

Board of Trustees
Illinois State University
February 15, 2008

The Board of Trustees convened at 9:00 a.m. on Friday, February 15, 2008, in the Old Main Room of the Bone Student Center, Illinois State University, Normal, Illinois. Chairperson Kasten called the meeting to order and Trustee Ommen called the roll.

The following members were present.

Trustee Jay Bergman
Trustee Anne Davis
Trustee Carl Kasten
Trustee Betty Kinser
Trustee Joanne Maitland
Trustee Mike McCuskey
Trustee Stan Ommen
Trustee Ryan Cekander

A quorum was declared. Also present for the public session were:

President Al Bowman
Vice President and Provost Jan Murphy
Vice President for Student Affairs Steve Adams
Vice President for Finance & Planning Steve Bragg
Vice President for University Advancement Dianne Ashby
Assistant to the President Jay Groves
Board Legal Counsel Carol Posegate

Others in attendance included representatives of the media, faculty, staff, and Melody Palm of the Campus Communication Committee.

Chairperson Kasten: Before we proceed with our meeting today we are mindful of the tragic events that took place at Northern Illinois University yesterday. We all have friends there and when one campus bleeds in this state, we all bleed. We extend to them our best wishes in this time of healing and that progress in that healing can be timely and purposeful. I know President Bowman has been in contact with officials from the State of Illinois and the Governor's office and other public universities and I would ask him to make some comments at this time.

President Bowman: The criminal tragedy at Northern yesterday afternoon has left members of the NIU family dead and injured and many, many others in need of counseling and care. Today our thoughts are with the students, faculty and staff of NIU. Illinois State University has already offered its counseling assistance to NIU and we will continue to reach out to their campus with any assistance they may need. I also know our student leaders are already planning an event in support of NIU that will be held early next week. We had a conference call with the Governor's office yesterday evening at 6:00 p.m. and discussion turned to resources that might be needed by NIU and that would be available from the other public universities. At least at this stage it appears that their greatest need is with counseling.

We, of course, remain very concerned about our own Illinois State University family. We learned about the shootings just moments after the incident happened and I immediately sent an email message to our students, faculty and staff and placed that same message on our University's home page. That message expressed our concerns for the people of NIU and reminded our campus community of the common sense safety principles that help keep us safe. Today our counselors remain fully prepared to help students, particularly those who may have friends who are attending NIU. Our police department data continues to tell us that we live in a very safe university environment, but we all know that while we can minimize the effects of violence, no one can completely eliminate the threat. This morning I ask you to keep Northern Illinois University in your thoughts as well as members of our own campus community.

I also understand that we have in attendance today some students who wish to voice their opinion about next year's temporary change in our University housing residence procedures. I want to tell you that as President I respect and support your right, in fact encourage you to express your opinions regarding any issue that impacts your life at Illinois State. I know that each member of our Board of Trustees feels the same way. In turn I ask you to respect the process and the agenda of this meeting. While next year's university housing room contract policy is not part of today's agenda, I invite you to remain following this meeting and to feel free to visit with me and with members of the Board. We would like to hear from you. With that, I turn things back to Chairperson Kasten.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairperson Kasten: I ask for a motion to approve the Agenda. Trustee Kinser so moved and was seconded by Trustee Davis. Motion made, seconded and vote recorded with all members present voting aye.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairperson Kasten: In your Board packet are Minutes of October 26, 2007. Is there a motion to approve? Trustee McCuskey so moved and was seconded by Trustee Cekander. Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye. The next is the approval of Minutes of November 8, 2007. Is there a motion to approve? Trustee Ommen so moved and was seconded by Trustee Maitland. Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

RELEASE OF EXECUTIVE SESSION MINUTES

In accordance with the provisions of the Open Meetings Act, the Illinois State University Board of Trustees is required to periodically review the Minutes of its Executive Sessions to determine the necessity of retaining the confidentiality of those Minutes. The Board has received a recommendation from its legal counsel to release the following Minutes.

May 11, 2007	Release all
July 27, 2007	Release all

Copies of these Minutes are in your meeting folders. Is there a motion to release as public the above list of Minutes of Executive Sessions held by the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University. Trustee Ommen so moved and was seconded by Trustee Kinser. Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS

Well, good morning everyone, and thank you so much for coming today. I want to begin by thanking everyone who played a role in yesterday's grand finale' of the Illinois State University Sesquicentennial celebration. It hardly seems like it was a year ago when we kicked-off the celebration with David McCullough...but here we are, already wrapping up a wonderful year of so many special events.

I enjoyed each and every activity yesterday—and, of course, especially our Convocation and keynote speaker Ray Kurzweil. It was an outstanding caper to a truly special year in the history of this institution. I know that literally dozens of people played an important role in pulling off this year-long celebration—and each of you deserves and has our deepest gratitude.

I also want to thank the Campus Communication Committee for organizing today's discussion hour—and I want to thank Professors Bierma (BEER-ma) and Jin and Lucy Loftus for their informative presentation on Community Biodiesel. I think presentations like this show us the teaching, research and service side of our faculty members—and it's a great program for the University and community.

As I am sure most of you have heard by now, I will be stepping down from the Board of Trustees following today's meeting and prior to the conclusion of today's meeting I will be making some comments to reflect on the past 18 years and extend a thank you to so many wonderful people here. But I would like at this point to take this opportunity to introduce my wife Donna who is here today – please stand Donna.

In accordance with the by-laws of the Board of Trustees, Board Secretary Stan Ommen will assume the responsibilities of Chair of the Board after today until the Board holds its next election in July. Committee appointments will remain the same, with Joanne Maitland serving on the Merit Board, Anne Davis and Michael McCuskey serving on the Audit committee, Jay Bergman as the Foundation representative, Betty Kinser as the Alumni representative and Stan Ommen and Anne Davis on the Executive Committee. My seat will, of course, remain vacant until the Governor selects a new Board member for Illinois State.

Since our last meeting I did a Trustee-In-Residence that with the College of Business on November 14. I had a great time learning about such things as real time stock quotes – not just from New York but from around the world on this one incredible board. I learned about a unique sales program that is in existence in our College of Business, and of course what is now becoming a really world renowned program in the insurance department and having the benefit of persons of incredible knowledge in these areas guide you around – it was really a wonderful tour. I want to thank Dean McGuire and all those in the College of Business for that wonderful day.

I will now ask if any of the Trustees would like to speak briefly about activities they participated in since our last meeting.

Trustee McCuskey: I did a Trustee-In-Residence in the College of Education, which was very interesting. I want to thank all the staff in the College of Education for spending the time with me. It was a wonderful day and a great experience and I really enjoyed being brought up-to-date on what happens in the classroom and advanced education here. The other thing I did has to do with my love of athletics. When you are over in Champaign/Urbana in the last ten years you don't get to talk about the Redbirds a lot, but this is a good year to do that and tell my friends that they need to come over here and see the #1 Division I men's basketball team in the state of Illinois and the #1 women's basketball team in the state of Illinois. So I offered Loren Tate, who is a long-time voice of the University of Illinois sports to come over and to pick a date. He picked Drake, and we brought one of the writers from the News Gazette and one of the law students who is interning for me, a professional football player. Maybe what we need to do to solve the problem of empty seats is all work to bring somebody to a game who has never been to Redbird Arena. In the car leaving, it wasn't just how competitive the game was, it was how beautiful Redbird Arena is – the sight lines and the seat locations. They came away really appreciative of Illinois State facilities, athletics and the enthusiasm of the people who were there. So, I made three people from Champaign/Urbana feel differently about Illinois State that evening. I think all we have to do is bring people here to the campus, to the atmosphere, to the Arena.

Trustee Ommen: A typical week in the life a Board of Trustees member. As some of you know, I spent a little bit of time in Arizona this winter. I arrived back in Bloomington late Friday evening. Saturday evening I went to the University Residence for dinner and followed that by attending the Illinois State/Bradley game. Sunday I attended the women's Bradley basketball game against ISU, both of which we won. Tuesday, most of the day, I spent on campus at a Trustee-In-Residence program with College of Arts & Sciences and would like to thank Dean Olson and his staff for a great day. Wednesday noon I attended a luncheon at the Doubletree Hotel where our coach Jankovich and the coach of Missouri State spoke and did a great job – there was a very good crowd there. Thursday was Founders Day so I spent most of the day on campus with all the events and here we are today at the Board of Trustees meeting – so that's kind of the life in a week for a Trustee.

