
B. Cesarek attended for S. Lowman; M. Morris attended for L. Pernell.

Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

THOSE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Balamuralikrishna, Egeston, Kazmi, Kolb, Pierce, Robinson, S. Song, X. Song, Strader, Wang, Young

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Peters: I’m pleased to call the September 8, 2004 University Council to order.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

President Peters: There is a walk-in item whose subject is the Summer and Fall 2005 calendar dates. The issue is consideration of adjusting next year’s start date and I think we should slip that in under New Business.

The agenda was approved as amended.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 5, 2004 MEETING (Pages 3-6)

The minutes were approved as written.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Peters: My first announcement is to welcome our new Vice President for Student Affairs designee, Brian Hemphill who came to us from the University of Arkansas. We said good-bye to our good friend who was with us for 35 years in Student Affairs, Gary Gresholdt. We have hired a new Athletic Director, Jim Phillips, who was the Senior Associate Athletic Director at Notre Dame. It’s a pleasure to have two individuals joining us of the experience and energy and vision of Brian Hemphill and Jim Phillips and I feel very good that their divisions are in good hands and we’re expecting to see an awful lot of good changes and movement forward.
After a lot of good lobbying and help from the legislature, including the thirteen public university presidents and chancellors, who crafted a joint statement that was sent to every member of the General Assembly and the Governor, our budget was kept level with FY04. In addition to that, there is a memorandum of understanding with the Governor and the Legislature that higher education appropriations should be expended for the full purposes for which it is appropriated. [Therefore] we were able to set all base budgets, general revenue budgets, by division at FY04 levels. We have a plan that looks like an immediate 3% salary increment for faculty/staff. If the budget remains stable we’ll have another 1% in January. That’s a 4% package.

Capital and our major projects are the Stevens renovation, which has been on the list for a long time, and we have some other capital projects. We won’t hear about that until the veto session. We’re already putting together the FY06 capital budget in place and we still haven’t heard on that capital budget so I really – we have a plan, you know, we have a plan and we’re going to do our best on that.

We announced a collaborative effort with FermiLab and several local communities, called NIU Net, to bring Internet2 service to our educational sites – Naperville, Rockford, Hoffman Estates. We had our first public event at the Domestic Violence and Sexual Abuse Research Center – a program where we are partnered with attorney General Lisa Madigan and Verizon on a program that Verizon is paying for. It’s an educational program on domestic partner abuse.

We started out the week on Sunday hearing Harold Kafer and Cecillia – I don’t know if Harold is here – their recital over at the Music School. You know, we have I think pound-for-pound, one of the best performing arts areas in the state and in the country.

I had to occasion to fly with our new Athletic Director and our team to Maryland where our athletic teams have earned the respect at the highest level of competition.

In the next couple of weeks, people will be moving over to Altgeld Hall. I’m sure that you will all be very, very proud of it.

V. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. Approval of University Council [Committees](#) for 2004-2005 (Page 7)

B. University Advisory Committee of the Board of Trustees – 2004-2007

C. Membership of Faculty Senate and University Council – refer to Rules and Governance

D. Deletion of the Student Affairs Professional Staff Advisory Committee from the Committees of the University – see [memo](#) from Brian Hemphill, Vice President for Student Affairs – refer to Rules and Governance (Pages 8-9)

E. **Change** in Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee from the Committees of the University – change Vice president for Development and University Relations or
designee to Public Affairs representative – refer to Rules and Governance (Pages 10-11)

The Consent Agenda was approved.

VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Patricia Henry – report (Pages 12-15)

**P. Henry:** The Priorities, Productivity, and Accountability Committee is an issue that we want to keep our eyes on for the course of the year. It’s a committee that is going to be trying to look at these issues, priorities, productivity, and accountability. I specifically asked the IBHE staff whose idea of mission was going to be used to define institutions’ priority and productivity. We’d like to get the IBHE to act as more of an advocate for higher education. The issue of evaluating faculty productivity is one we need to keep our eyes on.

The Illinois Commitment (http://www.ibhe.state.il.us/) is something to which the IBHE is very interested in having people contribute ideas. One item that the FAC brought forward is that there really should be a seventh commitment: that universities are not just training people for Illinois business and industry but also are contributing actively to the quality of life.

We’re going to approve on September 10, a statement concerning the budget and that we intend to tell the IBHE that the General Assembly should recognize the need to restore the cuts in appropriations to higher education made beginning 2002, and to do so in a way that will allow the state universities and colleges to strengthen existing programs, returning them to their past levels of excellence.

**B. Tolhurst:** I’m a bit concerned about the IBHE’s response that we’re saying we can manage. Of course we can, but that doesn’t mean that there aren’t costs and the folks paying the costs are the students who can’t come here to get a college education. It seems to me that the IBHE could and should be concerned about those costs because it’s a price that’s paid by the citizens of the state of Illinois.

