

**Senate Appropriations Opening Statement**  
**March 21, 2014**

- Thank you for inviting me to join you today. I will be brief.
- I want to say a few words about the University of Illinois as a context. We are the State's Land-Grant Institution with four missions assigned by statute.
  - We educate students.
  - Operate one of the nation's top Tier One research enterprises.
  - Public service through outreach to citizens and organizations and provide health care services throughout the state.
  - Economic development.
- We do our work on three campuses—Springfield, Chicago, Urbana-Champaign
  - We have major medical education programs in Rockford and Peoria.
  - And we have sites across the state that range from Extension offices in far southern Illinois to a river research and education station in Alton and 12 federally-qualified health centers in the underserved neighborhoods of Chicago.
- We take our responsibilities seriously.
  - We currently enroll over 78,000 students—undergraduates, graduates and professional.
  - More than 20,000 graduated last year and there will be even more this year.
  - We produce one of every six doctors practicing in Illinois.
  - Nearly half of the state's dentists and
  - A third of pharmacists.
  - We educate the workforce for tomorrow—we are the state's top producer of students in science, technology, engineering and math....especially at the graduate levels.
  - Research conducted by our faculty is being put to use, with 344 technology disclosures, 96 patents, and 96 licenses in 2013 alone.
  - Our faculty research fosters economic development.
  - We partner with community colleges through articulation agreements such as we have with Southwestern Illinois College, the College of DuPage and others.

- And through guaranteed admission and Pathway programs (Parkland, Danville, Chicago City Colleges).
  - Our goal is to help students find a path to an affordable, world-class education.
  - The University of Illinois enrolls as freshmen more than one in four high potential (ACT of 27+) underrepresented minority high school graduates.
  - Our Chicago and Urbana campuses rank #1 and #2 among Illinois public institutions in the number of bachelor's degrees awarded annually to African American and Hispanic students.
  - Together the three campuses of the University of Illinois award one in three of the bachelor's degrees awarded each year to Black and Hispanic students in the state.
- We employ people—about 29,000. More than half are paid by a source other than our state appropriation or tuition.
  - We bring more than a billion dollars each year into the state...large federal grants.
  - Our employees buy houses, rent apartments, purchase goods and services in the local communities—all of which contributes to the state's economy.
  - You may have heard recently of the successful effort that we led to capture a \$70M Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Grant from the Defense Department. This program will create a center in Chicago that we will contribute to the reinvention of the Midwestern manufacturing economy.
    - We beat out a group led by MIT, another based in Huntsville, Alabama and another on the west coast.
    - How did we do it?
      - Because we have world-class faculty who are on the cutting edge of this new technology.
      - Because we recently brought on line the most powerful academic computer in the country financed with a \$200M NSF grant.
      - And...we were able to capture that grant because this legislature appropriated more than \$60M to create the infrastructure on the Urbana campus.
      - And because 22 community colleges were willing to join with us as future workforce training partners.
      - This DMDI represents what we can do with public-private partnerships, a stellar faculty and great facilities and infrastructure.

- We have been asked to contemplate what a 20% reduction in our state appropriation would mean –
  - What would this do to our capacity to graduate 20,000 students per year?
  - What would happen to our ability to compete for massive federal grants?
  - And to bring a billion dollars each year into the state’s economy.
- In a few words... A \$130 million cut to our state appropriation—a massive cut would be devastating.
- It took close to 150 years to build up the reputation for excellence that the University of Illinois enjoys.
- It could take one legislative decision to imperil what we see as true progress in all of our missions.

**Let me provide some examples of what this might mean:**

**Reductions in People and Payroll**—equivalent to the loss of 1,900 employees.

**Increased Tuition**—13% increase for all undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs...because of the four-year guarantee it would take four years before a tuition increase of 13% made up for the loss of \$130 million.

#### **Diminished Quality of Education Across the University**

- **Increased Class Size**- reduction of teaching capacity of 10-15% removing the ability to teach about 10,000 at current class size levels.
- **Broad Spectrum of Damage to Student Experience**- course delivery and decrease in ability to address DM further contributing to inadequate research and instructional facilities.
- **Time-to-Degree Increases**- estimate an additional semester to the average time-to-degree for undergraduates which will add an average of about \$7,500 to the tuition and fees.
- **Graduation Rate Decreases**- estimate a decrease of 10-15% in graduation rates at Urbana with a more profound effect at UIC and UIS.
- **Impact on Medical Education**- 13% increase in tuition would add \$4,000 to the annual tuition cost for in-state and \$9,000 for out-of-state raising the total tuition by \$12,000 to \$27,000, resulting in an estimated 10% decline in the numbers of doctors trained by College of Medicine.

#### **Diminished Quality of Education on each Campus**

- **UI Springfield**- forced into deficit spending and failure to realize goal of increasing enrollments.
- **UI Chicago**- immediate impact on patient care at the hospital and clinics with decrease in ability to serve the most vulnerable patient populations. Currently, the health care system provides

approximately \$125 million in charity and uncompensated care. Access to financial aid and supportive student services for our neediest students is jeopardized.

- **UI Urbana-** inability to realize goal of adding 500 faculty over the next five years and difficulty in retaining most productive faculty and staff.

**Impoverished Research Environment-** less attractive for research grants, loss of jobs and ability to innovate, decrease in the robust research environment.

#### **Diminished Service to the State**

- **Reduced Medical Services-** cut of 20% to hospital \$45 million would threaten the hospital's continued existence.
- **Reduced Fire and Police Training-** reduction in the current \$4 million appropriation will mean fewer public safety personnel being trained from across the state and less hours of instruction being provided.
- **Imperiled Extension Programs-** now \$14 million, 20% cut will mean closing of offices across the state and a decrease in federal and county matching funds.
- **Cuts to Broad Range of Service Programs-** like the state surveys, public radio and television stations, and services to libraries.
- **Reduced Benefits to the State-** from the dire consequences outlined above.

We thank you for all that you do on behalf of the state and urge you to take action to prevent cuts of the magnitude discussed here today. I would be pleased to answer questions.