Minutes of the
STUDENT ASSOCIATION SENATE
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
9 September 2014

CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Speaker Domke at 6:03 PM in the Sky Room of the Holmes Student Center. Speaker Domke asks Clerk Burke to conduct a roll call of the Senators.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Speaker Domke asks Senator Vasquez to lead in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Speaker Domke motioned to approve 5/4/14 meetings minutes. Seconded
   i. Minutes Approved

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A. Motion to

   A. Speaker Domke motioned to move item A, B, C, D, E, and F from new business into old business.
      i. Agenda approved

SPEAKER REPORT

A. Speaker Domke appreciates everyone’s participation in yesterdays retreat.
B. Speaker Domke is looking forward to this year and mentions how every senator needs to work with one another to achieve our goals.
C. Speaker Domke says that one of his goals is for everyone to work together and work outside of Senate to achieve the goals necessary.
D. This year is going to be a fun, great year.
E. Speaker Domke refers himself and others as resources of help and aid.
F. One person Speaker Domke would like to acknowledge is Bill Nicholas, who has been here for years and attends senate meetings frequently.
G. Guest Speaker: Viewpoint Neutrality
H. Thanks everyone for being here. This is the weekend for his 22\textsuperscript{nd} wedding anniversary. He is here to talk about viewpoint neutrality. The term really speaks to what it is. Any organization that
applies for student fees is reviewed in an objective manner. It is necessary for the student association for the requests of the student organizations to not favor one over the other. It stems from two decisions from Supreme court hearing. The student organization was dealing with a Christian organization and the student association did not uphold the separation of church and state. The case out of Madison did not support organizations that lined up with their own viewpoints. The supreme court decided in any situation in which organizations ask for funding, the student association needs to decide on the finances in a way that is fair and with not respect to equal amounts. The student association body needs to have a neutral viewpoint in order to uphold constitution laws and regulation. In 2011, changes were made in the bylaws to uphold these neutral viewpoint values. He thanks everyone for having him talk and invites everyone to visit him in the campus life building if necessary.

I. Any legal assistance that is required for the students, such as landlord tenant issues is addressed by the office that includes two fulltime attorneys, himself included. All of his budget stems from the student association. He can give referrals or other resources.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. None

### EXECUTIVE REPORTS

A. Joe Frascello: He thanks those for coming back and welcomes new senators. He would like to remind the senators the importance of working together. Anytime you want to get a task for, look for the best ways to tackle the task with other peoples help and resources. The executive branch is divided into internal and external parts. Ron Walters came into a couple of weeks ago to talk about action planning. Joe also mentions the external part that works on a lot of projects. The Vice President and himself is working on a project designed to spread the awareness of sexual assault on campus called It’s on Us. Next senate meeting he will have the supreme court nominations. There are four spots open on the Supreme Court. Joe invites senators to ask thoughtful questions. He also mentions the SA committees. He has begun to fill these committees and invites all senators to be engaged in these committees.

B. Senator Sheriff: Where can we find the list of committees?

C. Joe will email Speaker Domke and he will post it on blackboard.

### CABINET REPORTS

A. Chad Harris is recognized.

   a. The leadership with Ron Walters was very interesting. The committees are very important and he invites everyone to ask him questions about these committees. He invites everyone to visit him. Chad also mentions the SA website and the resources the website contains. There is a lot more information there from last year. He will speak at Senate Meetings once a month and invites senators to ask them any questions if they have any. He will be out of office mid October for a couple of weeks on vacation so if you have any questions, ask him this week.

B. Brett Williams is recognized.

   a. Starting his time as director. Seeing the move of the Huskie Buses from the west side to the east side for a variety of aesthetic purposes and to move them out of the wind
Since this move, the buses will be moved back to the west side of the Holmes Student Center for safety reasons. He is also updating the Huskie tracking system.

C. Senator Roberson: Can you make the route 4 to stop on Blackhawk and Ridge like the route 3L bus.
   a. Williams: He will look into it.

