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FS Minutes 2010-09-01

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FACULTY SENATE MINUTES
Wednesday, September 1, 2010, 3 p.m.
Holmes Student Center Sky Room

Disclaimer: These minutes should not be taken as a verbatim transcript but rather as a shortened summary that is intended to reflect the essence of statements made at the meeting. Many comments have been omitted and, in some cases, factual and grammatical errors corrected. The full verbatim transcript is available online at the University Council website under Faculty Senate/ Agendas, Minutes & Transcripts.

PRESENT: Armstrong, Arnhart, Bennardo, Bisplinghoff, Bowers, Brandt, Brubaker, Butler, Cappell, Castle, Coles, Collins, Corwin, Cripe, Fischer, Fisher, Freedman, Goldblum, Griffin, Gupta, Haliczzer, Hansen, Henry, B., Henry, P., Houze, Hui, Jeffrey, Kapperman, Kowalski, Lash, Latham, Lusk, Martin, May, Mirman, Monteiro, Newman, Nicolosi, Novak, Pitney, Poole, Rintala, Rosenbaum, A., Rosenbaum, M., Sagarin, Slotsve, Smith, Staikidis, Tonks, Wade, Willis, Yamatgata-Lynch

Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

ABSENT: Allori, Azad, Bishop, Blecksmith, Bujarski, Calmeyer, Cummings, Elish-Piper, Feurer, Finley, Greene, Jaffee, Kostic, Chih-Chen, Lenczewski, Lin, Liu, Marchewka, Mogren, Mohabbat, Moraga, Morris, Prawitz, Shortridge, Snow, Stravers

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Rosenbaum: Called the meeting to order at 3:07 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF [AGENDA](#)

A. Rosenbaum: We have four walk-in items. The walk-in items include the Strategic Plan for Enrollment Management Task Force report from Kerry Freedman, under Item IV, A.; the BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee report under VII, B. That will also be given by Kerry Freedman and not by Ferald Bryan; the BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Subcommittee report from Greg Waas under VII, C; and the BOT report from last May 13 and also the June 23. We also are going to remove two items from the agenda Item, VIII, F-4 and VIII, F-6

Cecil Smith made the motion to approve the agenda; David Wade was second. The agenda was adopted without dissent.

III. APPROVAL OF [MINUTES](#) OF APRIL 21, 2010, FS MEETING

P.Henry made the motion to accept the minutes, Sue Wills seconded

P. Henry: On page 12 where we're talking about academic dishonesty policy, I notice that the University Judicial Office is now changed to the Community Standards and Student Conduct so I think perhaps some blanket change needs to be made.

A. Rosenbaum: That was subsequent to the meeting and the minutes represent what we did at that meeting so anything that's happened since then is not reflected. For the benefit of new members of the Senate, if you happen to be quoted in the minutes, it is advised that you at least look at what you were quoted as saying so you can make sure that it is correct. I also want to make it clear that these minutes are an abridged version of the full transcript. The full transcript of the Senate and the University Council meetings are available online. There were no corrections or additions and the minutes were approved without dissent.

IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Rosenbaum: introduced the Senate to our new Administrative Assistant, Pat Erickson. She comes to us from Media Relations and she is a great addition to the Council and Senate office.

I've been asked by Kathy Buettner to alert you to the new emergency alert system for the University. We already have a system where messages can be texted to you. If you are not enrolled in that system, you can do so from the NIU home page or the emergency website. This emergency page can also be accessed from the NIU home page. At the bottom, there is a link to the emergency information. This is going to be used for things that do not reach the level of text message announcements. Anything that is a significant danger to students, faculty or staff will be texted, but things that are less urgent will be posted on this web site.

She also asked me to call your attention to the new NIU Today feature which replaces Northern Today. That can be accessed again on the home page or by going to www.today.niu.edu and apparently we also have our own You Tube channel where you can watch videos of announcements, meetings; anything that NIU has officially posted to the You Tube channel.

President Peters has asked me to remind you that tomorrow is his State of the University Address. He will deliver this at 3 p.m. in the Altgeld Auditorium and it will also be streamed live. The President tells me he will not dwell on the financial crisis of the past and that he has some important announcements to make about the future of NIU. He's encouraging faculty to either attend or to watch his address.

