

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

May 15, 2015

Will Hobson
Washington Post
Will.Hobson@washpost.com

Re: FOIA Request 15-373

Dear Mr. Hobson:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request dated May 8, in which you requested:

“copies of the line-item budgets and revenue reports for Illinois’ athletics department for the years 2004 and 2014. (Basically, I’m looking for documents that show every dollar spent and earned by the athletics department in those two years.)”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 97 pages.

Your request for “...every dollar spent and earned...” is considered unduly burdensome to the University, inasmuch as the request would unduly burden the public body by requiring us to search, gather and review thousands of line items. The limited staff available to perform such a search and the short response time allowed by the FOIA makes the task of review and response in a timely manner unduly burdensome upon the University. For this reason, the University’s burden to process this request outweighs the public interest.

Pursuant to Section 3(g) of the Act, we would like to extend to you an opportunity to modify your request to make it of more manageable proportions. I encourage you to call Kathy McCarthy from my office at the phone number below to discuss ways to narrow your request. If you do not reduce the request, it shall be treated as a denial.

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