March 31, 2015

Sarah Baker
Research Analyst
UNITE HERE
sbaker@unitehere.org

Re: FOIA #15-197

Dear Ms. Baker:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request dated and received in my office on March 17, 2015, in which you requested:

“• Any and all leases and contracts for operating Au Bon Pain cafes at any and all University of Illinois at Chicago locations between the University of Illinois at Chicago and any company, which have not expired. If the currently active lease or contract is an extension or amendment, please send any and all previous extensions, amendments and the original lease that are applicable to current operations.

• Any and all financial reports by Au Bon Pain or any Au Bon Pain operator to the University of Illinois at Chicago dated from January 1, 2009 to the present.

• Any and all record of any economic subsidy received by Au Bon Pain or its operator, if different, including but not limited to tax breaks, grants, interest-free loans, insurance, rent rebates and any funds used for capital improvements on Au Bon Pain facilities but not paid by Au Bon Pain Corporation.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 150 pages. It should be noted that while University does not have a contract with Au Bon Pain, it does have a contract with Chartwells, which operates Au Bon Pain. Therefore, we are providing you with the Chartwells contract.

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

• 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 personal telephone numbers.
• 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…” Pursuant to this exemption, the University has redacted certain trade secrets or commercial or financial information of the vendor that were furnished under a claim they are proprietary, privileged or confidential, as disclosure of the same would cause competitive harm if disclosed.

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