Trustee Bergman: I visited the College of Nursing and found it very enjoyable. I talked one-on-one to a half dozen faculty members for about 15 minutes each and that is something you normally don't have an opportunity to do. I visited the Sim Man lab, sat in on a class for a few minutes and overall was very impressed. I would like to thank Dean Sara Campbell and the faculty for the effort they made. Speaking of the College of Nursing and deans I just want to mention that Nancy Ridenour is a Robert Wood Johnson Fellow – went to Washington and the best I can tell she is having the time of her life out there. She has put together about every month or so a letter that she sends back to the faculty and students and she has been nice enough to email me a copy of it. She is now working as a staffer in the House Ways and Means Committee and I believe in the area of geriatric nursing.

I would also like to mention the College of Fine Arts performances that I have gone to. I always try to attend at least one performance from the School of Music and School of Theatre every year. I attended a performance from the School of Music and a couple of weeks later I went to a play, the story line of which was a family home in Lake Michigan in a town called New Buffalo. I found this especially interesting because as a few of you may know I also have a home on Lake Michigan just a few miles north of New Buffalo in a town called South Haven. So I understand the travails that they went through in the performance. I had a faculty member stop me yesterday and told me they were working on an opera that they are going to perform here in April. I haven't seen an opera at ISU for a couple of years now but I am looking forward to going and giving the quality of the last one I went to, I encourage everyone else to do the same.

Trustee Maitland: Well I will just mention that I sort of followed in the same path as Stan this past week, but also I haven't done my Trustee-In-Residence for this semester – that will be coming up in April. Trustee Kinser and I did tour the radio station, WGLT, and I found it very interesting and it was enlightening to see all the different things that go on the small quarters that they have. I want to thank the staff at WGLT – I enjoyed it thoroughly.

Trustee Davis: My last Trustee-In-Residence visit was with Milner Library and I would really like to thank Dean Elzy and well as the faculty and staff. It was a very insightful and informative visit. As was with my other trustee visits, I was really impressed with the knowledge, dedication and passion that our faculty and staff put into their work. I spent more time than I probably should have with our special book collections. If you have not had an opportunity to go to their special books collection, I would certainly urge you to do so. And I was really thrilled about our children's art collection. We were displaying it at the warehouse where we are moving some of our material from the library – it's a very neat collection. I think any university would be very proud to have that children's art collection. And fortunately, or unfortunately, the day that I was there it was raining. I had been forewarned but didn't think it was as bad as it was. It was leaking from the rafters and the buckets were there, but I must compliment our faculty and staff for the patience, your endurance, and really your hard work in terms of moving all the materials that you had to move to other floors and just working in spite of that. Help is on the way. I would also like to thank those who were involved in re-locating our archive material. That same day they were boxing up material to move out to the warehouse. Overall it was a very enriching experience for me and once again thanks to all of you.

Trustee Kinser: First of all I want to mention that I attended the opening of the visual arts faculty show which was great. The quality was fabulous. I also want to mention that on March 1 the College of Fine Arts is having a postcard silent auction. It's a great event for scholarships for students – we have almost 100 postcards for scholarships for students. It should be a really great event. I also wanted to mention the Athletics department and the basketball teams are getting a lot of attention, but thanks to Sheahon Zenger I want to say so is the softball team, tennis team, gymnastics team and the track team. T.Y. Wang invited the Board of Trustees to attend the scholarship room at a basketball game – I had a great time. I want to recognize and say thank you to Dave Horstein and Kevin Martin, the Student Body President and Vice President, because these two young people have did a very good job this year – being there to talk with students – great job guys.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

I would like to begin with some remarks about Carl. I know you will continue to remain active and involved with Illinois State University—in fact, I am counting on it. Still, it is a bit difficult to imagine a Board meeting or Board Retreat without you, and I know that your insight and your wisdom will be greatly missed. I have assembled just a short list of the many, many accomplishments that Illinois State University has achieved while you were a member and Chair of this Board. This list is included in the Board packet, and we placed some at the front table so members of our audience could have a copy. Sometimes, working so closely with an organization, we tend to forget some of the amazing things that have happened to our institution since 1996, and Carl, your efforts have played a huge part in Illinois State's success.

I know that we honored your service during the ISU/Bradley game last week and during our Founders Day Convocation yesterday—but I wanted to publicly say, once again, that your work has inspired all of us to work harder for Illinois State and to be proud of this University, and I know I speak for the entire campus community when I say thank you.

I know there are a few other folks who want to say something to you Carl, so let me begin by inviting to the podium, State Representative Dan Brady.

Representative Brady: Thank you very much and good morning. If I may I would like to revert back to President Bowman's comments regarding the recent tragedy at Northern Illinois University ever so briefly, Carl, before I present you with a very well deserved honor. In wake of yesterday's tragic shooting at Northern Illinois University, my intentions, President Bowman and members of the Board of Trustees, are to send you copies of two letters I will be sending out. However, with the unique opportunity of this timing of the Board meeting today, I am afforded the opportunity to stand before you and explain the letters and follow-up to you with copies.

In my position as state representative and representing this University I will send my first letter to Illinois State University Police Chief Ron Swan asking for a meeting with stakeholders in the field of communications for a review of the interoperable radio communications between Illinois State University police department and that of the Town of Normal police department, City of Bloomington police department and McLean County Sheriff's department, along with Illinois State University's police department's interoperable communications with the Illinois State Police Star-Com 21 Radio System. Secondly, as a committee member of the State's Higher Education Committee and the State's Homeland Security Emergency Preparedness Committee, I will ask both committee chairs to hold joint hearings to learn from this tragedy and how best to be prepared to respond in the future. And in closing, my sincere sympathy goes to all the Northern Illinois University campus family and especially those families who have lost a loved one. And a special thank you for all the law enforcement and emergency responders who protect our campus at Illinois State University and all of our state universities and elementary and secondary schools across our state.

Now in a lighter note, but something that is still extremely bitter sweet, I will ask Chairman Kasten to join me here at the podium for just a moment. I would like to read a resolution that was offered on February 13 by myself and Representative Jay Hoffman and voted on by the Illinois House of Representatives. It reads as follows:

WHEREAS, the members of the Illinois House of Representatives are pleased to congratulate Carl Kasten on the occasion of his retirement as a Trustee and as a Chairperson of the Board of Trustees of Illinois State University, and

WHEREAS, Carl Kasten received his Bachelor of Arts degree in social sciences from Illinois State University in 1966 and his law degree from Northwestern University School of Law in 1969, and

WHEREAS, Carl Kasten is a senior partner in the law firm of Phelps, Kasten, Ruyle, Burns, Sims and Meyer P.C. in Carlinville, and

WHEREAS, Carl Kasten was appointed to the first Illinois State University Board of Trustees by former Illinois Governor Jim Edgar in 1996 after serving on the Board of Regents; he was sworn in on January 3, 1996; he was elected the Board's secretary from January 1996 until July 2003, when he was elected to serve as Chairperson of the Board, and

WHEREAS, Carl Kasten's successful experience on the Board of Regents and his understanding and appreciation of higher education enabled him to become a valued and respected member of the Illinois State University Board of Trustees, serving with integrity and poise, and

WHEREAS, Carl Kasten was a recipient of the Widmore Key from the Northwestern University School of Law, the Distinguished Service Award from the College of Arts & Sciences Hall of Fame, and the John W. Maitland Commitment to Excellence Award, and

WHEREAS, Carl Kasten is a member of several bar associations including the Illinois Trial Lawyers Association, where he served on the Board of Managers; he is a member of the College of Arts & Sciences Hall of Fame and the Illinois Board of Regents; he is also a member of several other professional organizations, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE 95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we congratulate Carl Kasten on the occasion of his retirement and wish him continued success and happiness in the future; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a suitable copy of this resolution be presented to Carl Kasten as a symbol of our esteem and respect.

I can think of no finer public servant to this University ladies and gentleman than Carl Kasten and it has been my distinct privilege and my honor, not only to work with him, but to call him a good friend. Carl congratulations and best of luck.