D. Senator Hampton: Is wondering if the speed bumps on normal will be replaced?
   a. Williams doesn’t know about the speed bumps?

E. Bill Nicholas: The speed bumps were removed for the purpose of the buses. They are looking into other solutions such as closing normal to only transit vehicles. Pedestrian traffic moving east was a past issue since the moving of the bus.

F. Ben Donovan is recognized.
   a. Ben could not make the meeting yesterday. He is in charge of monitoring all local. He serves as the Director of Governmental Affairs. He is in charge of voter registration and getting students to register for voting. He is a certified registrar. He is working on community outreach on a plan to renovate the northwest corridor. He will have updates for everyone. Donovan is passing out flyers to promote the governor elections. He is also hosting a student advisory meeting. Ben also mentions the voting registrar drive to start this week. There are still slots available to work.

G. Joe Palmer is recognized.
   a. The Director of Public Affairs. Since taking over, his goal is to spread the word of Student Association. The major projects has been community outreach such as Facebook and increasing social media outreach. They had 739 votes for the elections and last year we had 750 votes. His other major project has been an information booklet that outlines everything SA is involved with. He also redesigned a homecoming bus ad that is soon to come out. He is also in control of the communication role of the SA. Any media that communicates with SA will be done in an effective manner. Palmer is very excited for these projects.

**OLD BUSINESS**
A. None

**NEW BUSINESS**
A. Motion to here SAR46001
   a. Speaker Domke mentions the meeting time of Senate to be at 6:00 PM Sunday evenings. If there are any changes to Senate meetings he will send out a mass email and contact everyone via phone call or text.

B. Move to vote SAR46001
   a. Motion passes

C. Motion to here SAR46002
   a. Speaker Domke went over this at the retreat yesterday. Please hang on to these operating manual to study and resource purposes.

D. Move to vote SAR46002
   a. Motion passes
E. Motion to hear SAR46003
   a. Speaker Domke invites Brandon Phillips to talk about this issue.

F. Brandon Phillips has been involved in this NIU plus force for a while. He has overseen this project since January 2013. His current boss loves his efforts and various organizations and faculty loves this project. He invites SA to favor this project highly.

G. Dr. Anne Boberick. The program she is most involved in is the general education program. It is housed in the provost office. The goal is student graduation and to proceed to career success. The importance of overall education is the utmost importance to success after NIU. They want to provide students with the skills and resources to career success. Students spend a lot of time outside of extracurricular activities. Gen-ed, Co-Curricular, and Major courses are all featured on one highway. There are also roads that include transfer students. The project is looking at Depth, Practice, and Breadth in the courses of General Education. The program is looking to incorporate all three of these to result in an integrated Baccalaureate Experience. NIU looks to do this because of concern over NIU students success and employers to look at NIU students favorably. Employers are looking for skills that are transferable to the real work force.

H. Dr. Michael Cold: He would like to walk through the changes made to this project. The task force has been working for the past 24 months. They have boiled it done to two areas. Five High Impact Practices that include two upper-division “writing-infused” courses, first-year experience such as UNIV 101. They would like to make UNIV 101 mandatory to students. They would also like to tag on any curricular or co-curricular activities on your transcript. Also would like to have a career success course to try to orient students forward to project themselves beyond NIU. They would also like to implement an E-portfolio to include any achievements in the university courses. The other major they are looking to change is the General Education curriculum requirements. It is broken done into four Distribution Studies. What the task force is envisioning is altering foundational studies and to drop the number of credit-hours from 13 courses to 11, 33 hours. Four areas of study with eight baccalaureate learning outcomes is the goal of the General Education requirement change. Employers have mentioned the importance of student collaboration. The signature piece is the PLUS Pathways to overlay an option to link their general education courses into eight possible pathways. If a student decides to concentrate in one of the areas, they have the opportunity to include this emphasize on their transcripts and resumes. They hope for courses to roll them over to a major or minor in their desired field.

I. Questions:

J. Senator Roberson: When students are graduated with high school will you change high school credit such as AP?
   a. Placement tests and AP scores will not be changed.

