
Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

ABSENT: Baker, Barbaglia, Bond, Derscheid, Doerderlein, Elish-Piper, Freedman, Gupta, Johnson, Keegan, Mogren, Prawitz, Schneider, Schoenbachler, Seaver, Sido, M. Smith, Williams

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Peters: I want to call the first meeting of the year for the University Council to order.

The meeting was called to order at 3:08 P.M.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

President Peters: Our first order of business is the adoption of today’s agenda. It is as printed. There are no walk-ins, so a motion to adopt. Second? All those in favor. All right, we have an agenda.

Malcolm made the motion, Brent seconded. The agenda was approved as written.

III. APPOINTMENT OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 30, 2008 MEETING (The minutes will be sent electronically on Tuesday, please look them over and a vote will be taken at University Council to approve/change)

President Peters: Approval of the minutes of April 30, 2008. Paul has something to say about these minutes.

P. Stoddard: Just a couple of things. One, we are doing it differently this year. We sent them to you electronically so they won’t be in your packets but if you need to address issues you can print them out and that eventuality has arisen this time. There were a couple of statements from the transcripts that managed to find their way into the minutes, specifically the introduction of reports from council, boards and standing committees. There’s a passage that I would like to strike from the minutes and then also towards the end under new business, the introduction of a walk in item from President Peters. That needs to be stricken from the minutes; it’s still in the transcript of course but they’re not noteworthy. As long as I’m looking at the minutes, I would just like to remind some of the deans that one of the last things we did last semester was to call
for names for an ad hoc committee for finals disruption. I still need names for that so please get those to me so that committee can actually develop a policy before we get towards finals this semester. That said, that’s all I have to say.

P. Henry: Will the revised minutes be sent electronically too?

P. Stoddard: We can certainly do that if you like, yeah, that’s probably a good idea.

President Peters: We’re entering the modern era.

P. Stoddard: We’re trying.

President Peters: We’re trying, slowly. All right, motion to adopt the minutes? Is there a second? All those in favor say aye. Okay

The minutes were approved as amended.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Peters: Well first, welcome back everyone and welcome all new members of the University council. I think we have some deans to introduce. I don’t know if Brad Bond is here from Graduate Studies, he’s probably working and I saw Patrick Dawson come in. Patrick – to the Libraries, welcome. This group consistently votes to increase your budget and nothing ever happens. Rich Holly is interim dean or acting dean – interim or acting?

R. Holly: It’s acting.

President Peters: It’s acting. Visual and Performing Arts. No one ask me what the difference is between interim and acting is. I never did understand that. Did I include everyone that you hired; that you’re responsible for? All right.

Well listen, we’re off to a good start in the academic year. The first meeting of the University Council, I always sort of hold back on things that are at the core of what we’re going to do because in two weeks, actually it’s a little more than two weeks, I’ll give the State of the University address, September 25, 3:00pm, Altgeld Auditorium, refreshments to follow. We promise to be short this year. I say that every year and then everyone sends me all these good things that I need to talk about but the focus of the State of the University address will by and large be on our Strategic Planning efforts. The tremendous progress we made last year in spite of pestilence and winter and February 14, it’s truly amazing and when you hear it I think you’ll be impressed but probably not because many of you participated. There are very fundamental and exciting things that are coming out of our strategic planning and we’re entering the next phase where we’re making choices and trying to find the funds and the dollars to invest in those good activities so that we can continue to deliver the quality education that is expected of us and that’s the hallmark and something that we have to keep uppermost in our minds. So I’m not going to talk a lot about that. I mean, when you look at the work of the Council this year, this is our shared governance group, you know there’s a lot that we have to deal with and they’re kind
of nitty-gritty issues of governance. This year, again we’re off to a good start, there are certain benchmarks this year. University things that will frame this academic year. One is we are in NCAA reaccreditation. Every ten years and I see Terry Bishop here who is head of our Athletics Board. I never asked you if you were willing to serve again, I just appointed you. We have a wonderful committee set up. The NCAA is only exceeded in bureaucratic rules by the American Bar Association and the American Medical Association and we have a constitutionally developed group working on it. Tom Krepel out of my office is coordinating. It’s very important to the NCAA that they know that the shared governance systems are involved and you are. Jan Rintala is the faculty athletic rep and I think down the line, you’re going to be considering at the Faculty Senate to make her position part of that structure for good communication. That makes sense to me. So that’s one thing that is going on that is university-wide. Then our anniversary, February 14, 2009. That is on a Saturday and there’s a committee working on a commemoration, day-long activities, culminating in a dignified evening service. There will be no university activities. I think we got word out on that, particularly to outreach this week to honor that day. So in between – and then commencement – those are the kinds of big picture issues that we’re working on.

