
D. Lonergan attended for J. Hurych; Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

THOSE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Buffo, Crisler, Fox, Kolb, Larson, Loubere, Peterson, Rusin, D. Schneider, Smith-Shank,

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:10 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

President Peters: I’m pleased to call the Academic year of the University Council to order. The first order of business is the adoption of the agenda. Now, we have two walkouts. The top sheet is a walk in from Sue Willis and it has to do with the Academic Calendar, a problem that has been identified and we need to fixed it. My suggestion is we place that under New Business so that will be under New Business as we adopt today’s agenda. The second item strikes me as information and we’ll place that as an Information Item on the agenda. Are there any other walk-ins Sue? All right. Therefore, let me call for the adoption of today’s agenda, which includes those two items I just indicated. Is there a motion to adopt? We have a motion and a second. All in favor say aye. Opposed? We have an agenda.

The agenda was adopted with additions.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 30, 2003 MEETING (Pages 3-5)

President Peters: It’s hard to believe but we have approval on the minutes of April 30, 2003. It seems like just a few days ago. Pages 3-5. As you look at those, are there additions or corrections you’d like to bring forward? Jerry Zar is not with us anymore so – all right, let’s move for approval of the minutes. Motion? Second? Those in favor say aye. Opposed?

The minutes were approved as written.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS
President Peters: Welcome back everyone. Today it strikes me, and you never know, that our agenda is very typical of the first University Council meeting, not any action items, but I do want to welcome everyone back. It’s been a long, hot summer although it’s relatively been a cool summer and a dry summer and I’m glad to see we’ve gotten the year started off as well as could be expected. We’re pleased at all the hard work that went into the preparations for this academic year and there are many, many success stories. Stories of sacrifice. We were on an abbreviated workweek, ten-hour days. We’re assessing the savings and the impact. I have received many e-mails – well, actually it’s to the point where I would say lobbying – to continue it. We’ll take that all under advisement when we analyze the impact. It worked. For some, it was pretty long days but people made adjustments and in the end, it worked out. So, welcome back everyone. I suppose that we should just take a moment and reflect on President Rhoten Smith who I did not know who died this week after a bout with cancer. He served from 1967 to 1971 and I don’t know, is there anyone here who was around during the Rhoten Smith era? Okay, we’ve got some people. All right, so you have first hand knowledge. He – when I was unpacking boxes in the office, one of the first notes I got was a nice handwritten note from Rhoten Smith. I wanted to read it but I couldn’t find it because my filing system is not what it should be. It was interesting. I wrote a note back thanking him but I always wanted to call him and ask him about those days. I recently reread the section in Earl Hayter’s book on that period of time as well as Bill Monet’s book. For those of us who were around, those were really awful times for universities and the country. Not that today is not. I think we’ve learned from those experiences. It was tense and students were angry. Students had to go serve in a war that many of them felt was unjustified. Many felt that it was justified and it was a polarizing thing. The students actually had to go – they were being drafted. So it was proximate and all over the country the campuses were in an explosion. I don’t know if Rathindra Bose was at Kent State at that time.

R. Bose: I heard about Kent State.

President Peters: You heard about Kent State. I was in Urbana at that time and it was not a lot of fun. And in Jackson, black students were killed in a dormitory. This was a very, very tense time and college presidents and student leaders and faculty had a very, very difficult time get their hands around this. Rhoten Smith, President Smith, was asleep and he got a call that students were sitting in on a bridge on Lincoln Highway and state troopers were moving in to remove them and so he put on his sweater and jeans and an NIU baseball cap and went and sat with them for several hours until 3:00 a.m. He sat down with them trying to convince them that they were going to be removed if they didn’t leave but also trying to explain the other side of the story to the authorities that there was some anger and some rage here and it wasn’t the work of a few outside agitators, although there were outside agitators, I think Father Groppi was here from Milwaukee. Our young people don’t remember that we will have to teach a course on the anti-war days. Finally, he was exhausted himself and left at 3:00 a.m. and there was some trashing and so forth that ensued. Not everybody was appreciative of that. There were hearings in the legislature to try to give power to universities to deal with recalcitrant students and that sort of thing. Luckily, nothing came of that. It all happened under Smith. He said they were very tumultuous and difficult years and it got worse for a while. He left in ’71 to be academic provost – I think he was in Pittsburgh - and by reading between the lines of his farewell statement that he
had just – he wanted to get to a more placid sort of state in life. He made a difference here from my reading of the history. He was the first non-College of Education president in our history. In and of itself, that’s important. I think it is significant the university was branching out. He fought hard for quality faculty salary increases. He fought hard for that and he worked with Deacon Davis to establish the Chance Program. So my reading of it is he made a difference in his short time and we share our thoughts and in whatever way you feel is appropriate.

Remember, that like a lot of people who pass through Northern over our hundred years, here’s a fellow who made a difference and tried to do the best thing he could during extremely difficult times. I think there’s valuable lessons for all of us in the event that things on our campus in the next months and years because of some similar situations, get a bit testy and let’s face it, we do live in testing times. I was with eleven presidents Monday behind closed doors negotiating whether or not we can get a fair and more ecncrreditable system of football and playoffs and Division 1A and obviously, that’s an important thing to a lot of people and, you know, to take a step back given the magnitude of the issues we’re dealing with as a society. Given the fact that almost every state has had severe cutbacks to support its public education enterprise. Given the fact that the economy is – it’s a jobless recovery and that effects our students as they get out into the work world. We are searching for solutions to the Middle East situation and we have all been asked to sacrifice. Students have to pay more; faculty are required to do more; administrators are required to do more. I think the most important thing as we start this year is to remember – I think we’re in better shape than we should be given what’s happened to us and that’s because of the good folks that work here and let’s try to continue that. I know your patience gets stressed and strained. My message today is it’s not going to get better this year. Let’s be realistic. This ’04 budget that was put together by the Governor is leaking oil and the revenues that come in monthly are not hitting projections. So we all should realize and I’ll talk about it in a minute, we put some things in place to try to be prudent but we’re not out of the woods in the ’04 budget yet let alone the ’05 budget, but here we are – we’re doing good work. We’ve got good students and I’ll talk about that in a minute. We made it together and we won a big football game. That’s a good thing. Our faculty are winning awards and getting research grants. Our students are winning awards. Teaching is going on. I had a great time last night at Rebecca Butler’s Instructional Technology class about the developing technology. The learning continues. That’s what we do.

