



Illinois Ethics Matters

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Honesty, Integrity, Service

A newsletter from the Office of Executive Inspector General for the Agencies
of the Illinois Governor

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Recent News

- On May 31, 2019, the Illinois Senate confirmed the appointment of **Susan M. Haling** as Executive Inspector General for the term ending on June 30, 2023.
- The OEIG is pleased to announce that **Dana O’Leary** recently began as the Director of External Compliance & Outreach, and the promotions of **Lisa McDonald** to Intake Investigator and **Debbie Yang** to Executive Administrative Assistant.

SIU President Mismanaged Hires of Chancellor’s Family Members



The Executive Ethics Commission recently released an OEIG report about hiring improprieties at Southern Illinois

University Carbondale (SIUC).

The OEIG investigation revealed that former SIUC President Dr. Randy Dunn improperly negotiated the hiring of incoming SIUC Chancellor Dr. Carlo Montemagno’s daughter and son-in-law, as well as violated the applicable hiring procedures. The OEIG also found that Dr. Dunn violated SIUC hiring procedures when hiring a Vice President of Academic Affairs.

In addition to findings against Dr. Dunn, the OEIG found that the former Chair of the SIUC Board, Randal Thomas, did not sufficiently oversee the hiring process for Dr. Montemagno’s daughter and son-in-law. SIUC also failed to maintain acceptable candidate lists for certain appointments.

In response to the report, SIUC did not proceed with a planned hire for Dr. Dunn at the Edwardsville campus after he had left the President position. Mr. Thomas was not reappointed to the Board. SIUC implemented numerous changes to its hiring procedures.

A copy of the report, [*In re: Randy Dunn, Randal Thomas, and Southern Illinois University Carbondale \(Case #17-02333\)*](#), is available on the OEIG website.

CMS Leasing Investigation

The OEIG investigated the procurement process for two leases by the Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS). The OEIG investigation focused on whether the award of those leases complied with the Procurement Code and whether one was improperly awarded because of the influence of William Cellini, who was statutorily prohibited from doing business with the State.

The OEIG found that CMS awarded the leases in contravention of the Procurement Code when it “swapped” the leases between two prior offers instead of soliciting new proposals when the criteria for each had changed. As a result, the process lacked transparency and the leases were not competitively bid based on those changed criteria. Although the OEIG did not find sufficient evidence to conclude that Mr. Cellini was improperly involved, it noted his presence on e-mail correspondence during a transaction involving a bidder in which his son-in-law had an ownership interest. The OEIG also found that a CMS employee, Irvin “Chip” Smith, improperly communicated confidential pricing information.

A copy of the report, together with responses to the report, are available on the OEIG website: [*In re: CMS et al. \(Case #17-00626\)*](#).