We now have a Blackboard community for the Faculty Senate. Murali Krishnamurthi generously has approved us for this, free of the customary \$250/year charge. I would encourage you to check it out. Eventually we may post minutes and the agenda on Blackboard. There are also postings there that you might be interested in. For example, a little bit later in the agenda we're going to get to this item on the funding of Intercollegiate Athletics. I have posted a link to the *Inside Higher Education* article that talks about the issue. It is also my intention to eventually open a chat room so that senators can develop threads and converse with each other. The only people who can get into this are members of the Faculty Senate so this is not something that administrators or students can access. It's a work in progress and we'll see if this turns out to be a good way for the Senate to communicate. Any of you who have not been able to get into it or who have not received messages from me, please let Pat know and she will try to enroll you.

S. Willis: asked if an email notice will always accompany a posting.

A. Rosenbaum: initially said no but after some discussion it was decided that new postings would be announced by an email message.

A. Rosenbaum: reminded senators to announce their names each time they speak at senate in order to facilitate the transcription.

A. Rosenbaum: updated the Senate on the library issue from last semester, regarding the disposal of a large number of journals without faculty being informed. The Senate passed a resolution which created a little bit of a stir. It was written up in the *Northern Star*. The Provost stepped in and charged the Library Committee with developing a policy for communication between the library and the faculty and that is going to be addressed this fall. We're keeping an eye on this. I should also tell you that the Math Department actually succeeded in getting their journals back. The Dean of the Library contacted the place in California to which we had sent those journals and they agreed to return them to us but they wanted to be reimbursed for the \$5,000 they spent for shipping. The Math Department raised the \$5,000 and the library agreed to pay \$5,000 for the return shipping fees. So it seems like an amicable resolution. I met with the Provost today and he says that he is recharging the Library Committee to make sure they come up with a policy that is acceptable to the faculty with regards to disposal of library materials.

Next item. There is a committee to select the faculty members that are worthy of receiving the Board of Trustees Professorships and we are entitled to nominate somebody to sit on that committee. So if you or anybody in your department is interested in being on the Board of Trustee Professorship nomination committee, please let me know.

P. Henry: asked about the time frame.

A. Rosenbaum: They want the name as soon as possible.

A. Rosenbaum: The committee meets once in December and again in January or February so it's not a heavy duty commitment.

J. Bowers: volunteered to be on the committee.

A. Strategic Plan for Enrollment Management Task Force – Kerry Freedman – [report](#)

A. Rosenbaum: The next item is Kerry Freedman's report on this important initiative. President Peters has emphasized that he sees enrollment and retention as two of the most important issues confronting NIU. There are concerns about changes in the constituency of students that attend NIU and he wants to keep us current in terms of getting to the students that are applying to college. We also have issues of retention which is very important because NIU is dependent on tuition dollars and fees to meet our payroll when the state is delinquent in its payments to us. We were very fortunate that the state came up with the money that they owed us this past year. We did not have to borrow money. An important reason we got through was because of tuition dollars and fees. In order to do this, the Enrollment Management and Retention Task Force has been established. Kerry Freedman was our representative to the task force and she will report on the committee's progress to date.

K. Freedman: The committee was charged to Brian Hemphill by Provost Alden. Hemphill was the one who had to put the committee together. He is primarily responsible for recruitment and Gip Seaver is primarily responsible for retention There's between 30 and 40 people on the task force but it's primarily administrators and staff personnel. Right now, as of this moment, I'm the only faculty member on the committee. The primary goal of the task force is to set and reach the target of 25,400 students or 620,000 credit hours. Now, this is very important right now, not only for the reasons that Alan mentioned, but also because we have competition in the Chicago area from other institutions, and because the predicted rate of high school graduation is going down.