Now, with that I want to introduce a guest who’s going to be with this year. That was fun, wasn’t it?

**R. Butler:** Yes, that was great.

**President Peters:** I’d like to know what you said about me when I left. We have with us a guest this year. You know, the prestigious American Council on Education Fellowship Program. We have with us Greg Paveza from South Florida. He’s wearing the South Florida green, we will beat that out of him this year. He’s a Chicago lad and a social worker and he’s involved – would you say, more than on the edges of faculty governance issues?

**G. Pareza:** I would probably say more than on the edges.
President Peters: More than on the edges and he is here learning and doing a plan and he is a senior person with a lot of wisdom. You’ll see him popping up here and as he goes through his year as Ace Fellow. That’s a great program and we’re glad to have you.

G. Pareza: Thank you.

President Peters: And while you’re here consider yourself, please do, part of our little crowd here which means you get to tell me what you think at any time. That’s what everyone else does.

Okay, now I want to welcome also – we have about 55 faculty who have joined us, new faculty, replacement faculty. They’re not additional faculty; they’re replacement faculty and we have some things planned for faculty orientation. Did that happen already? Already happened and I hope they get off to a good start. If they’re in your departments, make an effort to welcome them and get them off to a good start at NIU. So, 55.

Let me talk a little bit about enrollment. We are now – we haven’t officially reported yet – but these are about as solid numbers as we’re going to get give or take one or two. We have just a little of cleaning to do. Now remember, our strategy has been to try and have stability at about 25,000. I thought giving the tools that we have and demand that we have that that was our goal. We have, when it’s all said and done, on campus/off campus, our total in university enrollment is going to be in the magnitude of 25,250, on and off campus. That’s up about 311 or just over 1%. That’s the whole thing. You know, on the off campus, the registrations come in late and that’s still being completed now. So that’s pretty close to our target. Now, let me take that apart. Let’s start with freshman. New freshman enrollment, coming in, is at about 3,240. That’s up about 208 or about a 7% increase over last year. That’s a big increase. It’s one of the biggest in our history. Now, so that’s new students and we have enrollment controls in place for new freshmen in that we stuck to a deadline of the applications that were made first which is one way you can attempt to control enrollment by sticking rigidly to a deadline. There’s a group that’s working around-the-clock on these issues for next year and we’re setting the dates now. We’ll probably set it before May but the organism adjusts. The guidance counselors out there know and they’ll make adjustments. Still, that’s a strategy we have.

Transfers – new undergraduate transfer enrollment is at 2,153 – you know, because we are – 40% of our undergraduate enrollment is transfers from community colleges. That is down 291 or almost a 12% decrease from last year. So management controls were in place there and this is a good thing that I approve of. Here’s what we did. We set a July 1 deadline for transfers. Transfers are always late because it’s just of that cycle. So we set July 1 and what we did was we encouraged strongly students in community colleges to complete their 60 hour AA rather than to transfer before 60 hours. We encouraged them to do that for a couple of reasons. It wasn’t just a – that’s just a good pedagogical thing to do given our knowledge of how transfer students do. If they finish that 60 hours, they do better than those who transfer with less than 60 hours and that’s clear in the data. The other thing we did was we implemented a 2.5 GPA cutoff for sophomore transfers – that’s if you did come in after 60 hours – up from 2.0 because we knew, and the data is very clear, if you transfer and you have less than a 2.5 and less than your AA 60 hours – you need – drop out rates here are high. So, that worked very, very well and we
were down 291 transfers. Now therefore, if you combine freshmen and transferring – that’s about 5390, down 84 or 1.5% decrease okay, in the incoming freshmen/transfer pool combined. But, and I guess we’ve got to like this, total undergraduate enrollment is up 170 or 1.5% so what you’ve got is – we’ve got a higher retention rate in there. Even though that makes – we’ve got to get more students in the advanced courses – that’s good – we want that. We want students to have a higher retention rate and to graduate on time. We really want that.

So let me talk – graduate students – that’s very stable. On campus graduate enrollment is 4,070 up 121 which is an increase of 3%. I believe international applications are down. I don’t know – Rathindra do you know the percent.

R. Bose: About 7% down.

President Peters: I think that tracks nationally because of obvious reasons. Off the campus graduate enrollment is 2,582, up 17 so an increase of less than 1% so there is stability there. So, total graduate enrollment is 6,651, up 138 for an increase of 2%. That’s pretty much tracking nationally, you know, economy down, graduate enrollment up. That’s one of those immutable rules of graduate education. Economy good, graduate enrollments down. Students stay and decide they can’t get the job they want so they go on for further education.

Diversity – so here’s some diversity figures that we’re very proud of. Our African-American freshmen enrollment is at 610, up 17%. Our Latino and Latina freshman enrollment is 245, up 21% and I have to appear, gladly, before the committee of the Latino caucus to talk about these issues. Our Asian-American freshman enrollment is 186, down 5%. So just over 32% of the incoming class will be made up of minority students. We’ve been running at about 30, 31% for the past several years so there’s not a great change there.

All right, so that’s enrollment. Now, I want to say that the Enrollment Committee has just done a tremendous job and I’ve got to pay them respects and I don’t want to leave anybody out but I think I can do this from memory. The head of our Enrollment Services, Don Larson, who has been crunching the numbers along with our Institutional Research fellow, Dan House, and our Registration and Records person, Bob Burke. They had their hands on the data everyday watching the trends. They worked very, very closely with academic people, particularly Frederick Schwantes in the Provost’s Office and because of the size of the issue, Joe Grush in Liberal Arts and they did a tremendous job and they worked closely on a day-to-day basis with Eddie Williams and Eddie Williams did a great job especially in the last days of squeezing and finding some extra dollars to put in – emergency sessions working with those fine folks – so that we – and working with department heads and deans and faculty so that our students, our freshmen and others, have a reasonably full program. I’m not making light – that there have not been sacrifices but it’s pretty good. It’s a good system. That system will continue – you know, we don’t just sit around and wait. We work on that all year. I’m very, very pleased with that system – that rapid-fire system. We’re holding our breaths. They’re working on our enrollment management plan for next year. So, congratulations to all of them and I want to thank faculty who stepped up and took more students and more advising. I will say this though, you know, I was at the University of Nebraska and larger sections are nothing new in American public higher education. It’s not like something that happened with this budget cut. You know, when I was a
teaching assistant at a particularly large university in Illinois and I was the head TA for, I don’t
want to tell you, probably in the hundreds/thousands of students who majored in political
science, that’s a large section. Harvard’s Western Civ is 1,500. Larger sections are nothing new.
We, comparatively, do not have mega-sections. We have sections over 100 and when I was at
Nebraska – I remembered to tell this story – I was part of a group of professors who believe that
good pedagogy could be applied to sections over 100 with the right kind course, using the right
strategy and the right approach. We formed something called the “Century Club” and we met
and we talked about devices and techniques. Especially today with the technology, it’s a
perfectly appropriate pedagogy to do “good teaching” just because they’re a little larger so I’m
going to do what I can do re-stimulate my thinking about that and talk to some of these
professors who are teaching these courses because I enjoyed – I taught a 500 student American
politics section in Nebraska and took it on as a challenge. I think students got a good education
and I got reasonable evaluations and we made it a challenge and people wanted to get into those
sections. So, we’re gonna work on that a little bit. That’s just a personal aside about this
particularly for some of our students who don’t have a history of this thing that some of us older
folks do.

