Ikenberry, calling him a "legendary" figure in higher education. Ikenberry will stay on as a senior adviser and continue working on restructuring and budget issues.

Hogan will become one of the higher compensated University presidents in the nation, with a base salary of \$620,000 among other perks including a car, home and country club memberships in both Chicago and Champaign

Hogan was president of the University of Connecticut since September 2007, but his ties to the midwest region include a position as executive vice president and provost at the University of Iowa and a 17-year career at Ohio State University in which he progressed to executive dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, according to a University press release.

"I'm delighted to be returning to the Midwest to lead the University of Illinois, a top-tier institution and center of outstanding research and scholarship," Hogan said in the release.

Hogan comes to the University in a time of extreme budget crisis and as it is in the middle of series of projects aimed at identifying cost-saving measures across campus, collectively called Stewarding Excellence at Illinois.

www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-il-uofill-newpreside,0,7928962.story

chicagotribune.com

U of I president to look beyond govt. for funding

Associated Press

11:47 AM CDT, July 1, 2010

URBANA, Ill.

New University of Illinois President Michael Hogan says the school needs to be far less reliant on money from state government.

Hogan said Thursday that dwindling state support for universities isn't unique to Illinois. He said during a press conference on the Urbana-Champaign campus that Illinois will look increasingly to tuition, alumni donations and to research to generate revenue.

The new president expects to spend about a third of his time raising money.

Hogan isn't sure yet about job cuts as part of a push to save money. But former President Stanley Ikenberry, the man Hogan put in charge of that effort, says some cuts are likely.

Hogan comes to Illinois after being president of the University of Connecticut.

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GUEST COMMENTARY

UI will overcome its challenges, write a tremendous new chapter

By MICHAEL J. HOGAN

Growing up in Waterloo, Iowa, the son and grandson of meatpackers, it never crossed my mind that one day I could become president of one of the great public universities in the world — the University of Illinois.

But my horizons widened once I began to hitch a ride to the state college up the road and became the first member of my family on either side to earn a college degree. And now, that long and winding road has brought me to this day, my first as president of the University of Illinois.

As a Midwesterner, an educator and university leader, I couldn't be more proud, or more humbled, by having the opportunity before me. I am dedicated to be leading a team of exceptional faculty, staff, students and alumni who will be satisfied with nothing short of advancing the UI's 143-year tradition of excellence and access.

My story is just one of the countless many that speak volumes about the power of higher education in a democracy founded on the principles of equality and opportunity. College presidents, corporate CEOs and people in every walk of life, from astronaut to zoologist, have transformed their lives and maximized their opportunities through the knowledge and experience they obtained at public universities. The discovery and innovation

spawned by the research of those universities has transformed, time and again, the ways we live, work and relate to each other.

It is this continuum that makes me energetic and optimistic about the UI's continued success and its essential role in helping to get the state of Illinois back on track.

The university is an incredible asset to Illinois: more than 70,000 students enrolled on three campuses; 18,500 degrees awarded annually; \$800 million a year in externally funded research; prize-winning faculty and students; training for the health-care professionals who serve our communities; and education of our state's future leaders.

As goes the UI, so goes the state of Illinois.

Of course, we live in challenging economic times, and these are tough days for public higher education.

I faced budget challenges as president at the University of Connecticut and as provost at the University of Iowa, and budget and resources naturally will be among my top priorities at the UI.

I am confident the university is in the best position possible given the financial crisis it has endured. I commend our board of trustees and the university's leadership for making the tough decisions that were necessary so the UI could continue to fulfill its essential mis-

sions. I also know that faculty, staff and students helped to shape those decisions, and I deeply appreciate the sacrifices they have made.

I will have a steep learning curve in the coming weeks and will spend much of that time listening to people and digesting the recommendations of those who have spent the last six months studying how the university can operate more effectively, efficiently and exceptionally in the current environment.

As president at UConn, I regularly visited elected officials to act as an advocate for the university, and I will continue that practice in Illinois. I will work closely with the UI's Alumni Association and Foundation to broaden our advocacy initiative and complete the \$2.25 billion Brilliant Futures capital campaign.

In its venerable history, the UI has weathered many storms, financial and otherwise, and has always emerged stronger and more capable of serving the state and its people. With your help and support, we will triumph over our current adversities and together write an illustrious new chapter in the history of our great university.

Michael J. Hogan was named the 18th president of the University of Illinois effective July 1. He is a widely published historian whose specialties are modern American diplomacy and national security studies.