So we've got several things dove-tailing that might cause concern for us. One is the financial crisis in the state of Illinois. Two is increased competition from other institutions in the Chicago area and three is projected low enrollments among high school students. So this is why the task force was formed. The first semester of the first year of the task force was primarily building a foundation on which people could discuss and make decisions. Most of the early meetings were spent with people coming to the task force and presenting. We heard presentations, for example, from Brad Bond about graduate school enrollment including admissions and retention activities that fell under the auspices of the Graduate School. We also had a presentation about undergraduate recruitment and enrollments and presentations having to do with, for example, classroom space. One of the presentations that was particularly notable had to do with the reasons that parents and students chose NIU or chose a particular institution and the reason was that students primarily chose an institution based on the quality of faculty and programs. So this is important as a faculty issue.

The second semester, the spring semester last year, the task force was split up into five sub-groups or subcommittees. The names of those are in my written report and we've been working within these sub-groups ever since, now only meeting occasionally as a full task force.

So most of this is in the written report but I do want to point out just a few issues that pertain to faculty in particular. The first one is that, as the Strategic Plan for Recruitment and Enrollment is developed, class size may become an issue. Certainly student credit hours have already become an issue in many departments and class size may be a part of that.

Second, one of the important goals of the task force is improved recruitment, and there's been some money invested in recruitment that wasn't invested in the past. There's been some reorganization. The recruitment areas have been re-targeted so that we're better covering the Chicago area. So I think recruitment is definitely going to improve because of this work but along with recruitment and retention we also have to consider educational standards and while there hasn't been an indication that that is going to be a concern, I think it's important that faculty monitor the situation.

The third issue has to do with the fact that I was the only faculty member on this task force. I talked to Brian Hemphill about that and he met with Alan and we have been given five faculty slots on the task force, which is great. Hemphill listened to us and what I'm recommending is that we have one person on each of the sub-groups. Alan was invited to join the task force as well in his position as president of the Faculty Senate. So I'm very glad to say that action was taken to improve the situation regarding faculty representation and I hope that people will volunteer to be appointed to this task force.

B. Nominations for five members to serve on Strategic Plan for Enrollment Management Task Force

A. Rosenbaum: I want to thank Kerry for her service on this committee. I really appreciate her putting in the time on this and the only reason she's stepping off is because she is taking over as head of the Art Education program. Secondly, the other thing that Brian Hemphill has agreed to do is to make the Faculty Senate one of the groups that reviews the preliminary report. So, we need five people who want to sit on this task force and attend the meetings. It's going to be a one semester obligation.

P. Henry: inquired about how often the task force meets.

K. Freedman: You would be meeting in a sub-group. The sub groups are Marketing and Branding, Recruitment, Retention, Institutional Facilities and Capacity Management, and Strategic Enrollment Target and Budget Forecasting. The committees will probably meet maybe three times during the semester at the most.

A. Rosenbaum: I also want to remind you that we can't complain if they offer us seats and we don't take them.

L. Yamagata-Lynch: I'm interested in Marketing & Branding.

S. Willis: I would be interested in Retention.

J. Kowalski: I would be interested in the Marketing and Branding and taking Kerry's place or I would take another one if that's already spoken for.

A. Rosenbaum: I would ask the rest of you to go back to your departments and see if any of your colleagues are interested. If so, please let Pat know. We'd like them quickly so we don't miss any of the meetings.

A. Rosenbaum: We'll give your names to Brian Hemphill and he will add you to the e-mail list for the various committees. If you don't hear something from them in the near future, let Pat know and we'll take care of it.

A. Rosenbaum: We have some hold-over issues from last year that I want to mention so you know that these haven't been forgotten. One of the issues is raise equity and so we have been pursuing the administration on this since last September. The latest word is that the administration has agreed to provide us with the data and that we will have the data by the end of the first semester. The faculty committee that we put together remains together. Rosemary Feurer is still the chair of the faculty contingent and we will continue to update you on what we learn from that committee as things progress. We have been fighting for this data now for over a year and we will continue to do so until the University provides what we need in order to answer the questions. And again, for those of you who were not here last year, the question is whether raises are fairly distributed across the different groups within the University, those groups being faculty, operating staff and SPS; and also whether there is an equitable distribution between the academic and the financial, facilities and operations sides.