Okay, now let me let me talk a little bit about the budget. We in the administrative group and the
lobbying group, Dr. Williams’ staff and Ivan – we didn’t get much time off this summer. No
fishing for us. This ’04 budget never really did get completed and we’re not done yet but we did
get a number and we are operating. The bottom line – here’s the bottom line – our FY04
appropriate, that’s from state dollars, and think of our budget – think of your family checkbook
and your sources of revenue – we have state dollars coming in; we have tuition coming in;
money from auxiliary enterprises like room and board coming in. We have grants and contracts
from federal and state agencies, private gifts and that’s – there may be a few others, but that’s the
total. So what I’m talking about today is that part from the state that used to be the lion’s share,
and still is a substantial part, of our budget. Our total budget is over $300,000,000. Our general
revenue funds are about at $100,000,000. That gives you some idea of the magnitude of
operation and the share that the state gives us. Last year, ’03, our adjusted, appropriated funds
from the state was $111,000,000 and this year our ’04 base is about $102,000,000. So that’s –
you know, you can do the math. It’s 9.1 million dollars less. Let me take you back then to the
last quarter of last year when on the ’03 budget, the state required, and took back, $3,000,000
from us from last year’s budget – that was 2.7%. Remember they wanted 8% and all that battle
and the students helped us out – well, it got it down 2.7 – that’s still $3,000,000. We met that
with one-time deferral of maintenance and repairs and a one-time deferral of equipment
purchases and freeze on hiring. That’s how we handled that. Now, the ’04 appropriated budget
again, was 9.1 million less than ’03. That represents an 8.2% reduction in that state aided base
and it did not include 3.5 million that we had to contribute to medical insurance. So that’s on top
of that so add that to the 9 million. So the FY04 reduction takes us back to FY99 appropriated
funding. So go back to ’99 in our state fix. That’s pretty tough and yet we’re here – it’s very
tough. I didn’t think any institution is able to do that. Now again, all states, talking to presidents
all the time and every State University in this country is getting reduced. So the 8.2% reduction
was met through a combination of base reductions to each division – you all suffered in that.
You all shared in that pain. We had continued selective hiring. We did do hiring but it was
extremely selective and every vacant position became a jewel to be analyzed according to
priorities. We had selective reduction and deferred maintenance and we’re doing a great job but,
you know, this is an aging campus and the dust is flying and we’re repairing roads as we can but a lot of that money that went to the reduction came out of deferred maintenance. The implementation of an extended winter shut-down and – we don’t know what that is going to give us – and through a tuition increase. That’s how we handled the reduction in ’04. Now, we got to get ready for this year. I’m saying right now don’t think that things are going to be great. We need – maybe they will, but I think we should prepare ourselves. Let’s be realistic here. I think we’ve got another year or maybe two of dealing with this. Let’s be realistic. We’ve got to stick together for another year and let’s plan right now. We are planning; I know you are. So, we’re going to have an extended winter shut-down this year including two scheduled closure days and non-instructional employees normally scheduled to work may use accrued vacation benefits to help them through that. All right so, cold winter? The colder the better over the break. We’re going to save money. We do save money over winter break.

Now, there is also a potential as we sit here for a rescission in our current budget, the ’04 budget. That’s because as I said, the ’04 budget as put together by the governor, good faith effort is leaking oil. Some of the revenues he thought was there are not quite there; some are being contested but basically tax revenues are not coming in at the projected level. That’s an economic situation. So we are putting in place measures to keep our powder dry. We’re watching travel. We are still in our modified hiring freeze. It takes vice-presidential approval to replace a vacancy and we’re taking – I’m personally taking a look at those tallies month-by-month. Again, none of these measures, however, that we put in place with this situation as we sit today will have any effect on utilizing the principles I’ve used for the past two years – protecting health and safety, protecting the academic programs, trying to avoid layoffs. Those are the principles. This will in no way affect the second half of the promise of salary increment. We have that programmed in and that is going to be delivered to you. I do not know whether the plus part will be there but I’m not giving up on that either. So, you know, the principles are still in place, we’re in a modified hiring freeze, we’re watching our spending. The salary – the second half of that salary increase is in place.

So, looking to the ’05 budget, in working with the IBHE, the normal budgeting process – building process for ’05 – has been pushed back. So we won’t know what the Governor is thinking until late – usually the way it happens is you visit with the IBHE – we’ve already put in our requests which looks a lot like our requests for ’03. Faculty and staff salaries are at the top, some program money, who know all the way down -- whether or not that’s wishful thinking, I don’t know – but they are our needs so let’s state ‘em. I think we need about 85 more faculty. Let’s say on an average with benefits, that’s $50,000 that’s about 4-4.5 million? We don’t have 4.5 million in program money for new faculty. We need it, I’ll fight for it – I don’t know if we’ll get it this year. At any rate, the Governor I think is waiting to see what revenues look like. There is a veto session that happens in November and we’ll be pleading our case so it will be late before we know. I think the thing to watch is the revenue estimates.