In the Spotlight: Looking forward at the U of I

By NO DATA

Posted Jun 30, 2010 @ 11:18 PM

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Michael J. Hogan

18th president, University of Illinois

Urbana

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Michael Hogan: Dawn of a new chapter in U of I history

THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

Posted Jul 01, 2010 @ 12:01 AM

Growing up in Waterloo, Iowa, the son and grandson of meatpackers, it never crossed my mind that one day I could become president of one of the great public universities in the world — the University of Illinois.

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Guest Column: New president proud to lead University of Illinois

By Michael J. Hogan

SPECIAL TO RRSTAR.COM

Posted Jun 30, 2010 @ 12:22 PM

Growing up in Waterloo, Iowa, the son and grandson of meatpackers, it never crossed my mind that one day I could become president of one of the great public universities in the world — the University of Illinois.

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NEWS IN BRIEF



U of I Still Waiting for Millions from the State

Produced by City Room on Wednesday, June 30, 2010

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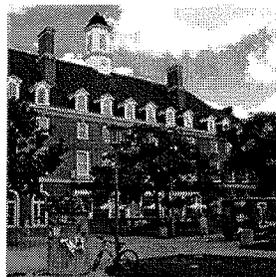
The University of Illinois says it's received some last-minute funds from the state as the fiscal year draws to a close.

U of I Interim President Stanley Ikenberry says he's surprised the state's been making more orderly payments given the budget shortfall. But he says that money didn't come without pressure from university staff.

IKENBERRY: Our finance people have been unrelenting in their telephone calls to the comptroller's office to seek the payment of the bills and to remind them that we're out here living from hand to mouth.

Ikenberry says the state recently gave the school \$30 million, but close to \$300 million still remain unpaid.

Ikenberry will step down from the role of interim president this week. Michael Hogan will officially take the position.



Student Union at the University of Illinois. (WBEZ/Susie An)

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Nebraska administrators hit UI campus, visit headquarters of Big Ten consortium

Thu, 07/01/2010 - 6:14am | [Paul Wood](#)



URBANA – Like thousands of high school students, top academic administrators from the **University of Nebraska** made a campus visit Wednesday, learning about the University of Illinois, the Big Ten and the consortium of top schools that will now include the Lincoln, Neb., campus.

Ellen Weissinger, who is the equivalent of provost at Nebraska, said her campus has much to offer to Illinois and the Champaign-based **Committee on Institutional Cooperation**, an organization made up of the Big Ten and the University of Chicago.

In June, Nebraska formally **asked to join the Big Ten** effective next year, saying the school is more "aligned" with the Big Ten when it comes to academics, culture and athletics than its former conference, the Big 12.

Through the CIC, Nebraska will share courses, particularly in distance learning, as well as academic materials and even study abroad programs, while also participating in a purchasing cooperative that Weissinger said could eventually save her institution millions of dollars.

She said the consortium member will benefit from Nebraska's long-term commitment to distance education, in the most literal sense.

With a stable to dwindling population, 38th in the nation, spread out over 77,000 square miles, Nebraska has for decades brought education to its citizens.

"We've put our faculty on trains" to reach outlying areas, said David Wilson, associate vice chancellor for academic affairs. More recently, he said, the university has pioneered in online education.

"We match any schools in CIC on several metrics, including clarity of mission, aggressiveness and a very well-defined sense of academic virtues," Weissinger said.

One area where Nebraska has a clear advantage over Illinois: a stable state government and budget.

Weissinger said Nebraska has a record freshman class with higher educational achievement as well as diversity in part because the state has been able to keep up its payments, in a regional economy that has seen neither the highs nor the lows of the last two decades.

She said Nebraska is "a global leader" in several areas, from entomology to actuarial science to food safety, a national security concern. It has a comprehensive program to digitally enrich documents from the humanities, including Walt Whitman and native Willa Cather, and the world's largest collection of quilts and textiles.

The university has its own supercomputer network, joining the Firefly supercomputer at the Omaha campus and the PrairieFire and Red supercomputers at the Lincoln campus.

The state has a well-developed fiber-optic network to support Internet giants like PayPal, TD Ameritrade and Gallup, all headquartered in Omaha.

Newsweek named Omaha as one of the Top 10 high-tech havens in the nation, with six national fiber-optic networks converging in Omaha.

The university touts that its total research funding has increased 146 percent since 2000, to \$122.5 million from all sources. However, the other Big Ten schools average more than \$313.7 million in federal research funding alone.

Barbara Allen, the director of the CIC, said Nebraska has much to offer the consortium. She agreed with Weissinger that sharing, particularly in distance learning, will not only enhance the student experience but also make it easier to access.

Each member of the consortium contributes equally, about \$200,000 a year. In return, each gains a level of cooperation that Weissinger said was unheard of anywhere else in academia.

"There's a competitiveness in (other) universities that's not productive," she said.