The second issue that is carried over from last year is whether we want a +/- grading system. This has been a source of much debate and the faculty seems to be almost equally split. At the end of last year we agreed to give this to Academic Affairs. They will continue to look into this and report back to us when they have some recommendations.

V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

A. Selection of Vice President and Secretary of Faculty Senate

A. Rosenbaum: Today, I am only going to offer the nomination of Nancy Castle as Secretary of the Faculty Senate. Nancy has done this before and has been a great Secretary for the Faculty Senate. I need a second. Bridget Lusk is the second. Nancy, why don't you tell us what the Secretary of the Senate does.

N. Castle: I have very good penmanship.

A. Rosenbaum: But you really only have one job right?

N. Castle: I only have one job. In the spring semester when we go into executive session I have to take the notes because we don't have a tape recorder going and that does not get entered into the record per se because we discuss personnel. So all you're asking me to do is be here and take roll and take really good notes and hand them to Pat and I think I can do that for you.

A. Rosenbaum: We're confident.

N.Castle was approved without dissent and accepted the position of Secretary of the Senate.

A.Rosenbaum: I'm going to ask for a delay in appointing the Vice President of the Senate. I need to ask people before I can nominate them and so we'll do that at the next meeting.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of [Faculty Senate Standing Committees](#) for 2010-2011 (page 14)

A. Rosenbaum: We have to approve the membership of the standing committees. The committee assignments were made by me. I used the preference sheets that some people submitted. I tried to give people their preferences. I'm asking for a motion to accept the committee memberships as they are with the exception of this – Gaylen Kapperman replaces Woody Johnson on Election and Legislative Oversight.

G. Kapperman: introduced himself. I'm from Teaching and Learning and I'm taking Woody Johnson's place for the semester.

A. Rosenbaum: Okay, thank you. So we're adding Gaylen Kapperman in replacing Woody Johnson. J.Novak made the motion to accept the committees. It was seconded and approved without opposition.

VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Earl Hansen – report

1. [May 14, 2010](#) (p. 15-19)
2. [June 21, 2010](#) (p. 20-21)
3. [July 26, 2010](#) (p. 22-28)

E. Hansen: I want to first thank Kerry for stepping up and taking a position on the committee because that's one of the major issues that we see across the state, faculty members not being active, especially young faculty members. And it's rampant throughout the four year institutions whether it's private or state and maybe we ought to look at ourselves a little bit and wonder why faculty are reluctant to participate in governance. Maybe they don't get enough points towards

tenure or promotion. I think realistically if we're going to move forward in higher education we have to understand that if we are offered a seat on any we'd better get on it because as you so candidly said, if you don't accept this thing you don't have a voice, you don't have anyone to blame but yourself.

We've been told that we have to improve our enrollment of our student population to about 9,000 new students a year to graduate from Illinois universities to turn around the economy in the state. We're seeing all these types of presentations given to us at these meetings and the only way that I can see that this is going to get filtered back down to you here or at any other institution is to do what Alan's done with the Blackboard and we can put the reports up there and you can read them and if you've got questions you just need to ask because we can expound on this stuff forever and ever.

Faculty are supposed to have two seats on the IBHE by law and we have never had anybody there as a faculty member on the IBHE. We have put forward two names from the Faculty Advisory Committee because that would seem to be the first place to start to have someone dealing with the IBHE. As of last week, I had not heard of anybody being moved forward or their accepting anyone so there are issues here. Now you [speaking to A. Rosenbaum] and I attended a meeting, a joint meeting, down in Champaign –do you want to expound on anything from that meeting?

A. Rosenbaum: The meeting he's referring to is a group called the Council of University Senates and that group is trying to unite the senates from all of the public universities in Illinois and act as a body. We feel if something comes, for example, from the Northern Illinois University Senate, well that's fine, but if it comes from the senates of all of the public universities, that's quite a different matter. We think that the politicians in the state will have more trouble ignoring something that comes as a joint resolution from the senates of the public universities in the state of Illinois. So we have been meeting to try and create a body that will have a little bit more political clout. This is an ongoing project and I've reported to you before on meetings that I've attended. We generally meet twice a year. This summer's meeting was the first time we met in the summer and we are in the process of putting together a document that lists the common interests of the public universities. When we have that, I'll be bringing that to the Senate and, hopefully, we will approve that along with other senates in the state and that will be sent to the representatives, the Governor and anybody we can think of that might be an appropriate person to receive it.

