

Campus Communication Committee: Feb 15, 2008 Board of Trustees Meeting

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.

Founder’s 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 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.