I want to talk a little bit about, you know, what I did on my summer vacation which is usually the theme of my remarks for the first meeting. Normally, it’s fund raising, fund raising and fund raising and, in addition to that this summer, it was an awfully lot of just pure management and administration on campus. I want to thank everyone, faculty and staff, for the tremendous amount of work that went into preparing this campus for its opening. This was an unusually busy summer on a number of fronts. On the building and grounds side, the weather cooperated. Our punch list of this old house closing party is pretty good. Parking lots were paved. Chiller pipes were laid. Roads paved, bridges repaired. Most elevators repaired, energy conservation measures, new windows in Anderson Hall, low volume toilets as the Northern Star reported in many of the – although they didn’t like the fact that they flush too often. Okay, we’ll see if we can’t fix that. Brian take a memo, take a note to fix that. We had a wonderful move in day. This is my 9th and I was exhilarated and to everyone who participated, thank you. I was just elevated in my enthusiasm by talking to the new students, the freshmen students, the returning students. They’re ready to go and I’m sure they hit the classroom with that kind of enthusiasm. What week are we into? Are we into our tests yet? That’s where enthusiasm meets reality. Well, we’re off to a good start and I, you know, the context in which our year proceeds, I want to talk a little about that in local, state and national context and give you my view after talking to a lot of people around the country and around the state and here is, you know, you can get depressed by the contextual nature of what’s happening to the economy, to the status of higher education. I refuse to let that happen because I know what a strong institution this is. I see the results of hard work but nonetheless, we have a budget, a fiscal year operating budget, that is still in some doubt because the state’s general revenue budget is still not in balance almost to 2 billion dollars and I don’t know what that means. It makes planning pretty difficult. In a little longer term, the revenue forecast for the state are anemic. I don’t know what that means for us but I know that the code, we’re not a code agency in the state – we have an independent governing board – but the code agencies have been requested by the Office of Management and Budget to reserve 3% of their base budget for 2010. We haven’t been asked to participate in that. I think that’s the way it’s usually put – voluntary participation. That is being worked out right now. So we have all those factors. Nonetheless, I couldn’t wait any longer so basically
from a risk position, so we decided we’re going to give employees a salary increase and I notified everyone yesterday by e-mail that eligible faculty and staff, and you know the memos that will come out from Human Resources and others, will determine what eligible means. There’s a limit to what I can put in a general memo but it would be a 2% increase for eligible employees. I thought long and hard about how that should be distributed and, you know, basically we have a policy at NIU, historically, that unless we have contractual obligations or fair labor standard rules, we distribute on the basis of merit, because we’re a meritocracy and yet my thinking, and I talked to a lot of people, and I’m willing to burden this myself and I share this burden myself, was that if the increase – I think 2% is good given the environment – but if it was around 2% or less – and given the fact that everyone really worked so hard last year, February 14 and after, to help heal this campus up, I felt that this should be basically across the board for satisfactory performance and so that is the way it will be and we’re hoping that next year will bring a better result because the Board and I have always maintained that salaries are our most important priority. Good people, rewarding good people and that is getting harder and harder to do in American higher education, particularly public higher education. So that’s why that was done.

Let’s see, I want to make sure I cover all my – I want to talk a little bit about the state capital budget. Eight years without a capital budget. You know it well. I can give you the status as of today. Apparently there is some movement today. The House has been called into special session and the caucus, the Democratic caucus, is debating, chewing – whatever they do – discussing the potential lease of the lottery to a private entity that then could be ???, bonded or whatever and they’re hoping that this financial transaction could yield about a minimum of 10 billion dollars and then that 10 billion of course could be leveraged to provide financing for bridges, roads and perhaps our buildings. The priorities are pretty much in this order: first would be roads and bridges and the match of Federal Transportation dollars. That’s at about the 10 to 11 billion dollar level; then, mass transit and you’re reading in the paper about the costs to the CTA for free ridership of seniors which is pegged at about 66 million but yet mass transit is in trouble and needs an investment in rolling stock and so forth. Third, K-12 would be the third priority in that list and then fourth would be a bunch of stuff including higher ed. That being said, the first thing that will happen is the financial transaction. The Legislation that would agree to this sale or leasing, then – depending upon the dollar amount that that yields and I understand if it’s less than 10 billion they won’t go – in other words, it’s worth that much but if it’s less than that, we’re not going to lease it. But if they do that, then the real argument becomes how do you spend the cash and then the spending bill would come and I gave you what I thought the priorities were as we speak today. I believe, and still believe, that when we get to that bill, there will be a higher education component and I know that presently in the Senate bill, the higher education component includes Stevens at the top, Cole Hall, the 7.7 or 8 million dollar version, planning money for the Computer Science Technology Building. It includes those three things. So that would be unbelievable. It would be great. So we’ll see. I don’t expect that before – I don’t know if we’ll have a spending bill before the veto session which is in November. So that’s sort of where we are. We’re watching it. That’s what everyone is focusing on now. Everyone is focusing on that particular issue and there is some hope because now all of the leaders agree that they’re talking about this revenue raising opportunity so that is very, very positive. So as we talk, they’re talking.
All right. The other thing on the state level that we need to pay attention to and I’ve been paying attention to is the Illinois Higher Board of Education strategic planning efforts called “The Public Agenda” and that is moving toward a conclusion, at least Phase I. In Phase I they brought in consultants, ?? a pretty reputable national group. They’ve done their magic. Some of you I think did participate in those regional meetings and they’re going to come out with a report soon and basically there’s a heavy emphasis on regionalism, on how do we develop a seamless P20 system, on increasing graduation rates and college going rates and how do you get at underserved populations and then when you take that down, I drilled down a little bit on that and you look at the demographics, the region that is of most concern is the Northern/Northeastern region that is producing most of the students and where some of the big issues are. There is also talk about the relationships between community colleges and four-years and how do you serve adult learners or place found individuals. Lot of talk about that. It’s kind of a national thing, I mean it fits into a national agenda. We’ve been at the table and discussing it because, probably more than any other four-year public institution in the state, we’re impacted by that because of who we are, what we are and who we serve. So we’re watching that one pretty carefully. Of course I’d like to say that there were dollars that would go along with this because some of the things that will be suggested will be costly.