K. Freedman: Yeah, I just wanted to say that it's important for us to participate in the membership of these committees not only from the faculty's standpoint, but because students are not represented on these committees either and we're the closest thing to student representation on these committees. So I think it's really important for us to represent both ourselves and also the students.

A. Rosenbaum: Comments or questions for Earl?

J. Kowalski: I was intrigued in the report of the meeting of June 21 at the end of the section on the second page, it says there was a question from John Minogue as to whether the current professorial education model was sufficient to reach the goal. Can you tell us anything about what that rather vague statement implies or was about?

E. Hansen: I wish I could because I sat there dumbfounded when I heard it myself. What we're saying is that the public agenda is for education to move forward in the state of Illinois and that's

in jeopardy because of everything that's going on in education, K-12 as well as higher education. But I can't answer that but I will try to get an answer for you.

S. Willis: I have a related question in that there is apparently a big goal and goal appears in capital letters in a number of places in this report and it's not clear to me, whose goal is this? Where did this goal come from?

E. Hansen: This big goal to increase the proportion of Americans with high quality degrees and college credentials to 60% by 2025 evidently has evolved from a formulation of higher education groups across the country. It was just dropped on us as a big goal and higher education needs to prepare these people. Now who authored that, I have absolutely no idea and when you ask that question sometimes the person who's presenting it doesn't have any idea where it came from either.

S. Willis: And I'm not necessarily opposed to it. It piqued my curiosity.

G. Bennardo: Giovanni Bennardo, Anthropology. It's not a question; it's just going back to the previous point about the question by John Minogue. I think the only thing they are referring to here is to make higher education more electronic bound.

A change of tape occurred here causing some loss of material. During the gap the topic changed.

A. Rosenbaum: We just approved the committee memberships and one of the things that we've had a problem with in the past is committee members not showing up for meetings, chairs not staying on top of things and scheduling meetings. You know, we talk a lot about asserting our role in shared governance. This is the way we do it. We do business through the committees. One of my objectives for the Senate is for us to play our role in the shared governance process and that means we need people to come to the meetings, speak up and do the work of the Senate. So I really encourage you to be active. In the past people have thought of the Senate as a toothless body. It's my impression that the Senate can be a very powerful body. In the year that I've been president I've seen that the administration pays attention when the faculty is upset about an issue and so I think that we should not be reluctant to speak up. If we don't assert our voice in shared governance then we have nothing to complain about. So I'm asking you to try and be an active Senate – to attend the committees. Chairs please keep your committees together, meet and let's do the work that we're supposed to be doing.

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Ferald Bryan, Kerry Freedman -[report](#)

A. Rosenbaum: The next item is the report on the Board of Trustees subcommittee on Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel. Kerry Freedman has agreed to take this position but has not yet been approved by the University Council. She will most likely be approved by the UC and in the absence of Ferald Bryan, our current representative, she attended the meeting and will give us a report.

K. Freedman: The Board of Trustees Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee met on August 26. They did recognize the Faculty and Staff Professional Excellence awardees. Vice Provost Cassidy discussed the visit from the Higher Learning Commission Dean Dawson of the University Library gave quite an extended presentation. I did ask a question having to do with improving communication between the library and the faculty as charged by the Provost and asked if anything had been done on that yet and the answer from the Provost and

the Dean was no, however, on September 17 there will be a meeting to address the charge by the Provost.

A. Rosenbaum: And again, the Provost today assured me that he's going to recharge the committee, that's he's determined that this will be done and that we will have a satisfactory communication system between the library and the faculty. So they haven't dropped the issue and we certainly haven't dropped the issue.

K. Freedman: The final issue was a presentation about grants received by the University. The good news is our grants have increased substantially and most of that gain was through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

F. Bryan: I want to thank Kerry for being called into service. Normally I would have provided this report but I now have a class that meets at like 9:30 which only gives us a short period of time. This is a last minute change and I appreciate you doing this. Thank you.

