September 23, 2015

Johnathan Hettinger
The News-Gazette
jhettinger@news-gazette.com

Re: FOIA 15-760

Dear Mr. Hettinger:

I write to respond to your Freedom of Information request of September 9, in which you requested:

“any emails to and from Robert Hauser, Bruce Chassy, and Faye L. Dong about this grant: http://cropsci.illinois.edu/news/monsanto-commits-250000-university-illinois-ag-communications-program.”

Information responsive to your request is available and attached. These are public documents numbering 35 pages.

Portions of these documents have been redacted or withheld 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 cell phone numbers and personal email addresses.

- 140/7(1)(f) that exempts from disclosure “Preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies or actions are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body.” The responsive documents contain preliminary discussions and expressions of opinion regarding possible policies and actions of the University.

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