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March 30, 2020

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Ms. Libby Cat

The Chair asked that General Counsel Crater speak to the Open Meetings Act variation the Board was operating under pursuant to Governor Pritzker's directive. Mr. Crater reviewed that the Open Meetings Act requires a meeting of a public body must have a quorum physically present at the same time or by videoconference or teleconference.

positive and other students under quarantine in residential halls. He requested the Board of Trustees refund monies to students for housing and close the residential halls at the campus.

Dr. David Johnson, president, SIUC Faculty Association, thanked the Board for meeting to help ensure that SIU treats its students fairly as the COVID-19 crisis unfolds. He recommended that SIU move quickly to refund fees for any services students are not able to use while campus is closed. He recommended planning for longer-term impacts of COVID-19. He offered that the Faculty Association stands ready to be a partner in helping SIUC meet the challenges.

Ms. Lauren Bartlow expressed concern about whether a partial amount of lab fees would be waived since the students are not able to attend the labs and use the lab supplies and equipment.

Mr. Elius Reed inquired whether former SIUC students or alumni would be allowed to use the SIU Morris Library computers, scanner, and other library services.

In addition, Mr. Reed reviewed that in June 2000, and March 2001, public hearings were conducted at the Eurma Hayes Center by SIUC Chancellor John Jackson, SIUC Associate Chancellor For Diversity Seymour Bryson, and other SIUC officials to create a dialogue with the Carbondale northeast community African American residents concerning reasons affecting their lack of participation in the SIUC Civil Service hiring process. A recommendation was made to re-invigorate the SIUC Civil Service learner, trainee, and apprentice learner programs with the goal of increasing diversity. He provided information received from his March 2020 Freedom of Information Act request regarding the ethnicity of employees holding SIUC tenured faculty positions and SIUC

Civil Service job positions. Mr. Reed reviewed that the *Daily Egyptian* reported in March 2020 that SIU President Daniel Mahony began his presidency of the SIU System on March 2, 2020, by signing the CEO Action for Diversity and Inclusion Pledge. He inquired whether President Mahony could provide assistance in having a 2020 Civil Service Employment Workshop conducted at the Eurma Hayes Center.

Ms. Lisa Johnson inquired whether any refund decision would also apply to the SIU Medical School.

The following item was presented:

AUTHORIZATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DELEGATION FOR REFUNDS

Summary

This matter presents for approval authorization to allow the President of Southern Illinois University to make decisions and take all actions necessary and relative to refunding student fees and charges due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Rationale for Adoption

On March 9, 2020, the Governor of Illinois issued a Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation in response to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic and to mitigate its effects. Governor Pritzker has also issued numerous Executive Orders to mitigate and minimize the spread of COVID-19 and help ensure the health and safety of residents and visitors. Likewise, Southern Illinois University has taken many steps to facilitate the health and well-being of its campus communities, which is a top priority for the University.

Particularly, in response to the continuing spread of COVID-19, the institutions of Southern Illinois University extended their previously scheduled spring breaks by an additional week and have subsequently modified courses to provide for online or alternative format learning options for the remainder of the Spring 2020 semester. In turn, because most students will not be on campus, Southern Illinois University is considering steps to refund portions of certain fees and charges related to the Spring 2020 semester.

Pursuant to applicable Board of Trustees

President Mahony noted this type of action has taken place with some other Illinois institutions recently. There will be some money available to the universities from the federal government, but there will be a number of decisions to make over the next several weeks and months about certain fee refunds. The President planned to keep the Board informed about the process, but the

pass/fail grade option to students for the spring semester. He spoke of the team effort coordinating with the Jackson County Department of Health and the School of Medicine. Students would receive a survey regarding commencement options. His office had been working with the Faculty Senate and Faculty Association about extending the tenure clock for those faculty who need it.

Chair Gilbert inquired how many students were staying on the campuses at the present time. Chancellor Dunn reported about 350 students were at SIUC. Chancellor Pembroke reported 325 to 350 students were at SIUE. The Chair inquired how SIUE students on campus were receiving their meals. Chancellor Pembroke responded that most students were staying in Cougar Village apartments with their own cooking facilities. Dining Services was preparing and delivering meals to those students.

