

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

June 9, 2015

David Mercer  
dmercer@ap.org

Re: FOIA Request #15-430

Dear Mr. Mercer:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request dated May 22, 2015, and received in my office on that date, in which you requested:

"...copies of any emails written by or sent to former President Robert Easter, current President Timothy Killeen, Urbana-Champaign Chancellor Phyllis Wise or athletic director Mike Thomas between April 18 and May 22 that include any or all of the following words and names: football, basketball, coach, student-athlete, player, Tim Beckman, Matt Bollant or Mike Divilbiss."

One June 2, 2015, you narrowed your request to remove the keywords "football", "basketball", "student-athlete" and "player".

Your request for documents and information listed in your email remains unduly burdensome to the University, inasmuch as the request would unduly burden the public body by requiring the review of an estimated one thousand pages of records. The short response time allowed by the FOIA makes the task of identifying, collecting and reviewing potentially responsive records in a timely manner unduly burdensome upon the University. As a result, the University has determined that compliance with your request is unduly burdensome and that the University's burden to process these requests 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. Specifically, we request that you amend your request to search for less common keywords and a shorter date range. We believe if you eliminate the word "coach" from your request, it will help narrow your request to more manageable proportions.

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](mailto: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