All right. Let’s see, that’s the state scene. On the national scene, we do have a Reauthorized Higher Education Act after – I think it ran longer than WWII and the Viet Nam War, maybe the Iraq War too but we do have one now which means – does that mean Congress will leave us alone for four years? I don’t know. It was a pretty good set of policies in the reauthorization from what it could have been. There was a lot of concern and is a lot of concern about costs and the cost of a four-year education. A lot of talk about indexing graduation rates to federal dollars. Indexing tuition increases to federal dollars. A lot of talk about gaining control of accrediting agencies, regional accrediting agencies. There was a lot of talk about student assistance and the Pell Grants were increase. A lot of talk about the loan structure. So basically, the bill came out and it had a lot of good things in it. We did increase Pell Grants and yet the mood in Congress remains one of a regulatory nature and a suspicion about costs and we are in a national election cycle. My guess is that it probably doesn’t matter which party ones, which candidates win with what the two-party distribution is in the House and the Senate, we’re going t hear a lot more about this. Regulation and accountability and so we have to pay attention to that and we have been with participating in the voluntary system of accountability. I think our practices are good. There was a round table discussion, not a Congressional hearing, because Senator Grassley from Iowa and somebody else who I can’t think of, held this round table and their concern was how universities spend their endowments. The focus really are on those who have these huge endowments, like Harvard’s endowment of 6 billion and that there is a certain amount of interest income that is used for x, y, and z and so what the public policy issue was, can we force these universities to spend more of their endowment to keep the costs to students down which, you know, is a pretty complex problem because I would say 80% of all dollars collected privately are earmarked for certain things. There are very few discretionary dollars and therefore the income from those discretionary dollars are few and far between. But you know, most of the endowments that universities like us or public universities have are in student scholarship money and it goes there anyway so – but that is an indication of what the thinking is out there. So that’s on the landscape, the national landscape. I’m going to continue to argue in Washington for more student aid because we’ve got a loan crisis and that’s apparent; we’ve got a loan crisis now and
we’ve got a cost crisis. Students and parents are finding it increasingly difficult to pay for, in a
good manner, a four-year or five-year education at a good university or any university for that
matter. They’re finding it difficult. Nonetheless, we know what the cost of a public four-year
degree, even though it has increased because of the decrease in support from the state, is a great
value to individuals, to a good career, to good citizenship, to everything that makes for a good
society. You have to focus on the value question and that’s why it always pains us when we
increase our fees to students but what is the choice. The choice can’t be quality, a demise of
quality – it cannot be. So I’ll keep fighting for that. What else am I fighting for? Fewer
unfunded federal mandates. I think it’s great that we are going to be taking care of our veterans
who fight for us and protect us and serve our country and we should provide them with
educational benefits but hopefully there are a few dollars that come with that because we pick it
up. We do so and we’ll continue to do it but I wish there was some recognition on the part of the
federal government and the state government too that we need some help in that regard. There
are other unfunded mandates and, you know, today – there’s an event taking place in Lucerne the
Hedron Collider is firing up today which will displace Fermi as the world’s biggest smasher of
protons and we are heavily involved in that and we’ve built on Physics and other science
programs around our involvement with Fermi and particle physics and this is a good event and I
will continue to work at the federal level for more investment of federal dollars in science and
research programs and particularly support for the next generation of collider that will replace
the Hedron Collider and that is the ILC that will be bigger and better, you know, in maybe ten to
fifteen years from now but that’s an international linear collider that will cost billions of dollars
and will require international investment.

