February 28, 2014

Darold T. Barnum

Re: #14-092

Dear Mr. Barnum:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request of February 14, 2014, and received in my office on that date, in which you requested:

“a list of projects to which unrestricted monies have been committed by the university and the dollar amounts committed to each of the projects. To keep the request manageable, you may restrict attention to the projects for which the unrestricted funds commitment is $1 million or more, provided that the total value of the unrestricted funds committed to these projects does indeed amount to the majority of the unrestricted net asset total (which was $1.33 billion on June 30, 2013).”

Documents responsive to a portion of your request are available and attached. These public documents, numbering 22 pages, are breakdowns of unrestricted funds committed to capital and deferred maintenance projects and to quasi-endowments.

The remaining unrestricted funds are committed to purposes and functions that are not discrete projects. Creation of records further detailing these funds would be burdensome to the University as it is not supported by the University’s accounting structure and would require detailed manual calculations of hundreds of variables and may, in some cases, be impractical to create.

Even though the provided records amount to over half of the unrestricted total, as we are only able to provide detail on certain components of the total, we have elected to provide you full detail on those components rather than limiting the production to items over $1 million.

You have a right, under the law, to seek a review of this response by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) in the Office of the Attorney General. The PAC may be reached by phone at 217-782-1396, by email to publicaccess@atg.state.il.us, or by postal mail at the Public Access Bureau, 500 S. 2nd Street, Springfield, Illinois 62706. You also have the right to seek judicial review under section 11 of this Act.

If you have questions for our office, please contact 217-333-6400.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Hardy
Executive Director
and Chief Records Officer