President Bowman: Thank you Dan. Now I am pleased to welcome, from the Town of Normal, Mayor Chris Koos.

Mayor Koos: Good morning everyone. It's actually a personal honor for me to be here to say goodbye to Carl Kasten as Chairman of the Board of Trustees, but of course we will never say goodbye to Carl. I am sure we will only see slightly less of him in the years to come because we know that he is truly involved with this University and truly cares. And again it is an honor for me to present a proclamation to you Carl because there has never really been a truer friend to Illinois State University than Carl Kasten, and there has never been a truer friend to the Town of Normal than Carl Kasten. So Carl please join me at the podium. Our proclamation is as follows:

Whereas, in 1966 Mr. Carl E. Kasten received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Illinois State University, and

Whereas, upon graduating from Illinois State University Mr. Kasten obtained his law degree from Northwestern University, and

Whereas, Mr. Kasten was appointed to the first Illinois State Board of Trustees in 1996, after serving on the Board of Regents for numerous years, and

Whereas, Mr. Kasten served as Board secretary from 1996 until he was elected Chairperson of the Board of Trustees on July 25, 2003, and

Whereas, as a distinguished alumni of Illinois State University Mr. Kasten has consistently demonstrated a passion and a commitment for his alma mater, and

Whereas, Mr. Kasten has been a fixture on the Illinois State University campus for many years and has served as an incredible mentor to many students that have passed through the University, and

Whereas, Mr. Kasten has always been an advocate of positive working relationships with the Town of Normal and has helped to further numerous community efforts that have had tremendous impact on the residents of Normal, and

Whereas, the extraordinary vision in leadership abilities of Mr. Kasten has guided Illinois State University to its status of one of the top public institutions in the country, and

Whereas, the residents of the Town of Normal will forever benefit from the lasting impact of Mr. Kasten's remarkable legacy on the Illinois State University Board of Trustees, now

Therefore, I, Chris Koos, Mayor of the Town of Normal, do hereby proclaim Friday, February 15, 2008, as Carl E. Kasten Appreciation Day in the Town of Normal and urge all citizens to recognize his commitment to Illinois State University as well as the Town of Normal, and to applaud his numerous accomplishments while serving on the Illinois State University Board of Trustees.

President Bowman: Thank you very much Chris. A bit of Board of Trustees' trivia....Carl Kasten was actually the Board's first Chair, but only long enough to hold elections for the gentleman who served as Chair from 1996 until 2003 and that person is William Sulaski. We are so pleased that Bill could join us today, and I would like to invite him to the podium for a few words.

Mr. Sulaski: It really is an honor to say a few words at this historic occasion because we are going to receive a retirement of one of the last members of our original Board. As I thought about all of these years, I did a lot of reflecting and a lot of my reflection had to do with the early years, even before the Board of Trustees was formed. I can go back to a 15-year relationship that Carl and I have had starting out with the Board of Regents and that was the first three years of this 15-year relationship and friendship that we have shared. Of course the Board of Regents was the managing Board group over the universities of ISU, Northern and Sangamon State, which is what it was called at that time. But Carl I am reflecting back, and I know you will remember some of those early, early days and those two-day meetings that we had at the various universities, after which we would seem to hover and scratch our heads just a little bit at what we had accomplished in the two days prior to that. But somehow realizing we needed to get up enough energy to attend the next meeting, which came sometimes a month later. Some of those early meetings were a little frustrating and, Carl, I am remembering a phone call to me that you made one Saturday morning. I was driving up with my family to Chicago and it was after a two or three day meeting at one of the other universities where we let a lot of frustration out, and I think we had a long conversation and even weighted the merits if it might be appropriate for us to resign from the Board. The delays, the frustrations of trying to get some things done, certainly for Illinois State, but for all three of the universities had reached that point where I think we questioned whether we could actually contribute. I believe between the two of us during that conversation, we both agreed we would stay the course, that we would stay on board and that we would shift some of our interests and energies over to efforts of getting each of the universities their own separate boards. I believe we put a lot of effort into getting this done and I am happy to say that having stayed on and getting that accomplished in 1995, it led to the creation of the ISU Board of Trustees, and I truly believe the start of some real greatness at the University. I think as Dr. Bowman mentioned yesterday during the program that probably was the time that ISU began to make its real push forward.

Carl, I recall that first meeting of our Board – at that time we had seven trustees. I don't think at what point we allowed a student trustee to become a full member of the Board – that took some doing as well. But I recall seven of us gathering in a dining room in one of areas in the union – we knew very little about each other and we met for the first time and we began to talk about this new responsibility we had of the governing board of Illinois State University. We all had some ties to the University but we realized we had some challenges and I think we were prepared. The seven of us moved forward, meeting lots and lots of times as we went through the orientations, working very closely at the time with President Strand, and Susan Kern who was very helpful in some of those inaugural meetings. Frankly, those early months the trustee meetings were not the most pleasant in terms of the challenges that we were faced with, and at the same time some challenges that we probably weren't expecting. But if anything I believe those challenges made our group stronger and we worked very well together. So we accomplished a lot and got through some of the issues of shared governance. As I look at the strength of the University today, it gives me a great sense of pride as I am sure it does for you to know that we were a part of that.

In my opinion there is not an individual with a greater love and loyalty to ISU than Carl Kasten. He has been a tremendous servant as was said earlier and demonstrates that love for the University in every action and every word that he says. I am truly happy to have had the opportunity to serve with you Carl and value the friendship very much and I wish you, Donna and your family the best of luck.

President Bowman: I would like to underscore Bill Sulaski's comments that the creation of our own Board has been very important to this institution. The changes in student quality, national prominence and enhanced facilities really could not have been imagined ten years ago and Carl's guidance on the Board as well as Bill's has really helped move this institution forward. I thank you both.

I would like to thank the Campus Communication Committee and Drs. Bierma and Jin for this morning's discussion hour. It was very enlightening and enjoyable.

I also want to convey my deepest gratitude to everyone who worked so hard to make our Founders Day such a wonderful event. I honestly cannot think of anything I would change during our entire Sesquicentennial celebration—and as I said during our bell-ringing ceremony yesterday, the manner in which we organized and delivered our Sesquicentennial events took Illinois State to a higher level of excellence and public prominence. It is obvious that everyone involved with our 150th celebration is proud of this institution, and we are proud of the magnificent job that all of you did throughout the year.

I want to congratulate Trustee Jay Bergman on his recent appointment to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Trustee Bergman is the only Trustee among Illinois' public universities that has received such a prestigious appointment—and it speaks highly of his desire to contribute to the improvement of higher education—not only at Illinois State University, but throughout the state. Congratulations Jay—it is a well-deserved appointment.

As you know, I have appointed Sheri Noren Everts as our next Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs. Although Dr. Everts won't officially begin until July 1, she will be traveling to campus several times between now and then to meet with our leadership team and the staff of Academic Affairs. I would describe the search process that led to Dr. Everts' appointment as an almost perfect process...and I want to thank Chair Rick Boser and the entire search team for doing a tremendous job. I also want to thank Jan Murphy for serving as Acting Provost during this semester. Jan has my complete trust as well as the respect of the entire campus community. She is doing an outstanding job and providing a very smooth transition for when Dr. Everts arrives—Jan thank you so much.

Some very exciting news—Standard and Poors has upgraded Illinois State's credit rating for outstanding and new bond issues from "A" to "A+". This is truly a great reflection on the University. I know I spend a lot of time talking to the Board and to all of our constituencies about the effort we put into planning and prioritizing our finances—and this is probably the most important external validation there is of that process.

A lot of credit goes to those who have worked hard to keep our Auxiliary Facilities System finances looking good despite increased fiscal pressures. This includes our colleagues in Housing and Dining, who have done a good job in keeping their reserves so positive and controlling expenditures so that we can devote some of those reserves to the Long-Range Housing and Dining Plan.

In addition, under the leadership of Vice President for Finance Steve Bragg, people like Greg Alt and Jo Bahnsen have made significant efforts to keep all the departments in our AFS system fiscally sound. Greg also provided leadership in preparing for the credit rating agency visits. Thanks to all of you and thank you to Jonathan Rosenthal and Dianne Ashby for your great presentation to the visitors from Standard and Poors.

