December 22, 2014

Irving Washington

Re: FOIA 14-821

Dear Mr. Washington:

I am responding to your request dated December 8, under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act in which you request:

“all emails send between july 23 and july 30 of 2014 that
- are from Steve Miller to Chancellor Wise or Chancellor Wise’s staff
- are from Chancellor Wise or Chancellor Wise’s staff to Steve Miller
- are from Chancellor wise and refer to steve miller in the subject line or in the text.”

The correspondence you seek involves two private citizens named Steve Miller. The University does not release the names or identifying information of private citizens who correspond with University employees or are mentioned in University emails. Release of such information would be an unwarranted invasion of personal privacy. Section 7(1)(c) of the Act exempts from production “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.”

Due to the way you phrased your request, there is no way to redact the responsive emails in such a way that would not lead to the re-identification of the private citizen who corresponded with Chancellor Wise or is mentioned in the Chancellor’s emails. Thus, your request is denied pursuant to section 7(1)(c) of the Act.

You are invited to file a new request with the University that does not seek specific correspondence between Chancellor Wise and a private citizen, but instead seeks the Chancellor’s correspondence about a specific subject matter over a certain period of time.

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

Office for University Relations
Urbana ● 108 Henry Administration Building ● MC 370 ● 506 South Wright Street ● Urbana, IL 61801 ● (217) 333-6400 ● Fax (217) 333-5733
Chicago ● 414 Administrative Office Building ● MC 971 ● 1737 West Polk Street ● Chicago, IL 60612-7228 ● (312) 996-3772 ● Fax (312) 996-1836