April 15, 2014

Darshan Patel
The Daily Illini

Re: FOIA 14-195

Dear Mr. Patel:

I am responding to your request dated April 1, under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act in which you request:

“requesting all correspondences, including but not limited to emails, voicemails, other messages, to and from Mike Thomas, Warren Hood, Marty Kaufmann to any Nike employees, including but not limited to Todd Van Horne and Clint Shaner, between Aug. 1, 2013 and April 1, 2014, regarding rebranding.

We’re just curious about the conversations between Illinois athletic officials and Nike designers — seeing what took priority over something else, agreements/disagreements, etc. We hope those correspondences, along with subsequent interviews, will provide help insight into the process.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 186 pages.

Portions of these documents have been redacted pursuant to the following section(s) of the Act:

• 140/7(1)(a) that exempts from disclosure “Information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing adopted under federal or State law.” Specifically, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (20 U.S.C. §1232g) protects the privacy of student education records and prohibits the release of any information from a student’s education record without the consent of the eligible student.

• 140/7(1)(b) that exempts from disclosure “Private information, unless disclosure is required by another provision of this Act, a State or federal law or a court order.” This includes conference codes, cell phone numbers and other unique identifiers.

• 140/7(1)(c) that exempts from disclosure “Personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which, if disclosed, would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy, unless the disclosure is consented to in writing by the individual subjects of the information.” This includes student information, personal vacation information and other personal information.

• 140/7(1)(f) of the Act that exempts from disclosure “preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.” This includes draft documents and communications containing proposals, deliberations, opinions, evaluations, and recommendations.

• 140/7(1)(g) that exempts from disclosure “Trade secrets and commercial or financial information obtained from a person or business where the trade secrets or commercial or financial
information are furnished under a claim that they are proprietary, privileged or confidential, and that or where disclosure of the trade secrets or commercial or financial information would cause competitive harm to the person or business…” This includes information, which was provided under a claim that it is confidential, a trade secret or proprietary, that would cause competitive harm if released.

- 140/7(1)(i) that exempts from disclosure “… designs, drawings … obtained or produced by any public body when disclosure could reasonably be expected to produce private gain or public loss.” This includes designs and drawings submitted for consideration to the University.

Should you wish to inspect or receive a physical copy of these documents, please call Melanie Kuehn at the phone number below and she will provide you with all necessary details.

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