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UC Minutes 2014-02-26

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UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, February 26, 2014, 3 p.m.
Holmes Student Center Sky Room

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Arriola, Baker, Barry, Block, Carpenter, Cripe (for Downing), Dawson, Doederlein (for Smith), Domke, Donovan, Downs, Farrell, Feurer, Fredericks, Freeman, Giese, Grace, Gupta, Haliczzer, Hathaway (for Bond), Henning, Holly, Julion, Kapitan, Kowalski, Lee, Lenczewski, Leonhardt, Long, R. Lopez, Martin, McCord, Mogren, Mohabbat, Moremen, Munroe, Naples, Neal, Newman, Perkins, Pitney, Roberts, Rosenbaum, Sagarin, Small, Theodore, Thu, VandeCreek, Vohra, Walker

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Abdel-Motaleb, Bond, Clark, Downing (PTP leave), Ferguson, Garcia, E. Lopez, Middleton, Plonczynski, Polzin, Rollman, Rosato, Schoenbachler, Smith

OTHERS PRESENT: Alden, Birberick, Bryan, Cunningham, Klaper, Macdonald, Weldy

OTHERS ABSENT: Armstrong (sabbatical), Blakemore, Falkoff, Gebo, Kaplan, McHone-Chase, Nicklas, Slotsve, Suttentfield, Thompson, Waas

I. CALL TO ORDER

D. Baker called the meeting called to order at 3:10 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

D. Baker noted one addition to the agenda, the walk-in FAC to IBHE report. **S. Farrell** moved to approve the agenda as modified, seconded by **R. Lopez**, motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 29, 2014 MEETING

M. Theodore moved to approve the minutes seconded by **D. Haliczzer**, motion passed. The minutes were approved as written.

IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

D. Baker:

- Briefed the council on enrollment and retention issues and the importance of improving on our record of the past ten years which has seen the loss of more than 4000 students.
- Identified reverse articulation, where a student leaves community college prior to their associates degree, takes some classes here, and transfers them back to the community college to get the associates degree, as a viable new strategy.
- Spoke briefly about the upcoming HLC site visit and introduced Doris Macdonald to brief the council.

- A. Higher Learning Commission 2014 Reaccreditation [update](#) – Pages 3-10
Doris Macdonald, Steering Committee Chair

D. Macdonald gave an overview of the site visit set for Monday through Wednesday, March 3-5. All constituents groups were encouraged to attend the various fora and other opportunities to meet with the site peer evaluators and also to read the self-study report. We will have the report in one month's time from the end of the visit.

She provided the HLC email address hlc2014@niu.edu for any questions.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – [report](#) – walk-in
- B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Dan Gebo and Andy Small – no report
- C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Alan Rosenbaum – no report
- D. BOT Legislation and External Affairs Committee – Deborah Haliczzer and Rosita Lopez – no report
- E. BOT Compliance, Audit, Risk Management and Legal Affairs Committee – Deborah Haliczzer and Alan Rosenbaum – no report
- F. BOT Ad Hoc Committee on Sponsored Research Activity and Technology Transfer – Greg Waas – no report
- G. BOT – Alan Rosenbaum – no report
- H. Academic Policy Committee – Sean Farrell, Chair
- I. Resources, Space and Budgets Committee – Paul Carpenter, Chair –
 - 1. Committee meeting [report](#) – January 29, 2014 – Pages 11-17
 - 2. Committee meeting [report](#) – February 7, 2014 – Page 18
 - 3. Proposed [Statement](#) of Budget Priorities – Pages 19-21

P. Carpenter introduced the committee's work on the Statement of Budget Priorities which we submit every year to the president, and thanked the committee for their hard work. He noted that the statement had previously been approved by the Faculty Senate and made a motion for the UC to endorse it. **D. Haliczzer** was second.

After a brief discussion, the motion was approved by the following vote:

- 1 – YES – 41 votes
- 2 – NO – 1 vote
- 3 – ABSTAIN – 2 votes

J. Rules and Governance Committee – Jeff Kowalski, Chair

K. University Affairs Committee – Bill Pitney, Chair

1. [Proposed](#) Grievance Procedures for Students – Pages 22-44

B. Pitney introduced the student grievance policy and started by recognizing the work of last year's committee, chaired by Kathy Coles. He noted that the draft of the article was reviewed by Jerry Blakemore, NIU's General Counsel, who found no legal issues but suggested that we modify the preamble of this article to reflect the pillars of ethically-inspired leadership. **G. Long** moved the adoption of the student grievance policy (tentatively identified as Article 22). **K. Thu** was second.

D. Baker noted that this is a first reading.

There was abundant praise for Bill Pitney and the committee for doing such an excellent job. A number of council members noted items to be clarified.

A. Rosenbaum commented that we will be doing some wordsmithing and will clarify some of the language as suggested, and reminded the body that this being a bylaw change we will need two thirds of all voting members of the University Council in order to pass it. Council members were encouraged to attend the next meeting and also to remain through the vote.

M. Theodore (student member) echoed the sentiments of previous speakers regarding the excellent work of the committee and its chair and asserted student enthusiasm for the policy.

The discussion ended, changes will be made as agreed, and the second reading will occur at the next UC meeting on April 2.

L. Student Association – Jack Barry, President – report

J. Barry:

- Noted excitement over the basketball team's performance and possibility of hosting a home game in the MAC tournament.
- Discussed informational nights for next year's E-board and was pleased at the amount of interest in serving.
- Expressed enthusiasm for the campus master plan, and the display that will be set up in the gallery of the HSC.
- Reported on the upcoming Student Choice Awards along with the on-campus job fair, and the cultural fest, which is going to be like a Taste of Northern as soon as the weather warms up a little bit.

- Added his support for the student grievance policy.

M. Operating Staff Council – Andy Small, President – [report](#) – Page 45

N. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Deborah Haliczzer, President – [report](#) – Page 46

O. University Benefits Committee – Deborah Haliczzer, Chair;
Therese Arado, FS-Committee on the Economic Status of the Profession Liaison –
[report](#) – Pages 47-48

P. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Abhijit Gupta, Chair

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

D. Baker called the UC’s attention to item X. A., a policy change addressing the issue of the D grade and transfer of course work. We’ve been out of compliance with the Illinois Articulation Initiative Agreement that allows transfer of completed Illinois transferable general education core curricula and that dealt with the acceptance of the D grade. And so according to the statewide agreement, we do, in fact, need to accept that.

A. [Policy change](#) addressing the issue of “D” grades in transfer course work – Pages 49-50

B. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council

C. [Minutes](#), Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee

D. [Minutes](#), Athletic Board

E. [Minutes](#), Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee

F. [Minutes](#), Committee on Advanced Professional Certification in Education

G. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education

H. [Minutes](#), Committee on Initial Teacher Certification

I. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience

J. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum

K. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee

L. [Minutes](#), Honors Committee

M. [Minutes](#), Operating Staff Council

N. [Minutes](#), Supportive Professional Staff Council

O. [Minutes](#), Undergraduate Coordinating Council

P. [Minutes](#), University Assessment Panel

Q. [Minutes](#), University Benefits Committee

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m.