C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Alan Rosenbaum, Greg Waas - [report](#)

A. Rosenbaum: The next report is on Finance, Facilities, and Operations. This report was provided by Greg Waas.

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Jay Monteiro and Todd Latham – [report](#) (page 29-30)

A. Rosenbaum: Next we have the report on the Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Jay Monteiro and Todd Latham. Jay is the President of the Operating Staff Council and Todd is the President of the SPS Council. Those are the two other councils besides the Faculty Senate and between the three groups we represent all the employees of the University.

J. Monteiro: I'm actually giving the report for the April 29 meeting. We will have the report for the August 26 meeting at next month's Senate meeting. I'm going to try to keep this brief because some of this information is old. The borrowing bill was passed and, as we know, that allowed us to borrow into our future tuition monies that were coming in. Luckily, the state has brought us up to date so we've not had to do that.

If you move down to D, the FY09 University Financial Audit and we were happy to see that there were zero financial audit findings. GR appropriations decreased by \$1 million, but NIU saw an increase in net assets of \$6 million. So we were able to protect operations and programs in light of the state not funding us and this also shows that our increase in tuitions, the model we were using, was appropriate to cover those costs.

If you move down to E, there was an amendment to the Board of Trustee regulations regarding the Freedom of Information Act for FOIA laws. Previously, all the FOIA requests had gone through Legal Counsel and now they've turned that over to the Public Information Office. Legal Counsel will still be available for questions if need be but this way this department has a little more time and they'll be able to get the FOIA requests done in a five day turnaround.

At the end of the meeting, Dr. Steve Cunningham gave an information presentation on a new organizational structure for the procurement process in the state of Illinois and you can read through that. It's going to be producing 26 new positions.

E. BOT – Alan Rosenbaum – [report](#)

A. Rosenbaum: As you might have noticed, there are a number of different meetings that are being spoken of here so we have some reports from May 13 Board of Trustees meeting, was a special Board of Trustees meeting on June 23, and there were the most recent subcommittee meetings on August 26. Most of these reports are on the August 26 subcommittee meetings. My report is on the Board of Trustees meetings from May 13 and also June 23.

A. Gupta: --- on May 13, Item 2(c), it says “approval of a minor in sustainable engineering in EEG.” I’m not sure what EEG stands for. EEG, Item 2(c). What does EEG stand for; I’m not sure.

A. Rosenbaum: Well, I think they mean Engineering and Engineering Technology (EET). We’ll make the correction.

The full Board of Trustees meetings generally are a restatement of the subcommittee meetings and so you’ve already heard much of the material. The meeting on May 13 was the standard end-of-the-year meeting. They elected the BOT officers for the coming year and you can see those listed in my report. The True North Champaign – they mentioned that the final total was somewhere between \$160 and \$165 million. The report by President Peters had to do with both the state of the finances which at that point were not really good because we hadn’t received the money, and also honoring Jim Erman and Harold Kafer for their service to the University.

Of import to the faculty, the Board approved the 54 recommendations for promotion and tenure and tenure with promotions. They appointed La Vonne Neal as Dean of the College of Education effective July 1. They approved the tuition rates for the coming year which includes a 9.5% increase in tuition for the incoming class. As many of you know, they can only change tuition for the incoming class. The law protects that tuition for I think five years for incoming students.

There was approval of the interim budget and a bond resolution for existing residence hall improvements.

The last item is that the Board honored John Peters for his first ten years as President of NIU and there was a very nice retrospective of his accomplishments and a very warm thank you from the Board to President Peters.

The next item was the special Board of Trustees meeting which was held on June 23. The main impetus for this meeting was the approval of the first year residence hall ground lease. The Administration has determined that one of our biggest problems is that our housing stock is outdated and unattractive to students. The newest dormitory at the University is 40 years old. The university is proposing to build a freshman facility that will have rooms for 1,000 students. They are not using University money but rather they are leasing the land to the Collegiate Housing Foundation, which will manage the project and contract the building of the dormitories. No money will come out of the NIU budget and we will not be floating a bond issue. The Board of Trustees approved the land lease.

VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic Affairs – Charles Cappell, Chair – report

Charles Cappell, Sociology, Academic Affairs. We have formed a subcommittee to assess the grading system issue. Professor Steve Martin from Physics is going to chair that subcommittee and we have three volunteers. If you have a particular interest in this and you have information that would be pertinent to this operation, you can forward it to me or Professor Martin and we'll see that it's brought into our deliberations.

- B. Economic Status of the Profession – Sonya Armstrong, Chair – no report
- C. Faculty Rights & Responsibilities – Brad Cripe, Chair – no report
- D. Resources, Space and Budgets – Jozef Bujarski, Chair – no report
- E. Rules and Governance – Nancy Castle, Chair – no report
- F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – David Wade, Chair

1. Hearing Panel election

D. Wade: First is the Hearing Panel election which is the ballot that was before you when you walked in the room. Pick 20 of 34; leave at your station when you're done.

2. By-lot election of members of Faculty Grievance Committee.

D. Wade: The Faculty Grievance Committee requires a selection of 15 names from our box of eligible faculty names. Those picked were:

Rebecca Houze, Art; Jeff Kowalski, Art; Carl Von Ende, Biological Sciences; Eric Mogren, History; Larry Arnhart, Political Science; Brian May, English; Steven Martin, Physics; Abhijit Gupta, Mechanical Engineering; Brad Sagarin, Psychology; Teresa Fischer, Counseling Adult and Higher Education; Rick Poole, Theatre and Dance; Jana Brubaker, University Libraries; Lisa Yamagata-Lynch, Educational Technology, Research and Assessment; Kryssi Staikidis, Art; and, last but not least, Karen Brandt, Nursing and Health Studies. Congratulations to all the winners.

A. Rosenbaum: We already have cases pending so you can expect to draw sometime in the very near future.

3. Election of University Council alternates

D. Wade: The next one is election of University Council alternates. This is done by colleges so as I call your college, if you could raise your hand I'll give you a ballot.

D. Wade: That brings us to the next page which is the nomination of two faculty members to serve as at-large members on the Unity in Diversity Steering Committee. My understanding is that J.D. Bowers and David Valentiner might be willing to continue their service.

J.D. Bowers: I have to step down.

S. Willis volunteered and D. Valentiner had previously volunteered for the committee.

D. Wade: That completes our business.

A. Rosenbaum: You can just leave the ballots on the table. We'll pick them up later.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Ohio University resolution on the [Sustainability of Intercollegiate Athletics](#) (page 31-33)

A. Rosenbaum: You have in your packets a letter that was sent to us by the Ohio University Faculty Senate. This has to do with the feasibility of funding intercollegiate athletics in times of financial hardship. I really did not have any idea as to how our athletic program is financed. I always assumed the money did not come out of our general revenue and that the University did not subsidize athletics out of our budget. That may not be correct. It appears at least from the material that is published in *USA Today* poll that NIU subsidizes the athletic program out of the general revenue fund. There's also about \$7 million that comes out of student fees. I am not certain that the figures that are posted by the *USA Today* are accurate. NIU has not confirmed them. They're also from 2008 so they're not the most recent figures.

I've heard many faculty talk about the fact that coaches on athletic teams are often the highest paid employees of the University. Many feel that that's inappropriate. There are faculty who enjoy athletics and think it's an important part of the educational process and there are also faculty who believe that the University shouldn't be in the business of big time athletics.

The Ohio University Senate asked that this be distributed to the other senates at least in the MAC so I have put that on our docket for Senate discussion. We can decide that we're fine the way things are. We can decide to give it to a committee and have them take a close look at this and find out how much money is being spent on athletics and whether that money is coming out of funds that could be used for other things, such as educational purposes, faculty raises, or travel. You have the resolution and the Inside Higher Education article with the link to the USA Today database has been posted on our Blackboard community. I'll open the floor for questions or comments about this.

P. Henry: I think that the amount of fees that are charged to students is a continuing hardship. I think that's an important issue that needs to be considered as well.