Some further external validation from Kiplinger Magazine—for the fourth time in a row, Illinois State is listed among top 100 universities in the country for quality and value in Kiplinger's Personal Finance Magazine. As I said when this news recently came out, it is particularly important given the challenging Illinois economy over the past several years. Our faculty and staff members are all to be congratulated for this ranking.

I have reviewed the Illinois Board of Higher Education FY2009 Budget Recommendations for Illinois State University. This year, the IBHE is using a new approach of differing and escalating recommended funding levels. These levels contemplate budgeting scenarios ranging from a zero percent increase in General Revenue Funds all the way up to a 7.3 percent increase. The recommended uses for increases include keeping salaries competitive, increased utility costs and our Nursing Ph. D. program. On the capital side, our request for the remodeling of the Fine Arts complex has moved up one spot on the priority list to number 24. We will, of course, follow this process closely and keep you updated on developments.

Early in January, I announced to the campus that mid-year salary increases would be given to 434 professors as part of the Salary Enhancement Program. The increases, which ranged from .5 to 8.5 percent, began with January's pay period, affecting professors from all six academic colleges and Milner Library.

You will remember the program began with my September 2005 State of the University message. This year's effort targets full and associate professors because their salaries are the furthest below comparison group averages. Since the program started, more than \$2.4 million has been added to faculty and staff salaries in addition to the merit-based raises that are associated with the beginning of each fiscal year. Salaries for assistant professors are very near comparison group averages. Salaries for civil service employees are close to or at employee comparison group averages. Salaries for administrative/professional employees are at, and in many cases, above comparison group averages. There are, of course, still pockets of employees within each of these groups that are behind the averages, so the program will continue to address those issues.

You will remember that last fall, the *Educating Illinois* Task Force released a draft of the University's next strategic plan to the University community for review and comment. The draft is called, *Educating Illinois: Priorities for Illinois' First Public University*, and you have a copy with your materials.

The process that led to the document was initiated by the Board of Trustees Vision Statement 2014. That was followed by conversations that were held with a broad cross section of the University community – faculty, staff, students and alumni. We also utilized an environmental scan that considered international, national and statewide trends.

The draft was designed to protect and solidify the advancements the University has made over the last few years and to continue to push the University forward. It recognizes a significant change in the state-funding environment, projected changes in state and national demographics, and the advancements made by the University over the past few years.

Since releasing the draft, the Task Force has met with groups from throughout the University community to answer questions and to receive suggestions for enhancing the draft. The Task Force will be spending the next several weeks considering the counsel it has received and release a revised plan in March. We expect to have the final document for the Board of Trustees in May.

Applications for the fall 2008 semester continue to come in at a record pace. So far, we have received 13,000 applications—a nine percent increase over this time last year. The average ACT score of our applicants is currently slightly higher than a year ago, and the average GPA has remained steady. We have received almost 2,900 applications from underrepresented groups—which is an 18 percent increase over this period last year. For African-Americans, applications are up 23 percent. I know that our office of Admissions has been working very hard on the recruitment of underrepresented groups—and I hope that effort and the rise in applications pays off in a higher show rate.

Finally, the Athletics department is having a fantastic winter season. Both basketball teams are near the top of the Missouri Valley Conference, which is where they belong. The Redbird women are off to a 19-3 start, their best in school history. The team leads the league with a 9-2 record, and two weeks ago were ranked No. 24 nationally. It was the first time the Redbirds have been ranked in nearly 20 years. The men's team stands in second place in the conference and has really brought exciting play back to Redbird Arena. Our student body and fans have responded with the highest average home attendance since 2001-02, including the first sellout of Redbird Arena in three seasons – last Saturday against Bradley.

There was additional excitement in the arena on Feb. 2 when the department raised a banner to honor legendary coach Jill Hutchison. Joining Cathy Boswell, Doug Collins, Charlotte Lewis and Milt Weisbecker in the Redbird Arena rafters, Hutchison was honored not only for her 461 career wins at Illinois State, but the role she has played nationally in shaping the game of women's college basketball as we know it today.

Even with athletic success, our student-athletes remain as focused as ever on their academics. In the fall 2007 semester, the ISU Athletics department posted a record 3.03 department-wide GPA. In addition, the Redbirds placed a record 244 student-athletes on the AFNI Athletics Honor Roll, while having a record number of 4.0's of 42. Only nine student-athletes were placed on academic probation that semester, or two percent of Redbird student-athletes – another standard. All of this, while continuing to reach their goal of 1,000-plus community service hours per semester. Congratulations to our student athletes, and to Dr. Sheahon Zenger and his entire staff.

With that, I would now like to call the Chair of the Campus Communication Committee, Melody Palm, to the podium for a report.

CAMPUS COMMUNICATION COMMITTEE

Good morning. The Campus Communication Committee would like to thank Thomas Bierma, Guang Jin and Lucy Loftus for their presentation “Community Biodiesel: From Waste Grease to Community Fuel” at the discussion hour earlier this morning. The involvement of undergraduate Environmental Health students in this research into sustainable fuels is an example of dynamic education opportunities at Illinois State University.

Founders Day yesterday brought the University's 150th Anniversary to a close. It's been a remarkable year. As a campus, we've remembered and celebrated our heritage, taken stock of where we are, and set ourselves new goals and challenges for the future. The year has brought a greater sense of community and tradition. Students, faculty, staff and alumni have been involved in planning and participating in the wealth of events throughout the year. We recognize the leadership of University Advancement and Vice President Diane Ashby for an exceptional sesquicentennial. We look forward to their continuing leadership as we launch our efforts toward the next 150 years of excellence at Illinois State.

We want to express our appreciation to Trustee Carl Kasten for 18 years of dedicated service and leadership as a Regent and Trustee. Thank you, Trustee Kasten, for being an outstanding advocate for Illinois State University, and best wishes as you retire from the Board today.

The CCC would also like to congratulate Trustee Bergman on his appointment to the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

We are pleased that the University has identified a new Provost, Dr. Sherri Noren Everts. The University is very fortunate to have someone as competent as Dr. Jan Shane Murphy available and willing to step into the role of acting Provost until July.

Over 400 faculty members benefited from mid-year salary enhancements. We appreciate President Bowman and the Board's continuing support for bringing all salaries to competitive peer group levels.

We congratulate the College of Business, one of the first business schools in the nation selected as signatories to the United Nations-sponsored Principles for Responsible Management Education, a framework for academic institutions to advance socially responsible corporate behavior. We also want to recognize the University Program Board for receiving the Outstanding Program Series Award at the Mid-America Regional Conference of the National Association for Campus Activities.

As we continue to progress toward the goals in *Educating Illinois*, including becoming the premier undergraduate university in the state, we are pleased that Illinois State University is included in the Kiplinger Report for the fourth year in a row. It is essential that we are mindful of affordability issues in our current budget climate. The ACT scores and GPA's of students continue to climb. The Underrepresented Groups Report before the Board today demonstrates that we are keeping underrepresented populations in mind in our commitment to the academic success of all our students.

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Mr. Adams: Thank you and good morning. The moving of the Illinois primary to the so-called super Tuesday day has moved the session up rather dramatically so we have had much more action this year. Probably the worst news is that the State's budget situation is dismal and continuing to go in the wrong direction. We are experiencing many problems with contractors being paid. We hope there will be some transfer of funds immediately following the Governor's budget presentation and at that point we will be able to catch up in terms of the people who are owed those dollars. But the deficit estimates range somewhere in the \$3 billion area at least and no one seems to believe based on the sales tax receipts and the income tax receipts to date that number is going to get any better over the coming year. So the economic situation is such – the President mentioned the new IBHE five-step plan and I think it is relatively safe to say that concentrating on the 7% level is a substantial waste of our time. We probably would be better off looking at that lower number.

One bill that was to be heard yesterday and was postponed requires admission to any public university for any student in the top 10% of his high school class and that creates a lot of problems for some of the universities, particularly ourselves and the U of I. So we met with the sponsor of that bill and I am going to do that again this afternoon and I think that there will be some changes made to make it much more reasonable for us to deal with.