K. Senator Warsi: With regard to the career success course could you elaborate what it would include?
   a. Students should think about their careers very early. The course is not yet designed. Phillips looks to personally design the course work and content himself.

L. Senator Sheikhali: In regard to adding extra-curricular content, would it be included as credit on a transcript?
a. The transcription for co-curriculum learning is working on criteria to indicate whether a student opportunity or experience can be tacted on your transcript. If you
b. The issue of segwaying into your major course load, they are trying to balance what employers want and what your major includes. By broadening out the number of courses, they could better segway into a major. They also include double-dipping for general education classes. It can build on it or be included as complementary.

M. Senator Williams: The students that are enrolled in the NIU chance program be able to participate in PLUS?
   a. Yes

N. Senator Clayton-Taylor: With this change, would it still be 12 hours to be considered a full-time student?
   a. Yes, it doesn’t affect the number of credit hours needed to graduate as well. It does provide students with flexibility in course work. It also provides you with the opportunity to integrate general education classes into your major courses if you focus on a pathway.

O. Senator Leigh: How will this effect current transfer students? How will faculty advisors explain this to transfer students?
   a. Advisors will play a key role to explain the new program to students. Advisors will need to be trained to explain effectively the PLUS advising and how the different pathways work. With regard to transfer students, you are part of the Illinois articulate pathway. If you have fulfilled your associates degree, you have fulfilled your general education requirements. The task force went out to various community colleges to talk about the PLUS system and make sure any transfer students were not hurt by the system.

P. Senator Koss: Where is the reduction from 13 to 11 general education requirements be made up in the requirement of 120 credit hours to graduate?
   a. Most projects require more than 120 credit hours to graduate and reducing the amount of general education requirements would allow for a possible minor in another field.
   b. There will be no maximum in the number of classes you can take in the range of classes.

Q. Senator Brimeyer: The interdisciplinary didn’t carry over, why is that? How far down in student organization will you dig down?
   a. The general education classes include 140 classes and only 8 courses reside in the interdisciplinary category. They want to include all interdisciplinary courses into the pathways.

R. Senator Cappi: What would the writing courses include and what would it do to the ENGL 103 and 104 courses?
   a. The university and community emphasized the importance of writing in all four years. The faculty and students really enjoy ENGL 103 but they consider 104 to be a little redundant. They are looking to move the ENGL104 course to an upper level writing courses.

S. Senator Koss: What will the upper writing courses contain?

T. Under discussion regarding the 200 level writing course.

U. Move to discussion/debate over.

V. Call to question
W. Motion to vote SAR46003.
   a. Motion passes
X. Motion to hear SAB46001
Y. Seconded
   a. Ben Donovan: Last year they had issues with supplemental funding requests, they made a slight change to require the treasurer to review to the supplemental request as well.
Z. Motion to vote SAB46001
AA. Motion passes
BB. Motion to hear SAB46002
CC. Seconded
   a. Speaker Domke wrote this bill. In the bylaws, this bill is to change to title of the director.
DD. Motion to vote SAB46002.
EE. Motion passes
FF. Motion to hear SAB46003.
   a. Harmelodics: President of this organization looks for official recognition. They are dedicated to providing acapella music to all students and the surrounding community.
GG. Motion to vote SAB46003.
HH. Motion passes.
II. Motion to hear SAB46004.
JJ. This bill will be voted on next week.
KK. Bill is marked as read

PUBLIC COMMENTS

A. None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Senator Kincaid: Liquid nitrogen ice cream social to take place this week at MLK Commons.
B. Kelly: Congratulates everyone on first senate meeting.
C. Joe Palmer: Share announcements to him.
D. Speaker Domke: Would still like to have a barbeque that will take place before next weeks meeting
   Speaker Domke asks to adjourn meeting 8:07 PM

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY

Ryan Burke, Clerk of the Senate 9/28/2014

EXECUTIVE ALLOCATION INFORMATION