February 19, 2015

Stephen Bourbon
Daily Illini
sbourbo2@illinimedia.com

Re: FOIA 15-090

Dear Mr. Bourbon:

I am responding to your request dated February 5, under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act in which you request:

“all vehicle registration forms for student-athletes for the 2014-15 academic year.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 117 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 or parent of the student. In this case, student information was redacted from the records.

- 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 private financial information, license plate 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.” Under this exemption, information relating to the student-athletes, their vehicle use status, and information about said vehicles, was redacted from the records. Such information is highly personal, does not pertain to public business and disclosure of the same would be objectionable to a reasonable person.
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