

APPOINTMENT DETAILS — MAY 2024

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Discovery Partners Institute
University of Illinois System**



UNIVERSITY
OF ILLINOIS
SYSTEM

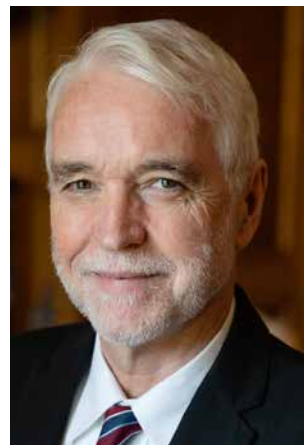


DISCOVERY
PARTNERS
INSTITUTE

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Candidate,

Leading the Discovery Partners Institute presents an extraordinary and unparalleled opportunity in academia for a visionary leader who can harness the boundless potential of DPI to achieve impactful contributions to our universities, our region, and internationally. Drawing on the strength of a vast and vibrant system of universities, DPI collaborates with emerging and established companies and a diverse spectrum of communities and people that contribute to the vitality and advancement of Chicago and Illinois.



In October of 2017, I joined the governor of Illinois in announcing plans for the Discovery Partners Institute. Our vision was quite simply to be a magnet for the most ambitious talent the world has to offer and a driver of inclusive economic development locally and globally. Through the hard work of DPI's fantastic colleagues, as well as partners across the University of Illinois System and beyond, DPI has established itself as a vital hub for applied research and development, business building, and talent development. This summer marks an exciting milestone for DPI as we break ground on our new headquarters, which will anchor "The 78" - Chicago's newest neighborhood.

We are excited to recruit a new executive director who will lead and accelerate DPI's growth and success. This is an extremely critical position at a seminal time for an organization that will be leading the charge for the betterment of Chicago, the nation, and indeed the world. We are seeking an ambitious leader capable of rallying the University of Illinois System and the Illinois Innovation Network and excited by the prospect of tackling the grand challenges of our time.

If you're ready to join DPI's expert team and its international network of partners to steward DPI into its bright future, we look forward to receiving your application. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Timothy Killeen". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Timothy Killeen
President, University of Illinois System

ABOUT DPI

The executive director will serve as a driving force, to propel the Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) to successfully fulfill its mission and vision to **create unparalleled economic prosperity for all Illinois citizens**. DPI's objectives will promote economic growth and cultivate an inclusive economic renaissance that spans the State of Illinois through its core programs of K-adult **talent development, applied research, and business development**. Core to that success is DPI's commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion, ensuring that its transformative power is woven throughout its programs. Further, DPI partners with academia, industry, and governmental and community organizations locally, regionally, and globally to build programs with impact. **DPI's goal is to create a global center of innovation so capable and inclusive it becomes a model for the world.**

ABOUT DPI

Milestones

- Inspired by a vision for the future, President Tim Killeen joined the Illinois governor in announcing **plans for DPI in 2017**.
- The **state funded DPI** and the Illinois Innovation Network with \$500 million for capital projects in 2018.
- DPI was **officially established in 2019** as an institute of the University of Illinois System.
- In 2020, the **Pritzker Foundation donated \$10 million** for the Tech Talent Labs.
- In 2022, DPI won a **Chicago Innovation Award** for its work in wastewater. The science team traveled to New York City to ring the Nasdaq bell in 2023.

- DPI's **new headquarters** is planned for groundbreaking in 2024. The new headquarters will allow DPI to scale its programs significantly.



- DPI works to establish and grow collaborative partnerships that address **grand challenges** through applied research, entrepreneurship, and talent development for the next-generation workforce.
- DPI aims to **build a thriving community**, fuel ventures, pioneer solutions, and transform lives.

Mission

- Our mission is to establish and grow collaborative partnerships that address grand challenges through applied research, entrepreneurship, and talent development for the next-generation workforce.

Vision

- DPI envisions a world that is more inclusive, healthy, sustainable, and prosperous by unlocking the full potential of people and ideas.

Our Goals for the Next Decade

7,000+

Students primed for tech jobs in Illinois

3,000+

Individuals from underrepresented backgrounds entering the tech sector

DOZENS

of start-ups and corporate innovation centers

\$3B+

in economic impact

ABOUT DPI

Approach



Applied R&D

- DPI funds researchers and science teams to explore solutions to real-world problems.
- Team findings inform policymakers, and team innovations inform new business development.



Business building

- DPI partners with scientists, institutions, and companies to build businesses.
- DPI provides assessment, evaluation, negotiation, access to capital, and talent identification.



Tech talent development

- DPI's Pritzker Tech Talent Labs programs cultivate diverse tech talents from K-12 to the workforce.
- The programs offer teacher certification programs, internships, and workforce education programs.



