

AGENDA ITEM 9B1

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF COLLEGE ILLINOIS!® PREPAID TUITION PROGRAM INVESTMENT ADVISORY PANEL MEMBER

Submitted for: Action

Summary: The Illinois Student Assistance Commission administers the College Illinois! Prepaid Tuition Program (the “Program”) pursuant to authority granted under the Illinois Prepaid Tuition Act, 110 ILCS 979/1 *et seq.* (the “Act”). The Act requires the Commission to appoint a seven (7) member Investment Advisory Panel. The Investment Advisory Panel’s duties include:

- (1) offering advice and counsel to the Commission regarding Program investments with the objective of obtaining the best possible return on investments consistent with actuarial soundness of the Program;
- (2) annually reviewing and advising the Commission on the Program’s Statement of Investment Policy; and
- (3) reviewing and advising the Commission with regard to the annual report that describes the current financial condition of the Program.

Of the Investment Panel’s seven members, one (1) is recommended by each of the following: State Treasurer, State Comptroller, Director of Governor’s Office of Management and Budget (GOMB), and Executive Director of the Board of Higher Education. The Commission is responsible to appoint all seven Investment Advisory Panel members, four recommended as described above and the remaining three that are selected by the Commission. Each panel representative serves a three (3) year term. The Act requires each panel member to possess knowledge, skill and experience in at least one of the following areas of expertise: accounting, actuarial practice, risk management or investment management.

Ms. Karen Kissel has agreed to continue serving on the Investment Advisory Panel and has been recommended to be reappointed by the Board of Higher Education. ISAC staff also recommends her reappointment. She has served on the Panel since July 2011 and has provided valuable assistance during her tenure. A summary of her biography follows.

Karen Kissel has over twenty years of experience in accounting and finance in private industry and public and private higher education. In 2018, Karen broadened her career by joining Haymarket Center in Chicago, Illinois as their Senior Executive Vice President. Prior to her recent move Karen was employed by Elmhurst College in Elmhurst, Illinois as Vice President for

Finance and Administration and Chief Financial Officer. Her responsibilities included executive level direction and management of Budget and Financial Planning and Administrative Services, including Financial Services and Business Operations, Human Resources, Auxiliary Services, Financial Aid, Facility Operations and Capital Projects, and Public Safety. Kissel also served as a member of the President's Cabinet and the college Advisory Council for Strategic Planning.

Kissel's background also includes Vice President for Finance and Administration at Governors State University in University Park, IL. Preceding her career in higher education in 2005, Kissel was the Senior Manager of Financial Analysis for Havi Global Solutions (HGS) in Downers Grove, IL. She reported directly to the Vice President of Financial Analysis and Strategy where she implemented financial modeling for key business units and led their domestic and international strategic planning process. After graduating college, Kissel was a Senior Financial Analyst for Trans Union Corporation in Chicago, IL.

Kissel earned a B.B.A with a concentration in Accounting from Saint Mary's College of Notre Dame in 1991, an M.B.A. from the University of Notre Dame in 2004 and a certificate from Harvard University in Management Leadership in Education.

Upon the approval of Ms. Kissel reappointment to serve on the Investment Advisory Panel, the makeup of the panel is described below:

| NAME | RECOMMENDING ORGANIZATION | TERM EXPIRATION |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jeanna Cullins | Commission | 11/19/2020 |
| Louis Paster | Commission | 11/19/2020 |
| Janice Reedus | GOMB | 11/19/2020 |
| James Hibbert | Commission | 11/19/2021 |
| Chasse Rehwinkel | State Comptroller | 11/19/2021 |
| Karen Kissel | Board of Higher Ed. | 11/19/2022 |

Action requested:

That the Commission approve the reappointment of Ms. Karen Kissel (recommended by the Illinois Board of Higher Education) to the College Illinois! Investment Advisory Panel for a term expiring November 19, 2022.

AGENDA ITEM 9B2

APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT OF COLLEGE ILLINOIS!® PREPAID TUITION PROGRAM INVESTMENT ADVISORY PANEL MEMBER

Submitted for: Action

Summary: The Illinois Student Assistance Commission administers the College Illinois! Prepaid Tuition Program (the “Program”) pursuant to authority granted under the Illinois Prepaid Tuition Act, 110 ILCS 979/1 *et seq.* (the “Act”). The Act requires the Commission to appoint a seven (7) member Investment Advisory Panel. The Investment Advisory Panel’s duties include:

- (1) offering advice and counsel to the Commission regarding Program investments with the objective of obtaining the best possible return on investments consistent with actuarial soundness of the Program;
- (2) annually reviewing and advising the Commission on the Program’s Statement of Investment Policy; and
- (3) reviewing and advising the Commission with regard to the annual report that describes the current financial condition of the Program.