All right now, there are some other things we’re working with that you should be aware of. One is last year the legislature passed, and we were supportive of it, truth in tuition. Truth in tuition basically says that beginning ’05 students coming in are guaranteed whatever that rate structure is for the four years or the duration of their program. If they’re transfer students for two years. We’re working through that because some programs have differentiated fee – if you move from
one program to another, we have to figure out, you know, probably go back and charge the student the differentiated fee at the time they entered the university. We inaugurated this year a slightly incremental fee for students in upper divisions and that has to track through. There is no, at this point, there is no limit to increases from year-to-year, for new students entering. Although there was a legislative attempt to cap that at 5% which we resisted because that makes it – well, you can do the math on that – it makes it very difficult. All this is predicated and we hope it works because I think for students and their parents and I think you all do too – they need access to a quality education at a reasonable price. Now here’s where the rub is and that is if the based budget gets cut. We think this will work okay if our base budget doesn’t get cut. If our base budget gets cut then basically our truth in tuition – I don’t know if we have any rabbits left in the hat. I think we’re facing some layoffs and some drastic measures. But that’s a way off and maybe by that time the economy will turn around and there’ll be revenues.

The IBHE has new leadership and there’s more attention paid to how we spend our money and that’s fine with us. We’re very accountable. We, as an institution, have reallocated – and we can demonstrate this and will – a lot of administrative money into core academic activities and we’ll continue to do that.

So, we’re managing and we’re getting to the management. The deans are managing well. The departments are managing well and if there’s any solace in this it’s that we’re all in this together. I know of very few places in the US where public universities are swimming in increased funding. Again, this is a bigger matter.

I’m going on at length here because I haven’t been able to communicate with you all summer and so much has happened. I am concerned that policy makers can get stuck in the moment of making budgets and cutting budgets and, let’s face it, higher education across the country is not exactly on the radar screen – when we have medicaid issues to deal with and the way cost to deal with and you know – joblessness. And yet, if you look at the demographics in the country and you look at the demographics in the state of Illinois, the major public policy issue that must be addressed is how do you provide the adequate education, the quality education for all these students who are going to be coming through the high schools in the next decade? What is the solution to that? I am going to try to shape that debate and look to the future and try to get some commitments from our public officials to help address that because I think this institution has done all it can given its current resources to take as many students as we can and so I’m trying to make that case and shift the debate. It’s difficult because, you know, you have to make our budgets this year. That being said, I am so proud of the institution. I am so proud of our students being willing to pay more for this quality of education. I am so proud of the faculty being willing to step up. I know how fleeting morale can be having been through it myself. So, my plea to the Council, the Faculty Senate and others is to do all that you can to make those sacrifices to help us and give us guidance and share with us your ideas so that we can get through this next year or two. I think that’s the responsible that we have to take.

Now, the other thing I want to mention today is that in all of this is our ten year accreditation and there’s lots of good things going on this year and I just want to reiterate to everyone that the North Central – it’s called now The Higher Learning Commission but it’s the old North Central Accreditation. That’s very important, students, because that’s the group that says you’re
accredited, you’re bona fied for the issuance of degrees and – the quality of your degree depends on this accreditation. There’s no doubt we’re going to be reaccredited but we want to put our best foot forward. It’s a big deal. The dates are set for their site visit – they send an outside team – February 23 through February 25, 2004. The eleven-member site team, I’ve been notified this morning, has been selected. I don’t want to say who they are; we’re going to do a press release with the Commission. Is Virginia Cassidy here? Virginia is sort of our head of our accreditation and we have – a team leader has been selected from outside. Now, there’s some components of this. We have self-study – the Steering Committee on campus – I want to thank them for all the work they’ve done. They’ve reviewed the latest draft of the self-study and with some suggestions that draft is being prepared for the university community. It will be posted on intranet website later in this month and then we’re going to ask everybody, students, staff, faculty, administrators to provide input into that draft self-study. Self-study is very important in this process. So again, thanks to the Steering Committee. They spend a lot of time on this. This is a year long activity.

Now, we want to give special thanks to Jan Rintala, a professor in our Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education who chaired the search committee, hearing committee rather, for the countless hours she spent in getting this together and, of course, to Virginia for her leadership on this and Ivan for his people. I just want to say that’s coming up.

My State of the University address is October 2. I have been working on that all summer. It’s extremely comprehensive. It’s sort of a three-year look at what’s happened since I’ve come here, or not happened, and I invite you all to attend the reception after. I have a lot more detail to say about the direction of the university and where we are. I always look forward to that.

Okay, with that – I know that was a bit long-winded but I haven’t seen you all summer and I wanted you to be informed so you can communicate with your constituents about what’s going on. So the message is not gloom and doom but it’s not bright. It is – we’re going to have to manage. We’ll get through this. We’re in pretty good shape though. To my knowledge, no one – or we have not had – only a few layoffs, if any, for the purposes of the budget. I’m very proud of that. We’re going to try to do that this year, but I can’t promise. All right, so – I think I’ll take questions at the end so we can get through our agenda.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of University Council Committees for 2003-2004 (Page 6)
B. Approval of Xueshu Song to serve on the University Advisory Committee of the Board of Trustees – 2003-2006 (Page 7)
C. Recommendation for Advisory Board for Technology Services – refer to University Affairs (Page 8)

President Peters: Is there a motion to accept the Consent Agenda under V? We have three items. Anyone want to approve that? Second? Any discussion? It can’t be discussed? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

The Consent Agenda was approved.
VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Patricia Henry – report (Pages 9-12)

President Peters: Now let’s go to reports. Faculty Advisory Committee to the IBHE? Our friend, Patricia Henry, has a report.

P. Henry: Just by way of introduction for those of you who are perhaps new to this Council, the IBHE as you know has various and sundry functions, analytical, regulatory, they also advocate things to the legislature. They recommend budgets, which the legislature or the governor doesn’t necessarily accept. The FAC tries to sort of bring the faculty perspective to the IBHE, which they, in turn, can ignore. So we’re trying to at least get across some of the concerns that we have and that you all have and representatives from all of the public universities and assorted representation of community colleges and private universities as well. So it’s quite a diverse group and it does give, I think, a very interesting perspective on higher education as a whole in Illinois. So, they met twice over the summer and the report that I will submit on a regular basis, they met once a month – next meeting actually is this Friday at Evanston Northwestern. What I’ll try and do is sort of highlight certain things and assuming it gets out to you earlier, I won’t try to read through everything and you can – and I urge you – to ask questions about whatever is concerning you and often I will ask you, sometimes by e-mail, for feedback or input for items that are going to be coming up for discussion at the FAC meeting. So, just briefly to go over the report that was included in your packet there, we did meet at Rend Lake and had numerous items of discussion about the budget, which, of course, was in a state of flux. Mentioning the SURS consolidation flap which is also referenced at number 3, there was also a concern that the SURS funds were going to get consolidated with other funds. We felt this was not a good plan. That was sort of put off and, hopefully, will not come back but one can never be sure. One of the things that we’ve, again, stressed to the IBHE – the Chair of the FAC makes presentations to the IBHE – and the IBHE to give it credit, is trying to get this across to others as well, that some of the concerns, for example, over administration cost or “bloat” as it’s sometimes know really needs to take into account what is going on under the rubric of administration. Some of it is very, very functional and very, very necessary for education for students and faculty. Tech services, for example, there’s a tendency for there to be a rather oversimplified view of what administration is. Another drum that we continue to beat is the fact that assessment being a fine, fine thing, having more and more of it sometimes results in redundancy and that the IBHE should attempt to streamline this process and there is some evidence that they are actually hearing us on this. In June 20 we meet at Roosevelt University with members of the Illinois Articulation Initiative to have a discussion about articulation, this was quite interesting from the perspective of the four year institutions and the community college. The general consensus was there needed to be more communication so that community college students who transfer to a four-year institutions would not be in for rude shocks.