B. Lusk: I totally agree with you in sports. I'm not interested in it myself personally but I think a huge component is the amount of alumni dollars that it brings back to the University and so I think any review of this matter should also look at why do we do it and I think it's a huge financial benefit to the University and also it's a huge benefit in getting students here. If we have a good team or whatever, students come to NIU so I think a report should also reflect that benefit of it.

G. Kapperman: I am not quite certain what students actually pay for athletic fees. Does anyone here know?

A. Rosenbaum: We can get that information certainly.

M. Fischer: Mark Fischer substituting for Jay Stravers and I guess my comment is just that I wonder, particularly based on your comment, that you're not sure how accurate those figures are,

whether or not it would be worthwhile to give the administration an opportunity to give us some information.

A. Rosenbaum: We could ask Jeff Compher to come to the Senate and give us the actual information. He's the Director of Athletics and we could ask Jeff to tell us exactly what this is costing, where the money comes from, and how it's spent. So if the Senate is of a mind to invite Jeff, I'll be happy to do that.

M. Rosenbaum: I think the question we should ask is just what is our return on investment. I think that's the key question because I think athletics and housing and student retention, they're connected.

A. Rosenbaum: I certainly think that's a good question and if we send it to committee they would look into that. The only data that I've been able to get from the University or the only information in regards to that is they will tell you that alumni giving goes up when you have a winning team. It does not say what happens when you have a losing team. So, for those years that you happen to win, it brings out the donations. But if you're a team that loses more often than you win, I don't know if that helps you very much. So again, if we decide we want more information, one way to do this is to send it to a committee for further review.

S. Willis: In terms of full disclosure here, I'm partly wearing my hat as the mother of an NIU freshman and so I'm paying some of these fees; but in any case, information about the detailed breakdown of where the student fees go can be found on the NIU web site if you go and look under tuition and fees it tells you what those are. I would be curious to know, if we do look into this, how targeted that giving is because if a winning football team or a sports team induces alumni to give money that's targeted towards athletics, I'm not sure how much good it does the rest of the University so I think we need to be a little purposeful in how we look at all this. I would like us to look at it in more detail.

A. Rosenbaum: Okay, well one question is which committee we give it to. We actually don't have a committee on University affairs so the one that seems to come the closest is Resources, Space and Budgets.

P. Henry: I don't know if it would fit under Economic Status of the Profession? That would be my second guess.

J. Kowalski: Yeah, I would move that we refer this issue to Resources, Space and Budget. Motion was seconded.

A. Rosenbaum: Called the question. The motion passed without opposition.

XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

J. Rintala: I sit on the Senate ex-officio as the faculty athletic representative and I would just request if it's okay with the Resources, Space and Budgets that I sit on that ex-officio because I think I've got some insight that may help.

A. Rosenbaum: We can leave that up to Resources, Space and Budgets to decide if they would like you to do that. Okay.

J. Rintala: Thank you.

A. Rosenbaum: Asked for a show of hands regarding whether to invite J. Compher to attend the next Senate meeting. The majority 16-15 voted yes. This was an informal vote (i.e., no motion).

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. [2010-2011 meeting schedule \(p. 34\)](#)
- B. [Academic Planning Council meeting minutes, April 26, 2010](#)
- C. [Athletic Board meeting minutes, April 21, 2010](#)
- D. [Operating Staff Council meeting minutes, May 6, 2010](#)
- E. [Operating Staff Council meeting minutes, June 3, 2010](#)
- F. [Operating Staff Council meeting minutes, July 1, 2010](#)
- G. [Operating Staff Council meeting minutes, August 23, 2010](#)
- H. [Undergraduate Coordinating Council meeting minutes, April 1, 2010](#)
- I. [Annual Report – Academic Planning Council](#)
- J. [Annual Report – Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee](#)
- K. [Annual Report – Committee on Initial Teacher Certification](#)
- L. [Annual Report – Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor](#)
- M. [Annual Report – Graduate Council](#)
- N. [Annual Report – University Assessment Panel](#)
- O. [Annual Report – University Council Personnel Committee](#)

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.