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University taking swift action to investigate possible inaccuracies in Class of 2014 College of Law profile data

URBANA, Ill. — On Aug. 26, the University of Illinois Ethics Office received credible information warranting review about possible inaccuracies in student profile data concerning the incoming College of Law class of 2014. This matter is being taken very seriously by the highest levels of the University, the campus and the College of Law, and a thorough inquiry into the facts has been initiated. The University Ethics Office and Office of University Counsel are leading the review and have engaged the assistance of outside legal counsel familiar with the University and its data-reporting requirements and processes.

The data in question involve median law school entrance test scores and grade point averages of the incoming class of 2014 that may have been inaccurately reported on the College of Law's website and in promotional publications. These data have been removed from the College's website, and a review of other data is being pursued. Pending conclusion of this review, the assistant dean of admissions has been placed on administrative leave, and the associate dean for academic affairs has assumed those duties.

Duff & Phelps, an independent advisory firm with expertise in data processing and forensic analysis, has been hired to work with Theodore Chung of the Chicago office of the law firm Jones Day to conduct the review, with the assistance and cooperation of College of Law officials. Chung has considerable experience with administrative investigations in Illinois and has handled cases involving accounting irregularities among other matters. The University intends to provide the accurate College of Law class profile information as soon as it is verified.

The College of Law community was informed of this issue Friday, and alumni were notified over the weekend.

The continued integrity of the College of Law is a top priority. The University of Illinois Board of Trustees has directed the administration to complete a thorough and swift investigation that uncovers the source of the concern and enhances and protects the data collection and reporting system to ensure that past, current and future data are accurate, complete and verifiable.

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