One of the things that I would like to say is having been a person who was at the Board of Regents when Bill and Carl got there, I have known them a long time and I have a lot of Bill and Carl stories, but one of the things I would like to publicly let everyone know is when the legislation passed to create the separate boards, they phased out the other two boards over an entire fiscal year period and both of these gentlemen spent a large portion of that year, not just getting ready for their duties at ISU, but doing everything they could do to take care of the staff and the people who were at the board and it was fairly successful I think. It was their efforts that helped because they had developed a lot of friends on a lot of other campuses and I think a lot of people would have had a much rougher go of it had those folks not kept the pressure on and kept trying to assist people. So I think everyone needs to know that and it's been great.

REPORTS

I have three reports for you this morning. With your approval Trustee Kasten I will move to those.

Report 2008.02/1000.01: Goal Statements

As you know, each year the President prepares goal statements for the Board of Trustees and for the University community. The Board of Trustees engages in a similar exercise during its fall retreat. Copies of both statements were made available for today's audience.

The sets of statements provide guidance for and are aligned with *Educating Illinois*, the University's strategic plan, and the University master plan for physical development. Both documents reflect considerable interaction with every facet of the University community.

Report 2008.02/1000.02: Underrepresented Groups Report

This report, which was mailed to you in advance of this meeting, submits material in compliance with Public Acts 85-283 and 90-730. The Acts direct the Illinois Board of Higher Education to undertake initiatives to increase the participation of minorities, women and disabled persons who are traditionally underrepresented in educational programs and activities. This year's focus was on a quantitative and qualitative assessment of University programs that meet the academic needs of underrepresented students and the academic achievement of students enrolled in such programs. Additionally, the report contains information on the Trio Student Support Services, which has been identified as an institutional best practice serving students from traditionally underrepresented groups. With a point of pride I might mention that the graduation rate for African-Americans and Hispanic students at Illinois State have reached an all-time high and both are above 50%, which is approximately eight points above the national average.

Report 2008.02/4000.01: Grant and Contract Activity

As you know, Illinois State University receives funding for externally funded projects from federal, state and private sources. Externally funded grants and contracts support professional activity of faculty and staff members in basic and applied research, instructional programs and community service. You have the report in your material, but I just wanted to point out a few items.

University sponsored projects awarded in FY2007 totaled \$18.09 million, which represents about a five percent decrease from the previous fiscal year. However, overall grant submissions increased from 306 in FY2006 to 322 this year, with a 14 percent increase in the total amount of funding requested rising from \$55 million to \$63 million.

During 2008, Illinois State will focus on initiatives designed to increase the proportion of faculty that submit proposals for external funding. The initiatives will include a grant-writing mentoring program and the expansion of the Travel Award Program.

Trustee Ommen: I was curious when I looked at the chart on page 29 – why Northern Illinois University and Wichita State get so much more than the other schools we compare ourselves to from the US Department of Education.

Dr. Custer: That's a very good question and Scott Sakaluk, who helped put this data together, and I just exchanged a few words and we don't know at this point. This is the first year we have done this and actually we were very pleased to see who how comparators are within the state and we wanted to go out and do some comparators of those in the conference. We did notice that anomaly and will explore it further and get back with you. It is an interesting difference.

Trustee Bergman: I am looking on page 28 – the chart at the top that President Bowman referred to a total on where he said awards went down from last year to this year. But then I looked below and if you take a look at total awards there are five bullet points – under FY2007 if you add those five bullet points together you come up with the \$18 million noted at the top. If you look at FY2006 and add those five bullet points up you don't come up with \$19 million, you come up with \$17 million plus. Is there another category that wasn't included?

President Bowman: I don't know the answer to that but we will re-compute those numbers and get a corrected copy to you.

ACTION ITEMS

There are nine resolutions this morning. With your approval Trustee Kasten, I will move to them now.

Resolution 2008.02/01: Authorization to Decommission and Demolish Dunn, Barton and Walker Residence Halls

As you are well aware, the new Student Fitness and Kinesiology-Recreation Building will span University Avenue and use the site of Dunn, Barton and Walker Halls. We are asking that these residence halls be decommissioned and demolished because they are outdated and lack required life-safety systems. The process is slated to begin at the conclusion of this semester, and the work will be done by the general contractor of the new Student Fitness facility. I ask your approval of this resolution.

Chairperson Kasten: This resolution, like those that follow, are a sequence following our earlier passage of other resolutions, so I think these are implementing resolutions. Is there a motion to approve? Trustee McCuskey and was seconded by Trustee Maitland. Any discussion?

Trustee Bergman: I am going to vote for this because of the wording of the resolution but on the dialog on the next page, it says source of funds – bond proceeds. It is questionable if we can use bond proceeds and I will bring that up in a future resolution. But given the wording of the resolution we are asking for, does not identify the source of funding so I am going to vote for it.

Chairperson Kasten: Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2008.02/02: Authorization to Issue Auxiliary Facilities System Revenue Bonds Series 2008

I know that members of the Board received advance information regarding this and the next resolution. The State permits universities to issue two types of debt for the financing of capital improvements not funded by the State.

The first is the issuance of Auxiliary Facilities System, or AFS revenue bonds, which is the debt most commonly used to fund construction of facilities for student services such as housing, dining, parking, athletic and recreation, and other non-instructional activities. These bonds are paid entirely with revenues generated by the operation of the AFS facilities.

During 2008, Illinois State University intends to issue approximately \$30 million in AFS revenue bonds to finance several University projects, including the Student Fitness and Kinesiology-Recreation building, Central Campus demolition, Phase I of the South Power Plant, and Phase I of Hancock Stadium Planning. I ask your approval for this resolution.

Chairperson Kasten: Is there a motion to approve? Trustee Ommen so moved and was seconded by Trustee Kinser.

Trustee Bergman: I think this is something that needs to be looked into. As some of us know even non-instructional capital projects such as this need to be approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). There was a resolution a couple of weeks ago that kind of approved what we are talking about here today. However, I am looking at Exhibit A on page 34, which indicates the amount of the bonds that we are requesting be approved and it says demolition of residence halls at \$1.3 million. The resolution that was passed by the IBHE specifically excluded the cost of demolition of the residence halls from their approval. I have a copy in front of me and it says “the estimated cost of demolition of Dunn, Barton and Walker residence halls is \$1 million which will be funded separately and is not included in this project. So I think there is a little discrepancy here and we need to look into it.

Dr. Bragg: Trustee Bergman, I will address that question directly in just a second. With your approval, Mr. Chairman, I would like to introduce two guests that are with us today that helped us prepare the materials – John Vincent, who is our bond advisor and has been working with the University for a great many years on several of our previous issues and is truly a great asset and artist in putting together our bond resolutions; and Andrea Bacon, who is with the firm of Chapman & Cutler as our bond counsel. I am going to give you my answer to this and then I am going to refer to Andrea to give you the legal interpretation of this.

When we pulled together the materials for the IBHE, which we had to do well in advance of this meeting, we were under the assumption that we could use reserves in the auxiliary facilities systems for the demolition of Dunn, Barton & Walker. Subsequent to that, in consultation with bond counsel we were informed that we couldn't do that – we had to use bond proceeds to demolish Dunn, Barton & Walker as part of the site preparation for the Student Fitness & Kinesiology Center. So that is why the exhibit you have in front of you indicates that we will be using bond proceeds for the actual demolition and the materials that the IBHE has says we will be funding it separately out of system reserves. The fact of the matter is the totality of the project is going to be funded out of both bond proceeds and system reserves and will contribute to the cost of the overall project.

Trustee Bergman: I understand, but again, and perhaps someone else needs to comment – and I am not an attorney – we have a fine attorney from Chapman & Cutler – but if I were an attorney looking at this and I knew that the IBHE had to approve it and I looked at what we are asking for in bonds and the IBHE resolution saying something different, I would be concerned. Maybe everything is fine but I am looking at A & B and they don't say the same.

Trustee Ommen: Should we be calling it site preparation instead of demolition?

Dr. Bragg: Yes, we probably should call it site preparation as far as the bond proceeds are concerned.

Trustee Bergman: That doesn't address the issue here, though.

Ms. Bacon: I have to say I have not reviewed the IBHE authorization, but we did give the advice that reserved funds under the authorization of the bond resolution could not be used for demolition and the site preparation would be considered part of the project, but I will be happy to take a look at that.

Trustee Ommen: Mr. Chairman, do we need to amend our approval to say that we will approve the resolution subject to satisfactory resolution of that issue?