President Killeen is on screen in Hamburg, Germany, announcing a partnership between DPI and DESY, a national accelerator lab in Germany.

Partnerships

- DPI collaborates globally with partners in academia and industry, with national laboratories and local school systems.
- DPI has local and global impact by working with communities locally and worldwide through its extensive network of partners.
- As DPI is a part of the University of Illinois System, it leverages and elevates its three universities by collaborating with its 94,700 students, renowned faculty, and those universities' networks of partners in all 102 counties in Illinois and most every corner of the world.

Supporters

- DPI receives support from federal, state, and regional agencies as well as organizations such as Allstate Foundation, Amazon, Apple, Google Chicago, and John Deere.

Highlights

\$70.4M

in research grants received since inception.

82

faculty members reached, 52 invention disclosures filed, and 3 new ventures formed in 2023.

750

students

200

teachers

in DPI's educational programs in 2023.

ABOUT DPI

“ Once again, Illinois is affirming our position as the future of technology and manufacturing in the U.S. through our uniquely powerful combination of public-private partnerships, equity-centered development, and educational investments. DPI’s headquarters will be a central hub of research and development that will attract bright minds and new businesses to Chicago and Illinois.”

Illinois Governor JB Pritzker



ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SYSTEM



The University of Illinois System is driven to achieve excellence at scale. Our innovative, diverse, globally engaged citizens and leaders enrich our culture and society, create prosperity, and serve the public good. New breakthroughs from our universities foster economic growth and solve society's biggest challenges. Combined, the three universities in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago, and Springfield bring resources, capabilities, and drive that are greater than the sum of their parts — it is altogether extraordinary.

We attract the nation's most talented students with hundreds of undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs, many of them ranked among the best in the United States. We are the state's largest system of higher education, with more than 94,700 students. In addition to our three main campuses, the U of I System has regional campuses, the UI Health hospital and clinics, research facilities, and Extension offices throughout the state. The U of I System also leads the development of the Discovery Partners Institute, an interdisciplinary research institute, the System's hub for the Illinois Innovation Network, and a driver of inclusive economic development at scale.

ABOUT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS SYSTEM



The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

With a land-grant heritage as a foundation, UIUC's comprehensive research portfolio pioneers innovation that tackles global challenges and expands the human experience. With 55k students in 250+ programs, transformative learning experiences, in and out of the classroom, are designed to produce alumni who regularly have a significant, societal impact and indeed have started many globally recognized companies. For more information, visit the [U of I Urbana-Champaign website](#).



The University of Illinois Chicago

UIC is the largest university in one of the world's most vibrant cities. UIC is an acclaimed research institution with 16 colleges and schools dedicated to the discovery and dissemination of knowledge. As one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse universities in the country, UIC's welcoming environment gives students the chance to study, work and grow with classmates who broaden their perspectives and worldview. With 34k+ students and world-class faculty, UIC is a minority serving institution that provides both excellence and access. For more information, visit [UIC's website](#).



The University of Illinois Springfield

Located in our state's capital, provides a uniquely student-centered educational experience both in and out of the classroom through active learning, meaningful research, and impactful civic engagement that prepares graduates to contribute fully to society. UIS is a pathway to opportunity, a catalyst for change and a space of possibility where learners become ethical and passionate scholars, leaders, and citizens capable of transforming their local and global communities. For more information, visit [UIS's website](#).

ABOUT THE ILLINOIS INNOVATION NETWORK

The Illinois Innovation Network (IIN) drives inclusive and integrated economic development across Illinois through research and innovation. It is comprised of a coalition of 15 university-community-industry-based hubs across the state, closely aligned with all 12 of the public universities in Illinois, that work together to drive innovation along with economic and workforce development. For more information, visit us online at [Illinois Innovation Network](#).



Some quick facts about IIN:

\$70.4M

15 hubs across Illinois, including one at each public university and the Discovery Partners Institute

\$500M+

from the State of Illinois to build and renovate IIN facilities

48,000

anticipated new jobs in the first 10 years after completion of construction of hub facilities

10

regionally focused Broadband READY planning teams organized through a partnership with Illinois Office of Broadband

- Statewide research conferences focusing on sustainability and environmental issues
- Closely aligned with the state's Department of Commerce and Economic Development driving economic development across the state, in rural, urban, and peri-urban areas
- Collaborators on some of the largest initiatives in Illinois and the mid-west in quantum, AI, electric vehicles, advanced manufacturing, and the hydrogen economy



POSITION PROFILE

The executive director of Discovery Partners Institute (DPI) oversees all aspects of the institute including articulation and communication of the DPI vision and strategy, and the development of the operations necessary to achieve that vision. The executive director will oversee staff hiring; budget development, fundraising, and philanthropy; real estate management; corporate and institutional partnerships; and collaboration with regional leaders. This position also partners with the vice president for economic development and innovation in developing and coordinating other hubs in the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN). DPI operates as an executive office of the president within the University of Illinois System and a hub within the IIN.