Trustee Sharma inquired about what fees would be refunded. President Mahony responded that the University was prepared to move more quickly to refund a portion of campus housing and dining fees. Some other fees were more complicated, and the receipt of emergency grants and student fundraising were factors for consideration. Chancellor Pembroke provided an example for parking fees that the campus parking cycle was from September to August so it was not yet known what funds may be refunded for parking.

Trustee Sharma moved to approve the item. The motion was duly seconded by Trustee Tedrick. The motion carried by the following recorded vote: aye, Mr. Ed Curtis, Hon. Phil Gilbert, Dr. Ed Hightower, Dr. Brione Lockett, Ms. Mackenzie Rogers, Dr. Subhash Sharma, Ms. Amy Sholar, Mr. John Simmons, Mr. Roger Tedrick; nay, none.

Chair Gilbert reported he and Vice Chair Hightower had been in near constant contact with President Mahony, and he thanked the President for the leadership he had given the SIU system.

President Mahony reviewed that he was holding system phone calls if not daily, several times per week, to make sure they were making decisions in a thoughtful way. In addition, the President reported that he participated in regular teleconferences with other Illinois presidents for the purpose of idea sharing. He reported that SIU employees and student workers were continuing to be paid even when they could not work from home due to the nature of their job, limiting the number of people on campus. He noted there were a number of efforts of SIU employees across the system who were helping support the state in the COVID-19 crisis. He thanked the University's faculty and staff for quickly moving courses online for the students. The President noted that School of Medicine faculty were serving on the front line during COVID-19, and other units were assisting in various ways. The President thanked students for being flexible and listening to advice, and he thanked the leadership at each location to prioritize students. President Mahony reported that some advocated for complete closures of the campuses, but discussed that not all students had safe places to go with food or internet access and considerations were made because each student situation was different.

Chair Gilbert requested that President Mahony and Executive Director of Governmental and Public Affairs John Charles provide an update for what the SIU system is doing for Governor Pritzker and legislators. President Mahony noted that a phone call was held with legislators two weeks earlier, and they would work to provide the synopsis by the end of the day.

Chancellor Pembroke observed the flexibility of faculty, staff, and students was amazing to adjust to in only two weeks. He reviewed that in addition to the National Corn-to-Ethanol Research Center working toward ramping up production of hand sanitizer, the campus was approached to do COVID testing, and was approached by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for planning. Further, the Chancellor reported that the prior Monday was the beginning of the summer and fall registration period, and the campus received 90 percent of normal registration within the first few days. He noted the campus was tracking bottom-line costs for COVID efforts to share with state and federal bodies when requested. Chancellor Pembroke noted the administration was working with the Faculty Association regarding the option of using pass/fail grades for some courses and grades A through F for other courses to provide flexibility for the students.

Chancellor Dunn thanked President Mahony and Chancellor Pembroke for coordination, and he was pleased with the team effort.

Dean Kruse noted collaboration and teamwork within the SIU system and with state, and hospital partners. He reported the School of Medicine's focus changed mainly for caring for its patients first due to COVID-19. He reported they had worked well with Southern Illinois Healthcare in the Carbondale region, Blessing Health System in west central Illinois, and most specifically a great team in Springfield with Memorial Health System, HSHS St. John's Hospital, Springfield Clinic, and the Sangamon County Health Department. The Dean reported collaboration with government officials of the state including communications with members of the Governor's Office, and on a federal level with Congressmen Rodney Davis and Darin LaHood. The Dean spoke of shortages of

personal protective equipment and that organizations had stepped up, and the government had started to step up to secure more equipment. Dean Kruse praised Dr. Harry Lausen and his response team who worked with others in the area to get to the level of preparedness. He noted that elective surgeries had been stopped, office visits were reduced, and virtual contacts had expanded. Clinical employees were down to 50 percent working on a rotating basis. The Dean spoke of efforts of School of Medicine employees assisting a researcher laboratory when it wanted to add a second shift. Dean Kruse noted the first and second year medical students and physician assistant students

Trustee Lockett made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was duly seconded by Trustee Simmons. The motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Misty D. Whittington, Executive Secretary