UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2005, 3:00 P.M.
HOLMES STUDENT CENTER SKY ROOM


W. Minor attended for J. Grush.

Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

THOSE UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Bose, Doederlein, Factor, Kafer, Kaplan, Kowalski, Marcus, Schoenbachler, Tallon, Tollerud, Walton

I. CALL TO ORDER.

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda passed with minor amendments to the consent agenda and an addition to New Business.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 4, 2005 MEETING – walk-in

The minutes were approved as written.

IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Peters welcomed the university community back, and then asked that we remember Professors Gustaaf Von Cromphout from English and James Schubert from Political Science, and donor and supporter George Wilkins.

Vice Provost Seaver, Dean Richmond and President Peters reported on the response to Hurricane Katrina by NIU and the surrounding communities.

President Peters noted that NIU’s budget meeting with the IBHE is scheduled for November. The BOT will meet Sept. 15 to approve our various budgets. They will also approve a proposal to acquire a student software system from Oracle.
President Peters reported on enrollment figures and talked about study abroad and the need to pay attention to the globalization and the internationalization of our curriculum.

Finally, President Peters introduced Dr. Tom Krepel who has joined the Office of the President as Assistant to the President.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of the University Council Committees for 2005-2006 (Page 3)

B. University Advisory Committee of the Board of Trustees – 2005-2008 (Page 4)

C. Proposed Changes in Responsibilities of the Academic Planning Council – see memo from Provost Legg – refer to Rules and Governance (Page 5)

D. Timeline for Grievances over summer – refer to Rules and Governance

E. Faculty Grievance Committee structure – refer to Rules and Governance

F. Sabbatical Leave Policy - refer to Rules and Governance (walk-in)

The consent agenda was passed.

VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Joseph “Buck” Stephen – report

J. Stephen reported that the FAC met on May 20 and June 24. On May 20 they met with Elaine Carruthers, Faculty Senate President for the Public Institutions. Discussions were mostly about budgetary concerns, the pending budget and, the changes in the SURS retirement plan.

At the June 24 meeting they met with a committee of students and discussed the problem of textbook costs. Wayne Evens of Bradley University was elected as the new president of the FAC. Anne Draznin is the Vice-Chair and Terrence Riddell is the Secretary. They served in that post over the last year.

President Peters, J. Stephen, and P. Henry spoke to the need for a new NIU representative to the FAC.

In addition, they discussed the interaction between the FAC and the Student Advisory Council regarding textbooks.

J. Stephen: The FY07 programmatic budget requests were received. Recognition was extended to the 2004/2005 retirees and the status of emeritus faculty was awarded. The University Performance Report seemed fairly positive. The indicators show effective practices and adequate program review. The BOT recognized those people who have been awarded professional excellence awards.

External funding was discussed by Vice President Bose. President Peters has met his goal to increase the funding.

President Peters stressed the correlation between the number of new emeritus faculty and the need to fund mission critical faculty slots.

The University Foundation has made the establishment of endowed chairs a fundraising priority.

C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Paul Stoddard and Xueshu Song – report (Page 6)

P. Stoddard reported that the FFO recommended approval of the university’s budgets, approved a contract with AM 670 WSCR, a.k.a. “The Score” to broadcast NIU football and basketball games and a request for proposal to replace the student services system. The changes to the SURS benefits were summarized.

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Donna Smith and Shey Lowman – report (Pages 7-12)

D. Smith reported that Ken Zehnder summarized the recent legislative session. Failing to pass were House Bill 476 – Naming Rights, Senate Bill 131 – Amends the Public Community College Act, and Senate Bill 1628 which deals with the higher education inspector general proposal.

House Bill 715 requires universities and colleges to ask each student who is an Illinois registered voter if they want to change their voter registration address and House Bill 873 – Amends the Ticket Scalping Act passed. House Bill 2515 requires the IBHE to implement and administer a state-wide program to assist student advisors, faculty, and administrators in obtaining consistent and accurate information about transfer courses. Senate Bill 445 prohibits the use of social security numbers by persons or entities except for certain uses.

Mr. Zehnder also noted 4 other bills that were signed by the Governor: House Bill 815 and House Bill 3724 deal with veterans and those serving in the National Guard. Senate Bill 1857 amends the Open Meetings Act. Senate Bill 2091 amends the Department of Public Health Powers and Duties Law.

There was an additional $700,000 allocation to NIU specifically for the C.H.A.N.C.E. program. The House maintained the funding levels for the fourth year in a row for several grants and restored the TRIO and GEAR UP programs. There was no increase in the Pell maximum award and the program was level funded at $4,050.
S. Lowman highlighted House Bill 1384, the Medicare opt-in for those employed before March 3, 1986.

E. BOT – Paul Stoddard – no report

F. Academic Policy Committee – Colin Booth, Chair- no report

G. Resources, Space, and Budgets Committee – Amy Rose, Chair- no report

H. Rules and Governance Committee – John Wolfskill, Chair- no report

I. University Affairs Committee – Xueshu Song, Chair- no report

J. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Sally Webber, Chair- no report

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Receipt of Annual Reports

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

B. Approval of 2006 holiday schedule – Steve Cunningham – walk-in

The Holiday Schedule for 2006/2007 was approved.

IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

J. Stephen asked about employee ID numbers and whether they could be on NIU cards. S. Cunningham replied that the ID is on payroll vouchers. The OneCard does not integrate them yet, but will in the future.

J. Stephen would like the RSB committee to consider relocating Clinical Lab Sciences once the new area is useful out at the old Monsanto property.
J. Stephen then asked about the new centralized advising, specifically if a new dean will be heading the office. G. Seaver clarified that the office reports to the Provost. Catalog language regarding withdrawals, reinstatements, and dismissals is being prepared. The head of the advising center would be the designee of the Provost’s Office.

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. 2005-2006 Meeting Schedule (Page 13)

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m.