Finally – oh, I have two number 3’s. How interesting. The second number 3 which is actually number 4, is talking about the 7th Goal for the Illinois Commitment. Those of you who were here last year know that we have been discussing this for sometime. To make a long story short, the plan is to try and include in the Illinois Commitment a 7th goal, or 7th commitment, which
would address the fact that quality of life is improved through higher education. The plan is to have this brought up perhaps in the next IBHE meeting. The hope is that assessment would be something along the line of best practices rather than yet another assessment hope to jump through. The idea being that it really is – although it is really important, the 6 goals – which I don’t have at the tip of my fingertips right now, but address very practical matters of higher education and the feeling is that it would be nice to get something in there that’s a little more abstract but very important nonetheless. Speaking of getting the word out about higher education, the Public Policy Committee of the IBHE is going to be working on developing op-ed pieces for the media. Also, in terms of what actually has happened as a result of budget cuts to higher education. Some of you may have seen the piece in the Chicago Tribune a couple of weeks ago that was actually datelined “DeKalb” that had some discussion on what happens with larger classes and so forth. I think the idea here is to try and not whine any more than usual but to at least try to give some picture of what is lost when these budget cuts go on and on as they have been doing and here I really would appreciate, especially from the students, some input and some antidotes that would help sort of “flesh-out” this picture. I think it’s important that people understand how this is working.

The next item – there’s a couple of reports out from the IBHE. One on affordability and I’ve referenced this here with a website if you’re interested, the entire report is available there and I’ve highlighted – given you some bullet points there as to what they’re talking about. In general the FAC supports this – such things as continuing the MAP program, feasibility studies and so forth. We have some reservations about the tuition related recommendations. Limiting tuition increases could have the unwanted effect of lowering the overall value of the degree and we have voiced this to the IBHE. Also, although MAP is a very appropriate, high budget priority, the FAC would argue also that a stable base of state support for institutional operating costs should also be right up there as a budget priority because the money is continuing to be a problem.

The report on diversity is also out on the web and we invite responses. We haven’t really talked about this much in the FAC so I don’t have a lot to say about this other than what’s there. Again, the FAC is certainly supportive of this. I would like to also point out that there’s going to be some problems with having sufficient funds to implement some of these programs.

Finally, just to point out to you that the IBHE website is actually very informative, very easy to navigate for finding out what’s going on with the IBHE in general. They also have a very nice news segment so news on higher education from all over, not just Illinois, is highlighted there in a fairly easily assessable fashion. There is also a separate link to the FAC website and to the Student Advisory Committee, the SAC, website there so I think that’s a useful thing to look at.

I’ll be happy to answer any questions if you have them.

**President Peters:** Any questions for Pat Henry? The IBHE website has all of this information. We used to have trouble at NIU getting our material simulated by IBHE in the packet. The reason, as it was explained to me, was that the IBHE using a service that would go through the newspapers and then highlight things from Southern Illinois or Western Illinois, and unfortunately this search did not include the Daily Chronicle or The Northern Star. Of course this makes it a little difficult then to get into, but now they have a web based and we are getting
in there a lot. So, I’m glad you noticed that. I might add that in terms of the IBHE I’m pleased that the FAC in is deciding to get involved, I think we do need to make the case. Hopefully, we can work together and coordinate on that so that we have a good unified message. I failed to mention that the Governor has appointed not a deputy governor for education, like Hazel Loucks, under George Ryan. I don’t know exactly what the title is, it’s something a little less than that, but it is still something like a deputy governor for education. That person’s name is Brenda Holmes and I hear she’s a very qualified person. She is basically a K-12 background, as did Hazel Loucks. So I look forward to meeting her. All right, any questions? Good report as always.

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Paul Loubere and William Tolhurst – report

President Peters: Paul and Bill, BOT Academic Affairs report?

W. Tolhurst: This committee met twice since we last met, once last June. All the items dealt with at the June meeting were forwarded to the Board of Trustees which acted on them and I believe those will be covered in Sue Willis’s report. I’ll just report on last week’s meeting.

At the September 4 meeting, the committee to recommend and forward to the Board of Trustees three action items: a collective bargaining agreement effecting about 150 instructors; a request for authority to offer a BS in Nursing at a regional site; and, the transfer of tenure and tenure track locations for three faculty, from Counseling, Adult and Health Education to Allied Health Professions. That is part of what I understand to be the continuing reorganization of the College of Education. The Committee also received a number of information items and these included the FY2005 Programmatic Budget requests, recognition of 2002-2003 emeritus faculty. A very detailed, and helpful in my view, overview of the continuing process of reorganizing the College of Education by Dean Sorensen. The FY2003 University Results Reports, recognition for those receiving Professional Excellence Awards for faculty and staff, and a detailed account of FY2003 external funding for research, public service and instructional projects by Vice-President Bose and then finally an update on higher learning accreditation. I didn’t find anything particularly requiring detailed comment in these and I wouldn’t presume to try to summarize the two detailed reports by Vice-President Bose and Dean Sorensen who are here if you have any questions.

President Peters: Dean Sorensen, is your Power Point up on your web? College web? Could you put that up there? I think it’s pretty self-explanatory. Well, it’s not self-explanatory, but if you work on it you can understand it and I think it’s valuable.

C. Sorensen: Do you want the text as well as the speech itself?

President Peters: Put anything you want up there.