**President Peters:** The Executive Directory of IBHE, Dan LaVista, left August 16 to take up a similar position in Virginia. He has been replaced on an interim basis by Tom Lamont who had been a commissioner. A search committee has been formulated and the presidents have a representative on that. I’m sure faculty do too from the Faculty Advisory Committee. The other thing is the tremendous turnover in IBHE commissioners - almost 80%. I think they’re very good people. I always find it disingenuous when people say that the universities haven’t made their case or haven’t complained enough. The effectiveness in lobbying is at the level of the universities, individually and collectively, and with students and faculty. The other thing that I’ve always found interesting is trying to understand the role of these post-secondary education coordinating commissions across the country and, well, basically they’re regulatory. They’re not necessarily advocacy. They’re advocacy for certain policies, but they’re not necessarily advocacy for us. That’s what we have to do. They are regulatory in the sense that they’re trying to make sure that degree programs are only approved when they meet need criteria and broad-based policy like the Illinois Commitment. But the current chair of the commission, Jim Kaplan,
I think is a good person who has a good heart and wants to do the best for us so I’d like to say I’m optimistic about that but – I’m going to keep working really hard because I think ultimately we’re responsible for our own position in this.

**P. Henry:** I concur but I think the FAC members often feel that the IBHE can speak for all of higher ed, not just the publics but also the privates and the community colleges and that would be useful at the legislature.

**F. Kitterle:** Have you been monitoring, House Bill 4073 which is the establishment of the higher education commission act? This act has been tabled for now, but this commission would review all tenure decisions that are made at universities and pass on them.

**President Peters:** That’s dead, at least for now, but it is monitored very carefully, particularly by the Faculty Advisory Committee.

B. **BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Paul Stoddard – report** (Page 16)

**P. Stoddard:** The Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee met on September 1. The one action item was to approve the appointment of Brian Hemphill as Vice President for Student Affairs. They recognized the 27 retiring professors emeriti from 2003 and 2004. They also recognized the various award winners for Essential Teaching and Research Professors, Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching, Operating Staff and Outstanding Service and Supportive Professional Staff Award for Excellence.

C. **BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Paul Stoddard and Xueshu Song – report**

**P. Stoddard:** The proposed salary increment was approved. The FFOC also dealt with an item regarding Internet 2, approving agreements with Batavia and Naperville to lease the fiber necessary to bring Internet 2 service to the various campuses. They approved the various budgets. Their approval is just one step in a long process. It still needs to go to the full Board and from the full Board to the Board of Higher Ed and from the Board of Higher Ed to the Governor, from the Governor to the Legislature.

**P. Henry:** What is the status of the Stevens Hall renovation?

**President Peters:** It’s number one on our hit parade and has been for three years at least.

**W. Baker:** Could we have some clarification about who, in fact, is overseeing or controlling PeopleSoft within the university itself?

**President Peters:** We embarked upon a PeopleSoft systemic acquisition several years ago and drove hard bargains and to this date, we’ve come in on time, and on budget. The first module that we implemented was financial. That module was up and running three years ago, on time,
on budget. That’s a centrally controlled system. It then talked to the second system, which was 
HR, and that was implemented completely as of a year ago at least?


President Peters: I was visited by the Student Affairs’ people and students about replacing our 
legacy systems in student affairs with something. Because we had had a relationship with 
PeopleSoft, (we did a lot of changes in their base coding that then they adopted in their own 
systems) we cut a fantastic deal on purchasing and implementation of the student module and 
we’re ready to go. However, Oracle made a hostile takeover for PeopleSoft and that slowed 
everything down.

E. Williams: These systems are functioning and functioning well on our campus. With respect 
to the student system, we became very cautious because of the court action that was taking place 
and because of that, we have phased the acquisition and implementation of the student system 
and we shall continue to monitor that.

P. Henry: Is that where the grade system change that we voted on last year would go in as well?

President Peters: Yes.

D. BOT Legislative, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Donna Smith and Shey 
Lowman – report (Pages 17-18)

D. Smith: On August 11, Shey Lowman and I attended the Legislative, Audit, and External 
Affairs Committee meeting of the Board of Trustees. Ken Zehnder made the report of the 93rd 
General Assembly and I’ve listed the legislation that he noted. I’d like to point out the bills that 
did actually pass: House Bill 3877 and House Bill 4361. This one’s of concern because it did 
not come with any fiscal support I believe. House Bill 4491 passed as did both Senate Bill 3107 
and Senate Bill 3340. Kathy Buettner made the Federal Report. Of note was an additional 
support from the Department of Defense and 3.5 million dollars for the ROCK program. That 
brings the total funding for that program up to 5.75 million dollars. John Lewis reported on the 
Belvidere/Boone County New Uses Ag-Tech Park. Of note, the partners with NIU in that new 
Ag-Tech Park are Growth Dimensions, the City of Belvidere, Boone County, ComEd, 
DareCloud Development, Illinois Coalition, and the Illinois Department of Agriculture. Mr. 
Lewis – Dr. Lewis – reported on NIU staff. That would be Dr. Steven Ink, Norbert (Norb) 
Ziemer and Brian Vollmert. Sharon Dowen reported on NIU procedural audit revisions that 
would make campus departments accountable for complying with previous NIU Internal Audit 
findings.