The executive director reports to system president, Tim Killeen, and works closely with the system vice presidents as well as the chancellors, provosts, vice chancellors, deans, and research and innovation leaders of all three universities (UIUC, UIC, and UIS). This role manages over 120 personnel and affiliates, and an increasing number of local, regional, and global partners. The executive director communicates the value proposition of DPI to university faculty and community and corporate leaders to achieve engagement by and enhancement of all involved with DPI.

POSITION PROFILE



Duties and Responsibilities

- Drive DPI's vision of equitable economic development at scale with local, regional, and global impact.
- Articulate an inspiring strategic vision for DPI in collaboration with the Office of the President, the system vice presidents, university chancellors, and the DPI partners.
- Expand the DPI strategy and vision into scalable programs and activities that elevate our universities and partners and that transform lives and the economy.
- Develop impactful regional and global engagement with corporate partnerships.
- Build strong connections with underrepresented communities and engage them in the DPI mission.
- Communicate the mission, vision, and value proposition of DPI for the faculty and leadership at all three of the System universities, as well as with local and international academic partners.
- Oversee all aspects of the institute including, people management, affiliate faculty engagement, driving growth and impact, cultivating partnerships with industry, finances, innovation district development, and inclusive economic development.
- Drive DPI-related fundraising activities to meet the operational and capital needs of DPI.
- Serve as DPI's external representative in public engagements, including but not limited to all three university campuses.
- Assist the vice president for economic development and innovation in developing and coordinating with other hubs in the Illinois Innovation Network.
- Work closely with the University of Illinois System executive leadership team, the chancellors, provosts, vice chancellors, deans, as well as research and innovation leaders of all three of our universities.

POSITION PROFILE



Knowledge and Experience Required

- A record of outcomes sufficient to drive inclusive economic development at scale.
- A demonstrated passion for the development of talent, advancement of knowledge through applied research, building of new businesses, and growth of an impactful innovation ecosystem.
- Proven track record of taking organizations from strategy to execution and operationalization of core functions and competencies.
- The desire and track record to raise funds needed to grow DPI and its impact.
- A history of impactful engagement with civic partners, especially in underrepresented communities.
- A demonstrated commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion as fundamental to building impactful programs.
- Ability to learn and understand the nature and complexity of the University of Illinois System and the opportunities of a university system and its network of partners.
- Highly developed communication and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrated ability to form and lead effective partnerships with varying sectors, including industry partners to generate sustainable workforce outcomes.
- Capacity to work effectively and productively with others and to work in an environment that values shared governance and integrity.
- Demonstrated effective management style to lead large, high-achieving, diverse teams to meet goals while cultivating a culture of teamwork and inclusiveness.
- Bachelor's degree in a related field required. Master's degree, equivalent, or higher preferred.

HOW TO APPLY

To apply, please submit a CV and cover letter, detailing how you fulfill the position profile to **[Perrett Laver's Vacancies page](#)** quoting reference 7286. Applications should be received by ***Sunday, June 9 at 6pm CT*** for full consideration. Nominations and confidential inquiries should be directed to **Corey.Paquette@perrettlaver.com**. The search will be conducted with a commitment of confidentiality for candidates until finalists are selected.

This position will be based in Chicago. The salary range for this position starts at \$390,000 and is commensurate with experience and education.

The University of Illinois System is an equal opportunity employer, including but not limited to disability and/or veteran status, and complies with all applicable state and federal employment mandates. Women, minorities, and persons with disabilities are strongly encouraged to apply. Please visit **[Required Employment Notices and Posters](#)** to view our non-discrimination statement and find additional information about required background checks, sexual harassment/misconduct disclosures, and employment eligibility review through E-Verify.

Applicants with disabilities are encouraged to apply and may request a reasonable accommodation under the Americans with Disabilities Act (2008) to complete the application and/or interview process. Requests may be submitted through the reasonable accommodations portal, or by contacting the System Human Resource Services, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion at 217-333-2600, or by emailing ADAaccessibility@uillinois.edu.

Protecting your personal data is of the utmost importance to Perrett Laver and we take this responsibility very seriously. Any information obtained by our trading divisions is held and processed in accordance with the relevant data protection legislation. The data you provide us with is securely stored on our computerized database and transferred to our clients for the purposes of presenting you as a candidate and/or considering your suitability for a role you have registered interest in.

Perrett Laver is a Data Controller and a Data Processor, as defined under the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). Our legal basis for much of our data processing activity is 'Legitimate Interests'. You have the right to object to us processing your data in this way. For more information about this, your rights, and our approach to Data Protection and Privacy, please see our **[Privacy Statement](#)**.