W. Tolhurst: You know, the text that was included in our booklet was very clear.
President Peters: I mean, I really do think that it’s valuable and you should share it with the community. All right? Questions for that committee?

C. BOT Finance, Facilities and Operation Committee – Sue Willis – report

President Peters: All right, BOT Finance, Facilities and Operation Committee, Sue Willis is reporting.

S. Willis: This Committee is in the same situation as the Academic Affairs Committee. It met in June but that report will be part of the overall Board of Trustees report for June because it’s essentially the same items. However, the Committee met last Thursday and so I will tell you about that. There are a number of budget items that were approved by this Committee. What we call the appropriate in capital budget – that’s where we ask for major money for buildings – is the same as it was last year since we didn’t get any money last year. So the first two items on that priority list were the Stevens remodeling and Wirtz remodeling and some electrical work. We’re hoping we get at least one thing funded this year but we’ll see. Then there’s what’s called capital budget repair and renewal items which are smaller items just electrical and technology upgrades, lighting and things like that which the Board of Trustees have to approve. Then we have the non-appropriated capital budget. This is money that doesn’t come from the state. It either comes from tuition or fees or whatever. Things like the Convocation Center, this building, the residence halls and so forth. Again, there are a number of projects proposed for those and the Trustees had to approve. There was an accountability of the FY04 internal budget showing where our money comes from and where it goes. There are a few information items many of which are routine in the fall. A bunch of stuff that’s reported to the Trustees and there was a very nice presentation on the Convocation Center which, by the way, made money in its first year. They made $900,000 more than it needed to break even on expenses and make the first payment on the bonds. So they put that into a reserved fund. That’s about it.

President Peters: Very good. I think we’re going to – at the BOT meeting I’m going to request that John Gordon and Bob Albanese give that report again and also I want Vice-President Bose to give his report on external funding at the full Board meeting if you’re available. Good! Any questions?

D. BOT Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee – Sara Clayton and Bev Espe – report (Page 13)

President Peters: Then we have the BOT Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee, Sara and Bev?

B. Espe: We met June 10 in Hoffman Estates and had a relatively short meeting. Basically, we went over some of the substantive legislation that affected higher ed. I have outlined in your manual some of those bills that we talked about. President Peters commented on the limit on tuition increases, that was HB 1118 so I won’t go into that one, but to draw your attention to also HB 60, that was Higher Education In-State Tuition. That bill was passed related to deeming an individual an Illinois resident until they establish residency outside of the state if special criteria were met and there’s like 5 different criteria. I do have some information on that if you would
like further information on that. It was recognized that because these individuals would be considered in-state tuition rather than out-of-state tuition for awhile, that universities will have to absorb through their income fund, some of that lost revenue that would be there.

Also I would like to draw your attention to HB 1543 from the standpoint that Dr. Williams had the distinction of being named as the spokesperson in negotiations of this bill and that was an honor for NIU to have him named to be that spokesperson. It spoke highly for NIU.

Now I’m going to skip down to Steve Cunningham’s report on the SURS update. You may remember that last year there was discussion about the SURS general formula for a retiree and the final rate of earnings calculations including eligible sick leave payouts, if there had been unused sick leave. This has been collectively bargained and negotiated at another university and they’re trying to move in the direction of having some consistency to this so that all state – I don’t know if I want to say all state employees or university employees anyway – would have the same benefit of that final rate of earnings. This was not acted on and higher ed is going to consider pursuing this amendment but there is no action actually taken on that so we will be hearing more about that down the line. There might even be some new information now on that since this was back in June but we had that information. So I think that kind of gives some of the highlights there.

President Peters: Very good. We plan to move that in the veto session. You kind of criptically mentioned Dr. Williams in negotiating, it seems that when things get tough they higher education community asks NIU sends in their chief bargainer. He did a great job. Okay. Questions?

E. BOT – Sue Willis – report (Page 14)

President Peters: Okay, now we have Sue and the BOT report.

S. Willis: Okay, I have a written report in your packet on page 14. I just want to highlight a couple of things. One is that the Board of Trustees had a special session on the 5th of May specifically to set tuition rates for the fall. Usually, we do this earlier like in March but because of the uncertainties they decided that it was not wise to do it before they knew how much money we were getting from the state but they also thought that they wanted to do it before the 19th of June which is the next scheduled meeting because they wanted the students to know before they left campus. So they did. I’ve written down here what the tuition increase was. The full Board did meet on June 19. They held elections so Gary Skoien is the new Chair and I’ve listed the other officers there. Let’s see, the paragraph where it says “public comment was received” I need to make it clear that it was not representatives of the entire operating staff, it was representatives of organizers of a clerical union. I don’t think we have a clerical union but there are people who are trying to get one so they are the ones who spoke. They represent some number of the operating staff but not all – they represent the views of some of the operating staff but not all. Then FY05 guidelines were given and I just wanted to point out what happens with these things. These guidelines – this is what we send to the IBHE, okay? Now, if I look at what we sent in FY04, we sent a request for a 5% increase in salary, a 10% utility increase, some general increases, 4.5 million for program priorities and 1.5 million for deferred maintenance and 1.6 million each for computer systems and operations of new buildings. That’s what we sent to
the IBHE. Okay, what came out of the IBHE was 2% for raises and zero for everything else. That’s what they sent to the Governor and the Governor also set the raises to zero and that’s what we got.

**President Peters:** He cut us 8.2%.

**S. Willis:** Yeah, it was actually negative, yes. So this is the first step in that process. This is what goes to IBHE and then President Peters was talking about the IBHE is not going to be considering it as early as they normally do because of all the uncertainties. So we’ve asked and we’ll see.

**President Peters:** I think it is fair to say that a Governor would not want to get a request from an agency that was for a funding level that was way outside of what he or she thought they could fund. Of course, last year you had transition from then governor to another and so we’re in a different environment this year. This is the first year for the new governor and the state bureaucracy get together on the building a budget. Governor Blogovich inherited budget and this year is the first time their building so, I think that’s the reason for the delay and we will see what will happen.

**S. Willis:** Okay, the Trustees did approve a salary increment of 1.5% effective July 1 or August 16 for faculty and another 1.5% effective January 1 and then there’s the plus which, you know, if money falls out of the sky then it’ll be even more to come. I would suggest not holding your breath.

