

University of Illinois President Timothy Killeen Appointed Illinois Science & Technology Coalition and Institute Board Chair

Ten new companies and civic institutions join ISTC membership

CHICAGO – June 24, 2015 – The Illinois Science & Technology Coalition (ISTC), a not-for-profit organization focused on growing the state’s innovation economy, today announced that Timothy L. Killeen, president of the University of Illinois (U of I), will serve as chairman of the organization’s Board of Directors. Killeen, who came to U of I in May of 2015 from the State University of New York (SUNY), replaces outgoing Board Chair Douglas Baker, president of Northern Illinois University.

Additionally, the ISTC announced ten new companies and educational institutions that have joined the organization’s membership: Caterpillar, Chicago Innovation Awards, Danfoss, John Deere, Grainger, Hyatt, Molex, State Farm, UI LABS, and UL (Underwriters Laboratories).

“The ISTC and the University of Illinois share a mission to create and strengthen dynamic partnerships to drive innovation and economic growth across the state of Illinois,” said Killeen. “I am eager for the opportunity to build on the ISTC’s capabilities and help unite research institutions, industry, and civic organizations towards our common goal of making Illinois the absolute go-to place for innovation.”

Killeen was announced as the next system president on Nov. 19, in charge of overseeing the University of Illinois campuses and their multibillion-dollar operating budget. The university’s campuses in Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield, along with smaller regional campuses in Rockford and Peoria, have more than 78,000 students and about 23,500 employees.

He will also serve as Board Chairman of the Illinois Science & Technology Institute, a 501(c)(3) affiliate of the ISTC, focused on the development of Illinois’ STEM talent pipeline.

“Dr. Killeen’s three decades of experience as a researcher and administrator at the university and government agency level, and his enthusiasm in his new role, bring a great energy to the leadership of the ISTC. His mandate at U of I mirrors our core mission to connect research and talent to the marketplace to drive economic growth,” said Mark Harris, president and CEO of the ISTC.

“We are thankful for the leadership of President Baker this past year and look forward to working with our new industry and civic members, many of whom have already contributed significantly to ISTC and ISTI initiatives including the Corporate-Startup Challenge and the R&D STEM Learning Exchange.”

Killeen spent more than 20 years on the faculty and in administration at the University of Michigan, and served as assistant director for geosciences at the National Science Foundation (NSF) before joining the SUNY system as vice chancellor for research in 2012.

A leading researcher in geophysics and space sciences, Killeen earned his Ph.D. in atomic and molecular physics from University College London at the age of 23. In 2007, he was elected to the National Academy of Engineering, which honors the world's most accomplished engineers.

Danfoss, John Deere, Hyatt, Molex, State Farm, and UL have participated in the ISTC's Corporate-Startup Challenge, a matchmaking initiative that connects Illinois' industry leaders with startups and emerging technology firms across the state.

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**About the Illinois Science & Technology Coalition**

*The ISTC is a member-driven, non-profit organization that harnesses the power of research and innovation to grow the state's economy. Created by the State of Illinois more than 25 years ago, the ISTC drives public-private partnerships between industry, research universities, federal labs and government to increase research and technology-based investment, talent, awareness and job growth in Illinois. For more information, visit [www.istcoalition.org](http://www.istcoalition.org).*

**About The Illinois Science and Technology Institute**

*The Illinois Science & Technology Institute (ISTI) is a 501(c)(3) public charity and an affiliated, complementary effort to the Illinois Science & Technology Coalition. The mission of the ISTI is to advance scientific understanding and technological innovation in Illinois through discovery, education, invention, and partnership. For more information, visit [istcoalition.org/illinois-science-and-technology-institute](http://istcoalition.org/illinois-science-and-technology-institute)*

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