February 16, 2022

H. Steven Sims, Professor, Department of Otolaryngology, College of Medicine, co-chair
R. Joy Vergara, Executive Director, Center for Student Involvement, co-chair
Ummesalmah (Salmah) Abdulbaseer, President, Health Professions Student Council
Kate Floros, Clinical Assistant Professor, Dept. of Political Science; UIC Senate Representative
Aaron Gottlieb, Assistant Professor, Jane Addams College of Social Work
Jennifer Jackson, Assistant Professor and Undergraduate Engagement Coordinator, University Libraries
Fredrick "TJ" Joshua, President, Student Bar Association
Melissa Macero, President, Graduate Student Council
William McCarty, Associate Professor, Department of Criminology, Law, and Justice
Lavleen Mal, UIC Student Trustee, University of Illinois Board of Trustees
Belva Miles, Clinical/Counseling Psychologist, Office of Student Affairs
Jacob Mueller, Assistant Vice Chancellor and Chief of Staff, Office of the Vice Chancellor for Diversity, Equity and Engagement
Malik Nevels, Executive Project Manager, Safer Foundation
Anshu Nidamanuri, President, Undergraduate Student Government
Nancy Plax, Director of Community Outreach, Connecting4Communities
Kim D. Ricardo, Professor and Director, UIC JMLS, JD Program, Curricular
Annette Wright, Associate Dean of Students, Office of Student Affairs

Dear members of the UIC community,

I write to ask you to serve during the 2022-2023 Academic Year on the UIC Public Safety Board, co-chaired by R. Joy Vergara and H. Steven Sims. This Board, comprised of faculty, staff, students and community members will meet at least once a month with John Coronado, Vice Chancellor for Administrative Services (VCAS), and Kevin Booker, Chief of the UIC Police Department. You will also meet with me, at least once per semester, to provide recommendations about issues related to public safety at UIC, especially viewed from a perspective of racial equity and social justice.

During its regular meetings with the VCAS and the Chief of Police, the Board will focus on the following issues:

- Review of UIC Police Department policies and procedures, especially of those related to use of force, de-escalation protocols and training of the police officers;
- Review of UIC Police Department responses to any major incidents;
- Review of UIC Police Department communication practices and policies;
- Review of complaints filed against UIC Police Department personnel and the outcomes of the corresponding investigations;
- Review of externally contracted private security firms’ practices and policies;
- Explore new and alternative strategies for crisis response.
I hope you will accept my invitation to serve on this Board. I’m confident that the resulting recommendations, based on the collective experience of the Board members, will reflect the core values of our community and help us improve the public safety on campus.

Thank you for your consideration and for your commitment to a secure environment for all.

Sincerely,

Michael Amiridis
Chancellor