Okay, and then they approved the tenure and promotion requests that were presented and formally appointed Dr. Bose as Vice President for Research and Dean of the Graduate School and Dr. Vohra as Acting Dean of the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology. That’s it.

**President Peters:** Any questions for Sue about that report?

**F. Academic Policy Committee – John Wolfskill, Chair**

**President Peters:** So now let’s move to Academic Policy Committee. John Wolfskill do you have something for us?

**J. Wolfskill:** Well, we have not yet met. I would like to say two things however. First of all for the people on my committee, I would like you to refer to page 15 for the meeting schedule of the Council and simply hold the Wednesdays in October and November after the Council meeting for possible meetings of our Committee if we have any business. If the Wednesdays don’t work out, I would try to move to Monday. Now, I’m not aware of any business for our Committee at this time. However, I certainly invite all members of the Council and friends and relatives to give me the word if there’s some item or a particular thing that’s on your mind that you think is appropriate for our Committee, simply inform me of that and I will certainly take it under consideration for this group.
President Peters: Any questions for John? Okay.

G. Resources, Space and Budgets Committee – William Goldenberg, Chair

President Peters: All right, Resources, Space and Budgets, William Goldenberg? I saw him walking in my neighborhood the other day with a bag of groceries.

W. Goldenberg: I have a very similar kind of report. First I’ll just remind the members of the Committee that I’ve called the first meeting for next Wednesday, the 17th at 3:00 and we’ll meet in our usual place, the 3rd floor conference room of Lowden Hall. Also, like John I want to welcome any ideas. We’ll be developing our agenda and issues we want to talk about this semester and work on so anyone in the university community and certainly the members of my Committee are invited and encouraged to contribute ideas. Thank you very much.

President Peters: Any questions for William? I know you’ll have business.

H. Rules and Governance Committee – Carole Minor, Chair

President Peters: Carole Minor, Rules and Governance. I think you inherited this committee.

C. Minor: Inherited – this Committee has not yet met and we’re scheduled to meet next Wednesday at 3:00. We did inherit four items from last year which we will be dealing with and we do not invite anyone else to send us any items.

President Peters: A person after my own heart. All right. I don’t think anyone dare comment after that.

I. University Affairs Committee – Richard Orem, Chair

President Peters: Richard Orem, University Affairs Committee? Is he here?

R. Orem: Yeah, we don’t have a report although it looks like we do have an item for our next meeting and so I would like to – if people who are on that Committee could meet – my own hope is that we can also meet during that Wednesday following the week of the University Council meeting. That’s the only open Wednesday but if we could meet just briefly following this meeting so we could talk about it and hopefully, we’ll be able to meet next Wednesday. It looks like we’ll have to find a place to meet but that’s my report for now.

President Peters: Okay. Questions?

J. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Deborah Smith-Shank, Chair

President Peters: Deborah, Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee?

J. Kowalski: She is suffering from bronchitis or a bad cold or something.
President Peters: And she has no report?

J. Kowalski: No report.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Peters: Is there any Unfinished Business before the house? All right.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

President Peters: New Business – we have a series of annual reports that are posted on the net. Questions? We need to vote receive them. May I have a motion to receive them? Second? All those in favor say aye. Opposed?

A. Receipt of Annual Reports

1. Academic Planning Council
2. Affirmative Action Diversity Resources Advisory Committee
3. Athletic Board
4. Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
5. Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
6. Faculty Personnel Advisor
7. Graduate Council
8. Undergraduate Coordinating Council
9. University Assessment Panel
10. University Benefits Committee
11. University Council Personnel Committee
12. University Ombudsman

The motion passed to receive the reports.

B. Amend 2004-05 academic calendar – walk-in

President Peters: Now we have a walk-in item, correct? Sue, I will ask you to deliver this to us.

S. Willis: Okay, Sue Doederlein called me this morning and said she had noticed that the calendar for next fall basically was a week too late to be practical. It has, if you look on the back of this sheet, it has classes beginning on the 30th of August and Commencement on the 19th of December. Just to put that in perspective, we often meet – this body often meets during that – certainly during exam week which would make it the 15th of December which also seems kind of late but the problem with that is that it does not leave enough time to process dismissals before the holiday break which needs to be done. It’s also, if you look at the variation in our start dates – I mean obviously that’s divided over a 7-day range – this is like an 8th day. It’s later than usual. So, if we move it a week earlier, then you could just subtract 7 from everything and that puts Faculty meetings August 16 through 20th when we’re on pay so we can’t say we don’t
wanna. Well, we could say it, but you know. Classes begin August 23 and end December 3, final exams the December 6-11 and then Fall commencement on December 12th. I talked to the people in Registration and Records I think it is that put out the schedule, you know, the printed schedule of classes. Ideally, if we agree to this, it would be nice to have it available to go into the spring course schedule because there are things like the first day of classes in the fall are in there. So, that means we have to do it now because it’s going to go to the printer pretty soon. So I would entertain a motion to approve this change or do we have to entertain it?

**President Peters:** I think we need to hear from--I’m normally not cautious but I’m cautious about this because I don’t – doesn’t this require Trustee approval?

**S. Willis:** No.

**President Peters:** Don’t we have to inform them a year ahead of changes or something? I’m just being like Jerry Zar right now.

**S. Willis:** We have to inform them.

**President Peters:** Does this then change all of those dates for the breaks and so forth?

**S. Willis:** Yeah, it’s just an adjustment.

**President Peters:** We’re adjusting the front end and the back end and all the other dates. I just hope we have thought through all the implications of this before we act.

**G. Seaver:** I have a question Sue. Do we know when summer ends, summer ’04. Does it end on August 7 for graduation or August 14?

**S. Willis:** I don’t have the date but Sue told me that the gap between summer and fall is a week longer than it usually is, so it’s probably the 7th I guess.

**President Peters:** There’s a transition where you would have to get the residence halls ready and there is transition and that can be.

**D. Mathesius:** Sue Doederlein told me that there is three weeks between the end of summer and beginning of fall, as it stands now. There is normally only two.

**S. Willis:** So that would make it the 7th.

**President Peters:** Are you sure?

**S. Willis:** Yeah, and Donna was saying that’s 3 weeks between the end of summer and the beginning of fall, we normally have 2 weeks.

**R. Bose:** Let me make a comment here. Did you consider all the impact on the students’ side? Many students work during the summer time and if we are going to bring them over here 1 week
and the parents’ vacation involved, there’s income involved, ten weeks internship involved with many students going outside. Have you thought about those issues? How much inconvenience the students are going to encounter?

