UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, May 4, 2016, 3 p.m.
Holmes Student Center Sky Room

Full transcript


VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Campbell, Carey, Cordes, Farrell, Jacob (for Lagioia), Jemison, Lagioia, Lee, Olson, Thomas, Vazquez, Vohra, Wagenecht, Wood

OTHERS PRESENT: Briscoe, Bryan, Coryell, Falkoff, Hoffman, Kaplan, Klaper, Stoddard, Weldy

OTHERS ABSENT: Konen

I. CALL TO ORDER

President D. Baker called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

D. Domke moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by S. Nissenbaum. Motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 6, 2016 MEETING

W. Pitney moved to accept the minutes, seconded by C. Doederlein. Motion passed.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

D. Domke moved to go into executive session, seconded by T. Arado. Motion passed.

A. Report from the Committee to Evaluate the President of Faculty Senate/Executive Secretary of University Council – Cathy Doederlein
V. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

For complete comments, see the meeting transcript.

A. Recognition of University Council members whose terms are completed, who have been re-elected and who are newly elected – Pages 3-4

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

For complete comments, see the meeting transcript.

A. J. Dennis Hastert honorary degree rescission follow-up

P. Liberty-Baczek moved to endorse the Honorary Degree Committee’s recommendation to revoke the honorary degree previously awarded to J. Dennis Hastert, seconded by C. Vander Schee. Motion passed.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

For complete comments, see the meeting transcript.

A. Student Grievance Annual Report per NIU Bylaws Article 12.6 – Greg Long

B. Temporary Appointment Timeline Waiver request per NIU Bylaws Article 19.5.2.2 Chalermsee (Ete) Olson, Interim Dean, University Libraries – Pages 5-6

W. Pitney moved to extend the temporary appointment timeline by approximately six months to allow for a search to begin in the fall 2016 semester, seconded by J. Hathaway. Motion passed.

C. Temporary Appointment Timeline Waiver request per NIU Bylaws Article 19.5.2.2 Edward Klonoski, Associate Vice Provost – Pages 7-8

J. Hathaway moved to extend the temporary appointment timeline by approximately six months to allow for a search to begin in the fall 2016 semester, seconded by J. Novak. Motion passed.

D. Resolution in support of divestment from fossil fuel companies – Pages 9-10

S. Nissenbaum moved that the University Council support the efforts brought forward by the students presenting this resolution, seconded by D. Domke.

After further discussion, D. Domke moved to refer the matter to the FS/UC Resources, Space and Budget Committee (RSB), asking that the committee research what the economic impact of this resolution would be to the university’s portfolio,
seconded by B. Jaffee. A friendly amendment was proposed that, rather than conducting an economic assessment, that the resolution be viewed as a symbolic statement and that the RSB draft language outlining those aspects of the resolution that the University Council supports in principle. The friendly amendment was accepted. The motion passed.

After further discussion, L. Freeman moved that the RSB automatically return this matter to the Student Association asking the students to draft language regarding the intent of this symbolic measure so that it can be referred to the president to then be shared with the Foundation board, seconded by G. Slotsve.

After further discussion, T. Bishop proposed a friendly amendment that the matter be referred to the UC-Steering Committee instead of the Student Association. The friendly amendment was accepted.

G. Long proposed a friendly amendment to add that the UC-Steering Committee complete its task in collaboration with the Student Association. The friendly amendment was accepted with the notation that students are represented on the UC-Steering Committee.

D. Domke proposed a friendly amendment to add, “with authority” in order to indicate that the UC-Steering Committee statement does not require further University Council review or approval. The friendly amendment was accepted.

The motion passed.

IX. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

For complete comments, see the meeting transcript.

A. FAC to IBHE – Paul Stoddard – report

B. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – no report
   Greg Long, Dan Gebo, Rebecca Shortridge, Leanne VandeCreek, Steve Builta, Holly Nicholson

C. Academic Policy Committee, Chris McCord, Chair – no report

D. Resources, Space and Budget Committee – Mark Riley, Chair – no report
E. Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – Therese Arado, Chair

   1. Election of 2016-17 Executive Secretary of University Council per NIU Bylaws [Article 14.5 – Page 11]

      T. Arado moved to elect Greg Long to serve as 2016-17 Executive Secretary of University Council, seconded by H. Nicholson. Motion passed.

         Yes – 41
         No – 4
         Abstain – 2

F. University Affairs Committee – Linda Saborio, Chair – no report

G. Student Association – report
   Giuseppe Lagioia, Student Association
   Dillon Domke, Speaker of the Senate

H. Operating Staff Council – Holly Nicholson, President – report

I. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Steve Builta, President – report

X. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

   A. United Faculty Alliance of NIU – Beatrix Hoffman

XI. INFORMATION ITEMS

   A. Minutes, Academic Planning Council
   B. Minutes, Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee
   C. Minutes, Athletic Board
   D. Minutes, Board of Trustees
   E. Minutes, Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
   F. Minutes, Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education
   G. Minutes, Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience
   H. Minutes, Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
   I. Minutes, General Education Committee
   J. Minutes, Graduate Council
   K. Minutes, Graduate Council Curriculum 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
   R. Minutes, Univ. Comm. on Advanced and Nonteaching Educator License Programs
   S. Minutes, University Committee on Initial Educator Licensure
XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:26 p.m.