Of the Investment Panel’s seven members, one (1) is recommended by each of the following: State Treasurer, State Comptroller, Director of Governor’s Office of Management and Budget (GOMB), and Executive Director of the Board of Higher Education. The Commission is responsible to appoint all seven Investment Advisory Panel members, four recommended as described above and the remaining three that are selected by the Commission. Each panel representative serves a three (3) year term. The Act requires each panel member to possess knowledge, skill and experience in at least one of the following areas of expertise: accounting, actuarial practice, risk management or investment management.

On July 29, 2019 we received a resignation letter from **Steven Powell**, a member of the College Illinois Investment Advisory Panel since July 2017, whose term was set to expire on November 19, 2019. We are grateful to Mr. Powell for the valuable assistance provided during his tenure and wishing him the best in future endeavors.

Consequently, ISAC staff reached out to the Illinois State Treasurer’s Office requesting a recommendation to replace Mr. Powell. The State Treasurer recommended **Rodrigo Garcia** as a replacement for Mr. Powell as a member of the College Illinois Investment Advisory Panel. The appointment of Mr. Garcia is expected to cover both the remaining term of

Mr. Powell that runs through November 19, 2019 as well as the new three-year term that would begin on November 20, 2019 and runs through November 19, 2022. ISAC staff also recommends his appointment. Mr. Garcia is Chief Investment Officer and Deputy Treasurer for the Treasurer's Office. A summary of his biography follows.

Rodrigo Garcia is deputy state treasurer and chief investment officer for Illinois State Treasurer Michael W. Frerichs. In this role, he directs the treasury's combined \$32 billion investment portfolio, \$300 billion in related banking operations and financial services, and a ~\$4 billion agency budget and financial reporting unit. From leveraging impact investments to integrating sustainability factors into portfolios to promoting equity, diversity & inclusion, he aims to maximize investment returns and bolster the Illinois macro and micro economy.

Rodrigo was previously the Director of the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs and a member of the Illinois Cabinet, and has also worked for Morgan Stanley & Co., Inc. and the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago. Rodrigo holds an undergraduate degree with a major in finance from Northeastern Illinois University, two post-graduate degrees, one with a focus in finance from the University of Illinois and one with a focus in public policy from Northwestern University, and has also completed a senior executives program at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. He is a Certified Treasury Professional (CTP®), an Accredited Investment Fiduciary (AIF®), and holds SASB's FSA credential.

Rodrigo serves on the executive committee and chairs the investment committee for Northeastern Illinois University Foundation, serves on the investment committee for the Youth Guidance/Becoming a Man endowment, serves on the board of directors for The Thirty Percent Coalition and is the chairman emeritus of Student Veterans of America. He is also a Marshall Memorial Fellow, an ACPYL Fellow, a Chicago Council on Global Affairs Emerging Leader, a U.S./Mexico Leaders Fellow, a Truman Partner and an Atlantic Council Millennium Leadership Fellow. He has also been named one of the "Top 100 under 50" Executive Leaders by Diversity MBA Magazine and was recognized as a "Rising Star" by the National Society of Hispanic MBA's. Rodrigo is a Fellow of the 2019 class of the Aspen Global Finance Leaders Fellowship and a member of the Aspen Global Leadership Network.

He is an avid entrepreneur, a successful financier, and an angel investor.

Upon the approval of Mr. Garcia’s appointment to serve on the Investment Advisory Panel, the makeup of the panel is described below:

| NAME | RECOMMENDING ORGANIZATION | TERM EXPIRATION |
|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Jeanna Cullins | Commission | 11/19/2020 |
| Louis Paster | Commission | 11/19/2020 |
| Janice Reedus | GOMB | 11/19/2020 |
| James Hibbert | Commission | 11/19/2021 |
| Chasse Rehwinkel | State Comptroller | 11/19/2021 |
| Karen Kissel | Board of Higher Ed. | 11/19/2022 |
| Rodrigo Garcia | State Treasurer | 11/19/2022 |

Action requested: That the Commission approve the appointment of Mr. Rodrigo Garcia (recommended by the State Treasurer) to the College Illinois! Investment Advisory Panel for the remaining term expiring November 19, 2019 as well as approve his reappointment for a term expiring November 19, 2022.