**S. Willis:** If you look at the range of start dates that we’ve had in the past, the 23rd is not uncommon. In fact, it happens about a third of the time. So we have started on the 23rd before and I’m not sure, you know, ---

**President Peters:** We did we start this year?.

**S. Willis:** The 25th. Usually I think it varies I think like from the 23rd to the 29th or something like that or the 22nd through the 28th.

**President Peters:** The other thing I’d like to say is I’ve been through this in two other universities. This processing. I’ve heard this argument before and I don’t discount it, but is it in fact valid, that there is not enough process dismissals. I think that’s the first assessment, I mean, it might be a little inconvenient but is there a real impact on the students?

**W. Tolhurst:** If I’m not mistaken, we had, in the past, a schedule that started exactly when this one would. So this is not unprecedented so that we know that in this past this schedule was used without difficulty. As far as processing the dismissals, it seems to me that the best authority on that question are those who, in fact, do process the dismissals and since the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences probably processes more dismissals than anybody else, they’re probably as good an authority to ask as anyone. So, I’m not clear on why we picked the one we have now that we’re seeking to change. I’m not aware of any good reasons why that one should have been picked instead of the one we’ve been asked to move to and in the absence of good reasons for preferring that one and the possession of reasons for what seems to be a good reason for going back, I’d be inclined in favor of making the change.

**G. Seaver:** Dismissals are process at the end. The philosophy has been for those students who are dismissed from the institution, to give them adequate notice so that they can make arrangements to start the following semester. So that’s why – this argument has come up before within the calendars to provide adequate time to process the dismissals before the break so students have adequate notice to make arrangements or to make appeals, those types of things that take time and if that were to happen after we come back, it really limits the students’ options.

**W. Tolhurst:** So the reason for this doing this is, in fact, to benefit the students.

**G. Seaver:** Correct.

**E. Williams:** I’d just like to make a couple of comments. First of all, from the perspective that I’m working from which is to try to find dollar savings, certainly this proposed calendar works better because it gives us the opportunity for perhaps some shutdown of buildings or something like that during the winter heating period. I do agree with the President. I think one needs to be cautious because I remember the agony we went through when we were putting these calendars
together and I’m not an expert on them but I would hope that those of you who have had that experience could think back as to what was the rationale that brought us to this point, but from my perspective I see this as a plus because it does position us to do several things in the FY05 operating budget.

**President Peters:** Did we check with the group – the individuals that put this calendar together about this?

**S. Willis:** It was a previous University Council, 1998, I think.

**I. Legg:** How many years ago was it done Sue?

**S. Willis:** About 5 years.

**I. Legg:** Yeah because I was informed just before the meeting that – Rathindra may be correct – it was in part motivated by the students wanting to have a longer period during the summer. But when I found out that last year we started on 25 then there isn’t a very big difference between the 23rd and the 25th.

**President Peters:** Can we hear from the students?

**A. Nelms:** I think that whatever works logistically best and as long as this doesn’t create confusion like we haven’t printed thousands of schedules and so students are already planning on it being the 30th. As long as we have ample time to make the students aware that this change has taken place, I don’t think it’s going to cause too much confusion. If it does, in fact, give them more time to appeal for students who may be in a particular bind, I think from a student perspective it may be more beneficial to accept the change to move them back a week.

**President Peters:** I leave it to the house. I think we should leave it to the house to decide. Call the question. Don’t ask me to fix it if it goes wrong.

**S. Willis:** I’ll fix it.

**A. Nelms:** Sue Doederlein is part of the committee that put together the calendar, isn’t she?

**S. Willis:** I don’t think so.

**A. Nelms:** No, oh, is there anyone here who was part of that?

**President Peters:** I take it Sue that you want to move on this because of the printing of the schedules.

**S. Willis:** Right. If we do it now we can be sure of getting – assuming we approve the change – we can be sure of getting it into the schedule books for spring which is the first time that that date appears in something that’s given to the students. If we wait until next time, our next meeting is on the 8th of October and well, the proofreaders deadline for getting their stuff to
publications is something like September 27. They actually send the thing to the printer on the 10th of October. So, you know, in principle they could make this kind of last minute change just before it went but I don’t that’s particularly desirable. The lady I talked to who’s responsible for this said the could also just leave it out but I didn’t think that was so great either.

**President Peters:** It also raises the question as to why we are printing schedules and not doing them electronically.

**G. Paveza:** Just so everybody knows – I know they’ve figured this out already – but you get a whole extra week of break in there if you adjust the schedule on the front and not on the front end of your next semester. Just so that you go from 3 weeks to 4 weeks for break.

**S. Willis:** Which is typical.

**President Peters:** All right, Virginia Cassidy?

**V. Cassidy:** I have a question about whether the original schedule has any implications if the university was to again next year have an extended closing over the holiday?

**President Peters:** I think Dr. Williams said it’s to our advantage economically.

**L. Kamenitsa:** I would just – given what happened this year at Thanksgiving break I would remind you that it’s not just the printed schedule we need to worry about but all the electronic calendars that are available on various sites on the web and they would need to be changed as well.

**President Peters:** That argues for a quicker decision rather than a push back.

**S. Willis:** That was my thinking also if we do it sooner we would have time to catch all those things before people really are looking for them.

**President Peters:** We have a question before us. I wish we had more time to have done a careful analysis of this but – more questions? All those in favor of making this adjustment as suggested say aye. Opposed? Any abstentions?

The motion was approved.

**President Peters:** Any other new business?

**IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

**President Peters:** Comments or questions from the floor for the good of the order?

**X. INFORMATION ITEMS**
President Peters: We have some information items here for your edification. I particularly draw your attention to the walk-in which has the alternate list for the University Council.

S. Willis: If you can’t come sometime, these are the people that you call. That’s the idea.

A. Minutes, Academic Planning Council
B. Minutes, Athletic Board minutes
C. Minutes, Campus Security and Environmental Quality
D. Minutes, Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
E. Minutes, Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum
F. Minutes, Graduate Council
G. Minutes, Undergraduate Coordinating Council minutes
H. Minutes, University Assessment Panel
I. Minutes, University Benefits Committee minutes
J. 2003-2004 Meeting Schedule (Page 15)
K. Alternate List – walk-in

XL. ADJOURNMENT

President Peters: Do I hear a motion to adjourn? All in favor say aye. We’re adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.