Chairperson Kasten: Well we always try to vent out any of those issues ahead of any Board meeting and I assumed that had taken place here. I am concerned as to if it will in any way affect the timing of the issuance of these bonds.

Dr. Bragg: Absolutely – it is critical that we take action on this today. Trustee Bergman, could you please read the material from the IBHE again?

Trustee Bergman: I will first read the actual IBHE resolution. “The Illinois Board of Higher Education hereby approves the non-instructional capital projects included in this item.” The dialogue says a lot of things, but it says “to clear the site for the new facility, three out-dated residence halls identified for decommissioning as part of the Long-Range Housing and Dining Renovation Plan are scheduled for demolition in May 2008. The estimated cost of the demolition of Dunn, Barton & Walker residence halls is \$1million, which will be funded separately and not included in this project.” Now also in the dialogue they do have the specific funding for the construction of the new building and that type of thing in terms of dollars.

Dr. Bragg: I don't mean to be presumptuous, but let me offer a suggestion and then you can debate this. The material that you just read is prepared by the IBHE staff, obviously approved by the IBHE, it is not material that we prepared for them. We would be more than happy to write a letter to the IBHE staff clarifying the source of funds and clarifying the issues that we just talked about here today.

Chairperson Kasten: The critical thing that I recall about these things is the letter of opinion that goes with those bonds and that letter of opinion will come from Chapman & Cutler. And if Chapman & Cutler is wrong they obviously have their own issues involved. I have supreme confidence in Chapman & Cutler and it would be my suggestion that we go ahead knowing that if Chapman & Cutler believes it is wrong, they are going to pull the plug on it anyway.

Trustee McCuskey: I would ask that bond counsel from Chapman & Cutler take the microphone so that we would all be able to hear plus we have been getting some feedback from the microphones. Obviously Carl is right and you have listened to the dialogue today so based on the dialogue today, if the Board approves this motion, what is the opinion of bond counsel to those people who are going to purchase the bonds?

Ms. Bacon: Well, I would have to research the requirements of the IBHE and what kinds of approvals are necessary for the issuance of the bonds. I was not aware of the letter that has been read here. Obviously we would not be able to issue the bonds without all appropriate approvals.

Trustee McCuskey: So you are saying you do not believe that everything is in place today based on what Trustee Bergman has said, and if we approved it that you would be able to issue that letter of opinion to the bond purchasers that everything is in proper order.

Ms. Bacon: No, I am not saying that – I am saying I need to look at the letter. I have not seen the letter. We ordinarily would not review the IBHE approval letters for bond issues. I am happy to look at it but I can't give an opinion now on something I have not researched.

Trustee Bergman: I have a copy and at the appropriate time, I would be happy to give you a copy of it.

Chairperson Kasten: It is my understanding that the President and Vice President Bragg haven't been provided that either. My sense is if the timing is such, bond counsel obviously felt confident enough to put us in the position of going forward here today. If bond counsel is not going to be confident, then maybe we need to amend the resolution to make it subject to approval of bond counsel. That would be my take on it.

Trustee Bergman: Let me just add one thing if I could. The comment has been made that no one has received this. Last week Steve Bragg sent me 200 plus pages of information. Of course I read every word of it but that was relating to this. Steve called late Wednesday afternoon and asked me if I had any questions and I brought up one or two things which he subsequently answered. I did not realize this until actually I was driving home last night – got home and looked at it this morning and thought something isn't right here. So I went back to my IBHE information, so I really only became aware of this last night when I was getting the documentation together for today's meeting.

Ms. Bacon: My suggestion would be for the Board to go ahead with the resolution and if there is a problem with the \$1.3 million and Chapman & Cutler would not be able to give an opinion, we would have to reduce the bond issue size, but you are approving an issue of not to exceed a certain amount – not an exact amount.

Chairperson Kasten: That's a good point. So what you are telling us that if you determined that the \$1 or \$1.3 million didn't qualify you would merely reduce the amount of your letter of opinion approving the bonds and the bonds that were available would be sold.

Ms. Bacon: Correct.

Trustee McCuskey: So I think, Chairman Kasten and counsel, you are basically saying the resolution would be to approve bond issue in an amount that will ultimately be issued subject to your opinion letter.

Ms. Bacon: Correct and that is the case in any event.

Chairperson Kasten: And it is not to exceed \$32 million in this case?

Ms. Bacon: Correct.

Chairperson Kasten: I think we go straight ahead and let you be the arbiter of that decision.

Trustee Bergman: I think Trustee McCuskey, if I understood him correctly, suggests that we amend the resolution. I think we should amend it because frankly right now we are approving this knowing that there could be a problem. I think we should amend the language.

Trustee McCuskey: Well the only amendment that the issuance of the Series 2008 bonds is going to be an amount not to exceed the \$30,300,000 subject to approval of bond counsel in the exact amount of the issuance. That would be my motion.

Trustee Bergman: I would second that.

Ms. Posegate: For clarification, the motion as it appears in the resolution speaks in terms of an amount not to exceed an aggregate principle of \$32 million. Are you suggesting an amendment to that figure?

Trustee McCuskey: No, \$32 million – I was looking at a letter I had received from the President.

Chairperson Kasten: I think it is subsection three in the resolution – subject to the following conditions of the bonds to be issued shall not exceed an aggregate principle amount of \$32 million (net of original issue discount or premium, if any). Is that the right section?

Ms. Bacon: Yes, that's correct.

Trustee McCuskey: Okay, the Board approves a competitive public sale of the Bonds, subject to the following conditions: a) the Bonds to be issued shall not exceed an aggregate principal amount of \$32 million (net of original issue discount or premium, if any); b) the Bonds will have a final maturity of no later than April 1, 2033; c) the price at which the Bonds will be sold will not be less than 97% of the par amount thereof; and d) the Bonds have a true interest cost of borrowing not to exceed 5.50%. I would add e) subject to approval of bond counsel, not to exceed principal amount of \$32 million.

Ms. Bacon: We have no objection to that because we would not issue the bonds without our approval which is stated in the preliminary official statement.

Chairperson Kasten: So that I have it right, the current motion to amend is to add an (e) subject to the approval of bond counsel.

Trustee McCuskey: Yes.

Ms. Posegate: That is a motion to amend an existing resolution, so we need a second.

Chairperson Kasten: Well we have a motion to amend here and Trustee Bergman seconded that motion. On the motion to amend, vote recorded as all members present voting aye. Now, on the principle resolution containing the language subject to bond counsel, vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2008.02/03: Authorization to Issue Certificates of Participation Series 2008

A second and less common type of debt financing is the issuance of Certificates of Participation or COPs, which are actually installment sales agreements. These are normally used for financing capital improvements of a more general or instructional nature, typically paid for from appropriated funds. In fact, the debt service for COPs is paid from appropriated funds.

COPs are also slightly more restrictive than revenue bonds in that their term is limited to 20 years. During 2008, Illinois State University intends to issue approximately \$22 million in COPs to finance several University projects. These projects are the Student Fitness and Kinesiology-Recreation Building, Phase I of the South Power Plant and Human Resource Information Systems. I ask your approval of this Resolution.

Chairperson Kasten: Is there a motion to approve? Trustee Davis so moved and was seconded by Trustee Cekander.

Trustee Bergman: I need to point out that the IBHE only approved \$13 million in sales of certificates of participation for the Student Fitness & Kinesiology Center, and we are showing on our resolution \$15.5 million.

Trustee Cekander: It seems like we are constantly going back to Exhibit A and it is my understanding it is not technically part of the resolution itself. The resolution itself is on pages 36 & 37, not on 38, or is that just a forecasted number and not technically part of the resolution?

Trustee Bergman: You may be right but on page 36 it says should not exceed an aggregate principal amount of \$23 million, and the IBHE only approved \$13 million.

Dr. Bragg: It is my understanding that the IBHE doesn't actually approve the money – the IBHE actually approves the project – there is no authorization to spend the money. The material that we provided them, Trustee Bergman, was some months in advancement to preparing these statements and we have changed our financing plan somewhat.

Trustee Bergman: You may be totally right and I may be way off base – all I can tell you that what was approved by IBHE “hereby approves a non-instructional capital projects included in this item” and it indicates the projects and the amount and the sources of funds.

Chairperson Kasten: I suggest that we use the same procedure we did before if that is okay with bond counsel?