Lastly, President Peters announced that House Speaker, Dennis Hastert, has designated him to 
the Abraham Lincoln Study Abroad Fellowship Program Commission. Congratulations.

President Peters: Thank you. It’s an honor. I appreciate it. I would like to report that we had 
another very good state audit and we were not required to go before the Legislative Audit 
Committee.
E. BOT – Paul Stoddard – no report

F. Academic Policy Committee – John Wolfskill, Chair

J. Wolfskill: My committee will meet one week from today in this time slot, at 3:00. At this point, I would like to appeal to the entire Council or the whole university community, if there are concerns you’d like to bring forth to the Academic Policy Committee, please let me know as soon as possible and I’ll be sure that they at least get considered by the Committee.

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

W. Goldenberg: We are meeting in one week at 3:00 in the third floor of Lowden Hall conference room and, again, for the purpose of developing an agenda and discussing issues that are important to the whole university community for this year.

H. Rules and Governance Committee – Carole Minor, Chair

C. Minor: We were referred business on the Consent Agenda and so the committee does need to meet. I’d like to ask the members to hold next Wednesday at 3:00 for that meeting and I will be in touch about the location.

I. University Affairs Committee – Richard Orem, Chair

R. Orem: I have no report but likewise I will be in touch with members of the committee.

J. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Sally Webber, Chair

S. Webber: I also have no report.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

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
President Peters: New Business, we have receipt of our annual reports.

B. Proposed changes to 2005-2006 Academic Calendar – current, proposed – walk-in

P. Stoddard: The academic schedule for the fall semester has a problem in that the late ending date, which is December 18, is going to start compressing the amount of time necessary for the advising deans to make judgments about dismissals, academic dismissals. We can relieve the time pressure by having the fall semester of 2005 begin a week earlier. A quick glance at the calendar will also show that should necessitate moving the summer session for 2005 a week up as well so that we have a week break in between the two. This is very similar to a request we got last year at this time to do exactly the same thing for exactly the same reason.

R. Orem: Did anyone look at ’06?

P. Stoddard: You will. That’s why you’re chairing that committee. You’re right on top of it. Any concerns?

E. Williams: I don’t know what the impact of this will be on our operations in terms of utilities for example. It means, of course, that we will be probably air conditioning buildings earlier than we would normally have to do that. I do recall years ago many were concerned that students would have an opportunity for summer employment. I don’t know if that’s still an issue for students or not but I know that we do have a number of activities that occur during the summer. I do not know how many of those would occur during that week of August 15th. Those are our observations after one day’s notice.

P. Henry: I think some of the orientations, like international students and so forth, also take place in that week preceding classes so they might be pushed by that.

L. Gregory: A large number of our summer students are schoolteachers and we want to be sure that we don’t overlap their school or not them enough time to clear their own classrooms before they start in ours.

L. Kamenitsa: Isn’t this session essentially the same calendar we had this year so if any of those problems were to occur, shouldn’t we have already have run into them?

P. Stoddard: Yes, this is just the normal one-day variation from year to year.

W. Tolhurst: It seems like we have a serious problem here and changing the schedule as proposed may not be the best answer but if it’s not, we still need a solution and so it seems to me we need to contact those who might be impacted and have them report back so we can begin discussing what an appropriate solution would be with full information. I’m not sure we can figure out right now what the best thing to do is.
**P. Stoddard:** I would point out as most of us in the university know, decisions like this have to be made well before the time and we are coming up to the date when we have to decide what the calendar is going to look like. Kay Van Mol says if it absolutely has to be, she can make changes as late as a month from now. Registration and Records are not going to be printing the schedule booklets this year. They’ll be on-line. That saves us two weeks. I’m not immediately sure that they don’t need a number or date before our next meeting.

**B. Hemphill:** I would agree in theory, considering we’re working on the same schedule, that it should not be a major problem in terms of moving to this but I think that one of the things that we’ll have to go back and look at, especially in Student Affairs, is that we’re booking some contracts out two and three years in terms of commitments with potential organizations who are using our residential facilities and so we’ll definitely have to go back and look at that.

**I. Legg:** I think that what we have to look at really seriously is what brought this about and the opening statement and that is we’re dealing with the lives of two to three hundred students who may or may not get dismissed from the university and I think we should go way out of our way to take care of that particular issue and if we cannot find a solution that does not involve a calendar shift, we’re going to have to work with a calendar shift and make it work. Secondly, it has been pointed out that this is not that different from this year so my guess is the adjustments will not be that significant compared to what we need to do and that is to give our students every benefit of the doubt and the time that’s needed to consider that.

**J. Wolfskill:** I’d like to ask, looking ahead to next summer, if there are any major construction projects planned.

**President Peters:** I think that always goes into the construction mix.

[A motion to change the calendar as suggested was made, and seconded.]

**W. Baker:** Call the question.

The motion passed.

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

**President Peters:** I will just add that we just received notification this week, and you’ve already heard this, that the Higher Learning Commission has now certified us completely for a full ten-year accreditation. The report has been accepted and thanks to Virginia and Jan and everyone.

**X. INFORMATION ITEMS**

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. 2004-2005 Meeting Schedule (Page 19)

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 P.M.