

**Remarks prepared for delivery by  
University of Illinois President Tim Killeen to the Board of Trustees  
Jan. 21, 2016**

Thank you, Chairman McMillan.

Today, I'm proud to bring the board two important recommendations that reflect the roots of this great university and the land-grant mission that has guided us for nearly 150 years. One proposes freezing in-state tuition for the second straight year. The other would hold the line on mandatory fees for the first time in memory.

Together, the proposals signal the commitment to students that is at our very core ... providing access to an affordable education that transforms their lives. They also signal our commitment to serve the needs of our state ... ensuring that our doors remain open wide to supply the highly skilled workforce that drives progress and prosperity.

Our focus on those twin missions has never been more laser-like, amid ongoing declines in state support and a lingering budget impasse has shut off funding completely for nearly seven months and counting. Those challenges will not derail us. As today's tuition and fee proposals illustrate, we will continue to act aggressively, proactively and responsibly to serve our students and the public good.

We will build on efficiency initiatives that have already netted about \$40 million in recurring annual savings in central administration, dollars that have been redirected to support student programs and services. We will explore additional cost savings on our campuses, which have already implemented strategies to weather a 20 percent reduction in state funding.

At the same time, we will ramp up efforts to advocate for the University's interests in Springfield, including a newly formed alliance that will bring business, labor and our sister universities together to speak as one on the importance of higher education to our state's future.

And we will continue looking outside the box to steer the University forward, such as a proposal to increase enrollment that would generate new revenue while also expanding opportunities for students and our contributions to the state's workforce.

# UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

URBANA-CHAMPAIGN • CHICAGO • SPRINGFIELD

The University of Illinois is a key to a better tomorrow for our state, a global leader in education and innovation and an engine that pumps nearly \$14 billion into the state's economy annually. We are committed to financial stewardship that will build on that legacy and help lead progress for generations to come.

The University of Illinois is world-class today and will be world-class tomorrow: more affordable, more nimble, more transparent, more efficient, more creative, more student-centered, with integrity manifest throughout, and even stronger in world-leading research, scholarship and learning. This is our commitment and especially today to the families of Illinois – let me show you how we are planning to move forward.