Ms. Bacon: Yes, that is totally fine with us.

Trustee McCuskey: Then we are doing the same thing – amending page 36, section 3, which would now add an (e) also – subject to approval of bond counsel.

Chairperson Kasten: Yes. Is there a motion to make that amendment? Trustee McCuskey so moved and was seconded by Trustee Davis. On the amendment, motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

We have a motion on the floor on the resolution in principle – any more discussion. Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2008.02/04: Authorization to Plan for Hancock Stadium Improvements

The deteriorated condition of Hancock Stadium is similar to the condition of many of the University's academic buildings, which have required upgrading and renovating. Improving Hancock stadium is part of the University's commitment to address total campus deferred maintenance. The poor condition of the stands, restroom facilities, concession areas, as well as life-safety and accessibility needs makes improvement a priority. Moreover, Hancock sits on a visible site at the corner of College and Main Streets—a portion of the Main Street corridor that receives traffic in the amount of over 20,000 cars per day, and in many ways, serves as a gateway to the campus.

Today, we request your authorization to initiate a planning process to develop the necessary concepts and design documents that will determine the best methods to address the condition of Hancock Stadium. A completed plan will be presented to the Board for your consideration, a plan which will include the recommended phases and financing for renovation. The \$1.5 million cost for this planning process is to be funded by 2008 Bond Proceeds, which the Board has approved. I ask your approval to proceed with the planning process.

Chairperson Kasten: Is there a motion to approve? Trustee Maitland so moved and was seconded by Trustee Kinsler. Any discussion? Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2008.02/05: Authorization to Create Additional U-High Instructional Space

Last summer, local resident and U-High graduate, John Wroan III, donated a half-million dollars to the Laboratory Schools for the purpose of updating the current shop space. The requested project will leverage Mr. Wroan's generous gift by providing additional general instructional space as well as enhancing the laboratory space and shifting the curricular focus from industrial arts to an Engineering/Technology Center. In addition to the \$500,000 gift, the project will require \$170,000 of institutional funds. I ask your approval of this resolution.

Chairperson Kasten: Is there a motion for approval? Trustee Davis so moved and was seconded by Trustee Maitland.

Trustee Ommen: I would like to correct the spelling of John Wroan's name in this resolution to John Wroan – not John W. Roan.

Chairperson Kasten: I need a motion for approval to amend the spelling? Trustee Ommen so moved and was seconded by Trustee Maitland. As to the amendment, motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye. On the resolution itself, motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2008.02/06: Authorization to Purchase Nuclear Magnetic Resonance Instrument

Illinois State University's Chemistry Department faculty carry out high-level research with an outstanding group of undergraduate and graduate students. This resolution seeks to replace instruments that are 20 years old and are losing function. The Chemistry Department is seeking proposals through state procurement procedures from firms qualified to provide the instruments and all associated services. We ask your approval to purchase instruments and services at a cost not to exceed \$551,000. I ask your approval of this resolution.

Chairperson Kasten: Is there a motion for approval? Trustee Kinser so moved and was seconded by Trustee Ommen.

Trustee Bergman: It says, whereas the Chemistry department has received funding from the National Foundation – is there a dollar amount connected to that funding?

Dr. Murphy: The \$551,000.

Trustee Bergman: So they are paying it all, the University is paying nothing?

Dr. Murphy: Yes.

President Bowman: It needs your approval because it exceeds \$500,000.

Chairperson Kasten: Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2008.02/07: Replace Window Blinds and Curtains in Residence Halls

This resolution asks your approval to spend \$688,000 in Housing Bond Revenue Reserves to replace window blinds and curtains in all residence halls. I ask your approval of this resolution because I don't think you would want us not to have curtains and blinds on our residence hall windows.

Chairperson Kasten: Is there a motion to approve? Trustee Cekander so moved and was seconded by Trustee Ommen.

Trustee Maitland: Is this also including the new ones that we have just renovated?

President Bowman: No.

Chairperson Kasten: Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

Resolution 2008.02/08: Renewal of Student Health Insurance

I know I have said this before, but the student health insurance provided by Illinois State is an outstanding value, and a constant source of compliments from students and their families. The annual fees associated with the plan will expire in August 2008, and we have negotiated with the Chickering Group to continue providing the same student insurance coverage without an increase in rates.

Therefore, we ask you to approve a student health insurance rate of \$161 for fall 2008 and spring 2009 session and \$116 for the summer 2009 session. I ask your approval of this resolution.

Chairperson Kasten: Is there a motion for approval? Trustee Davis so moved and was seconded by Trustee Maitland. Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

President Bowman: I would now like to turn the meeting over to Board Secretary Stan Ommen for the final resolution.

Resolution 2008.02/09: Recognition of Board Chairperson Carl E. Kasten

Trustee Ommen: Thank you President Bowman. Fellow trustees, I want to introduce a resolution to recognize our Board Chair Carl Kasten. I will read the full resolution and then ask for a motion and a second and if anyone wants to have discussion, we will have it before we take the final vote.

Whereas, in the fall of 1995, the 89th General Assembly of the State of Illinois passed Senate Bill 241, which was sent to and signed by the Governor to become Public Act 89-0004, which established autonomous governing boards for seven state universities as part of a continuing reform of the state's higher education system, and

Whereas, Carl E. Kasten was appointed by former Illinois Governor Jim Edgar to the inaugural Board of Trustees of Illinois State University and was sworn in on January 3, 1996, and

Whereas, Carl E. Kasten accepted his responsibility as a member of the Board of Trustees and a representative of the State and its citizens to govern and to provide direction for the University. Mr. Kasten's successful experience on the Board of Regents and his understanding and appreciation of the values inherent in higher education enabled him to bring a level of expertise to the Board that was of great value and appreciated by his fellow Trustees. He served the Board of Trustees with a high standard of professional integrity to the lasting benefit of Illinois State University, and

Whereas, Carl E. Kasten has served as the Chairperson of the Board of Trustees since July 25, 2003;

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees expresses sincere appreciation to Carl E. Kasten for his tireless efforts as a trustee and as chairperson of the Board of Trustees on behalf of Illinois State University, and confers on Carl E. Kasten the honor and title of Trustee Emeritus for his outstanding service and dedication to Illinois State University.

I would like to move that resolution. Is there a second? Trustee Davis so moved. Is there any discussion before we take action?

Trustee Kinser: There has been all kinds of really good things said about Carl Kasten and I have one short thing to say – you are my hero, and Donna also has become my hero too. Thank you.

Trustee Davis: I would just like to say that it has been a privilege serving on this Board with you Carl. I can recall when I was first appointed and you called me – it was such a warm welcome, and it has continued to be that. You have been a very inclusive leader, certainly a team player, and you have really set a positive tone for this Board even when we have had our differences. You continue to set that bar high and I truly appreciate the service that you have given and having worked with you.

Trustee McCuskey: My comment would be to echo what Betty and Anne have said. Carl made the transition onto this Board so easy – like you had been here for years. You are really the wind beneath our wings that lifts us up, Carl, and we are going to miss you.

Trustee Cekander: I would just like to say from a student's perspective it is difficult coming to a Board like this with no prior experience and being welcomed with open arms from everybody – and mainly Carl, made it so much easier. It kind of gives me something to look forward to as a future alumni member of Illinois State University of all the positive things you can do to affect this campus even after you leave. Thank you.

Trustee Bergman: I would just like to relate a story, maybe a little bit different than what everyone else has said. I guess it was about a year ago and I had come down to campus – driven down and back maybe four or five times in about a three week period for something and obviously that was a very unusual situation, but someone here on campus said – my gosh you spend a huge amount of time working for this University. I and replied not really – that this was just an isolated incidence when a lot was going on. But if you want to know somebody that spends a huge amount of time with this University, you take a look at the amount of time that I spend in a year – you multiply that by a factor of at least three – and that is the amount of time that Carl Kasten spends involved with this University.

Trustee Maitland: I also want to say Carl that you have been a mentor to many and it has been an honor to work with you and my best to you and Donna.

Ms. Posegate: Mr. Ommen, if you would allow me to make just a brief remark. It has been my privilege to serve Carl as Board Counsel and I could not have had a finer person to share my work with through the years. We have heard a great deal about his leadership on campus – I would like to say also that Carl stands as tall as they come amongst the lawyers in the State of Illinois. I have dealt with lawyers from Chicago to the southern end of the state who have known Carl and have dealt with him as a worthy adversary and they all say the same thing – Carl is a lawyer's lawyer and there is nobody with higher ethics.

President Bowman: On behalf of the entire University community, thank you very much for your years of service and we wish you the best of health and a long, long life.

Trustee Ommen: If there are no other comments, could we have a vote. Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

Trustee McCuskey: I have got just a small token, which is going to follow up with what Carol said. One of the things that you get as one of the 94 chief judges in the United States is tokens that we give to visiting judges from foreign countries and various dignitaries. Carol said the preface for this and that is, Carl, I want to give you the lapel pin that we give to dignitaries and foreign judges on behalf of all of the judges of the central district of Illinois – you are a member of the central district of the Illinois Bar and as Carol said, you are an outstanding example of what a lawyer should be in the central district of Illinois.

Trustee Ommen: Donna Kasten, please come forward and join Carl. The Board of Trustees wanted to give you a small token of our appreciation. There is no gift that we could give that would properly thank you for what you have done. I am not sure how many tires you have worn out driving back and forth from Carlinville and Illinois State University, but you have certainly put in thousands and thousands of miles. I was thinking about some of the things you could say about Carl Kasten, most of which has already been said. But you think about the people who say, if you look in the dictionary and you saw loyalty you would see a picture of Carl Kasten. Then I got to thinking, if I did that, his picture would be spread across the dictionary under loyalty and dedication and leadership and so one so that won't work. I am also very fond, when getting an opportunity of meeting someone or talking with someone, and they say something about their association with ISU, I like to say a lot of great people have come to Illinois State University. Well, one of those great people is Carl Kasten. Carl, you have been a true leader for us and we are going to miss your leadership and hope that you and Donna come back to campus on a regular basis and thank you for everything.

Chairperson Kasten: This gift is unbelievable – just amazing. Thank you all very much. I want to say a few words. I perhaps should have said something earlier when Representative Brady was here and Mayor Koos was here. I want to start out by saying this is sort of like an event I went to two years ago. My Aunt Minnie had attained the age of 101 and still had a very good mind. Those of us in the family gathered one day to welcome Aunt Minnie to her 101st birthday and a lot of wonderful things were said about Aunt Minnie. When they asked if she would like to say anything, she said “Well you know there have been enough lies told about me already, I think I will let them stand.” Well, I have some of that feeling.

First of all I want to say thanks Stan for all of the support you have given me over the years. You have been terrific. I am humbled and honored by the Board's resolution today and thank the Board for it and all the support they have given me over the years. I want to thank Representative Brady and Mayor Koos for being here today. One of the things that we all have worked hard for is to have good relations with the legislature and with the Town of Normal and those two gentlemen have been instrumental in making that come about and we have tried to do our part and it has been a great relationship, which is going to continue for a long time.

Well, about 18 years ago I was asked by President Tom Wallace and Dr. Susan Kern and Dr. Lois Mills if I would advocate for Illinois State University as an alumni representative on the old Board of Regents and on some legislative issues. When I said yes little did I expect that those ensuing 18 years would pass so quickly or that they would be so fulfilling and rewarding. So much has happened during those years. Sometimes there were conflicts to be sure, but it has been so rewarding to see the University progress and advance, whether you measure that by subjective evaluation yourself or whether you do it by external rankings. When we consider the academic quality of our students, the reputation of our wonderful teaching faculty and staff, the provision of the services to the students that come here, the dramatically and ever improving facilities that are here, clearly Illinois State University is continuing its deeply rooted tradition of excellence and it is reaching ever higher plateaus. And under President Bowman's excellent leadership, I know it is going to continue to rise and soar. I have little doubt with my experience with all of you wonderful trustees, that you will continue to do what you have always done and that is lead by commitment and example.

I want to say a few thank yous. President Wallace and Vice President Kern and Lois Mills and Parker Lawless talked me into this thing and I want to thank them for that. Governor Thompson's office was instrumental in my appointment, which was consummated by Governor Edgar, and I also have enjoyed the confidence of Governors Ryan and Blagojevich. To all of the legislators that have cared about Illinois State University – I think back and obviously John Maitland was awfully important to us. Gordy Ropp even in the early days of the Board of Regents was important, but John Maitland and Dan Rutherford and certainly Dan and Bill Brady – two fine ladies on the Senate side, Pam Althoff and Evelyn Bowles with whom I dealt, as well as Representative Jay Hoffman and Art Turner and Gary Hannig. I said the other night that nobody has a right to expect them to do your bidding, but we do have a right to an open ear and we have had wonderful open ears from legislators. And in that regard let me just say kudos to Phil Adams who works hard everyday developing that climate that lets those ears get open. Phil I have appreciated you and I want to thank you for saving me from falling on my own sword several times trying to help.

I want to say thanks to Bill Sulaski whose friendship I value dearly and we have been through some struggles together and, Bill, you were a wonderful friend then and a wonderful Board chair and I value that very much. I want to say thanks to Tom Andes and to Jack Huggins and to Nancy Froelich and to Diane Glenn and to Jaime Flores and certainly to Stan Ommen, Joanne Maitland, Jay Bergman, Anne Davis and Betty Kinser and Mike McCuskey. You know it is true that not a single decision made by this Board has ever split among party lines – that was so when Bill was chair also. That means a lot to everybody.

To all of the 15 student regents and trustees with whom I have served. Each one of them have been terrific and certainly you, Ryan, have been the epitome of what a student trustee should be.

To my friend Carol Posegate for her diligent and wonderful service to me and our Board over these years as we have tried to keep everything legal and appropriate – thank you for all of your advice and help.

To all of the Presidents – Wallace, Strand, Boschini and certainly President Bowman for your outstanding leadership, guidance and support. To all the Vice Presidents and department chairs and faculty members who have been so kind about showing me the processes here. Particularly the current vice presidents – Dianne, Steve, Jan and Steve and Cheryl Elzy and Sheahon Zenger – thanks to all of you for what you have done for me.

To all the members of the Academic Senate – you know everybody always talked about the natural rubbing and tension between the Academic Senate and the Board, and to be sure there were some early on but I want to say to them and to the Civil Service and Administrative Professional Councils – you have represented your constituencies very well but you have never forgotten the central core and the best interest of this institution.

To the thousands of students that come here to think, analyze, write and learn and develop – I say thanks for your consistent loyalty to this University. To all of faculty who were caring and encouraging to me forty years ago and to my children in the 1990s. Thank you.

To all the Redbird alumni, some 168,000 strong across the world, who continue to carry that red and white banner I say thanks for what you do to support your university – particularly the Alumni Board. To all of the judges who have probably got tired of hearing that I needed a continuance to get here but everyone of them always had an appreciation for that and to all of you who in any manner helped me and supported me and I probably have missed some categories, but I didn't intend to.

Finally, to my family – my wife Donna who has given up part of her life so we could be here on many occasions. We intend to be here at the University as much as we can and you will no doubt see us lurking in the shadows somewhere if you look closely enough. We do cherish the friendships that are here and have always been here – thanks for the honor and privilege for letting us serve.

Trustee Ommen: Chairperson Kasten, I now turn the meeting back over to you to close us out one last time.

Chairperson Kasten: I would now entertain a motion to move into Executive Session for the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees pursuant to 5ILCS, Section 120/2 (c)(1); collective negotiating matters between the University and its employees, 5ILCS, Section 120/2 (c)(2); litigation which has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, as allowed in 5ILCS, Section 120/2 (c)(11); and the purchase or lease of real property as allowed in 5ILCS, Section 120/2 (c)(5). Is there a motion? Trustee Kinser and seconded by Trustee Davis. Motion made, seconded and vote recorded as all members present voting aye.

We will now move into Executive Session. At the close of Executive Session, the Board will reconvene in public session only for the purpose of adjournment.

At 12:05 p.m. a motion to return to public session for the purpose of adjournment was made by Trustee Ommen and seconded by Trustee Davis. The vote by roll call was unanimous. At 12:06 p.m. the meeting was adjourned. Motion to adjourn was made by Trustee Cekander and seconded by Trustee McCuskey. The vote by roll call was unanimous.