So, that’s what I’m working on and oh, in addition to that, I’ve taken on responsibilities in the
NCAA. I’m now on the Board of Directors of Division I Athletics and I’m on the Executive
Committee of the NCAA which takes a bit of my time but I decided to make my contribution
there because I believe in the academic reform movement that Miles Brand has put forward in
the past five years. It’s made a difference because I believe the real value of intercollegiate
athletics is to the student athletes. We have 469. Not many of them are going to have careers in
professional football, basketball, baseball, lacrosse, what else – ping pong, but they are going to
be leaders. They are wonderful, disciplined, hard working individuals and they ought to get a
quality education, just like every other student. So that’s one reason. The other is I am
concerned, and it’s not just about the money invested in big time college athletics, we all know
that, but I’m increasingly concerned about the commercialization of college athletes and we had
an example this summer where fantasy – I don’t know if anybody plays fantasy football or
baseball – I’m learning about it, where now there are fantasy college football leagues and the
problem with that is that the NCAA has rules for years that protect the image of a college athlete,
you know, Garrett Wolfe and so forth, and, you know, the Supreme Court – there have been
some district court rulings that have made it difficult to protect the name and the number and the
statistics of a college football player and how you can draft, I don’t know, Garrett Wolfe or some
famous college football player. He’s in the pros now right? The Bears. So anyway, that’s the
reason that I’m involved in that and I pretty much shed most of my other national professional
stuff so I could be more on campus.

So with that, I’m going to ask the Provost to talk about some searches.
R. Alden: We’ve got three executive level searches this year. The first is the Law School Dean search which is a continuation of a search that started last year. We have a new search committee and they worked throughout the summer in getting ads out again to re-advertise this year. Last year we had a somewhat delayed search because we didn’t learn of Dean Parnell’s departure until about half-way through the fall semester so we got kind of a late start on it compared to other law schools. This year we have a very aggressive schedule. We plan on having airport interviews, hopefully before Thanksgiving and on-campus interviews shortly thereafter and hopefully have a successful search completed by the end of the calendar year for starting in July of the next academic year.

We also have a search for the Dean of Visual and Performing Arts. I just received all of the search committee representatives from the college. We’re trying to find an outside person from their advisory board but I expect to see that search committee completed within the next week or two and start on that fairly aggressively thereafter.

The third is the Vice President for Research and Graduate Studies and I’ve asked each college to name a representative. I asked the Graduate Council to name three representatives as well as a graduate student to serve on that committee and we will be hopefully naming that committee within the next couple of weeks as well so hopefully, by the end of the month we’ll have all search committees up and running and get out on the job market as soon as possible.

President Peters: Okay, are we ready to work?

V. CONSENT AGENDA

President Peters: We have a consent agenda. The first time in over a year. Is there a motion to approve the consent agenda? There are two items on it. The Council committees on page 2 and the Advisory Committee of the Board of Trustees for the reappointment of Ferald Bryan and Clerida Garcia. Motion to accept the consent agenda? All right. All those in favor say aye. Opposed? All right, you’re sentenced Professor Bryan and others.

A. Approval of University Council Committees for 2008-2009 (Page 2)


VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES

President Peters: Reports – all right we have a report from BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee, Professors Stephen and Bryan. Okay?

A. FAC to IBHE – no report.

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Joseph “Buck” Stephen and Ferald Bryan – report (Page 4)
**F. Bryan:** Yes, that will be me today and in not great voice. You have my committee report somewhere before you. The August meeting is mostly for recognition and reports but it’s clear the Board committee takes these very seriously. The first item they covered was a follow up report on the Ph.D. in Economics which was based specifically on a request from BoT Chair Murer from the June meeting who received the statistics and why there was a concern. An external review of the doctoral program will occur this fall and there will be a report to the Board of Trustees in Marcy of 2009.

Vice Provost Virginia Cassidy presented a summary of a performance report for pass rates for law and nursing graduates and the number of undergraduates meeting initial teacher certification requirements.

There was also a list of 19 faculty recently retired from 18 different departments and granted faculty emeritus status. These were recognized.

There was also a list of awardees for the Presidential Teaching Professors, Research Professors, Excellence in Undergraduate Teaching Award Recipients, Excellence in Undergraduate Instruction Awards, Operating Staff Outstanding Service Award Recipients, and Presidential Supportive Professional Staff for Excellence were all recognized. The Board of Trustee Professorships will be announced later this fall.

Acting Vice President for Research James Erman presented the Fiscal Year 2008 External Funding for Research and Instructional Projects report. The amount of money was down slightly from the previous year.

Finally, Provost Alden made a 40-minute power point presentation on the proposed implementation of our strategic plan. He summarized the input process from faculty, the significance of strategic imperatives and the 13 key themes that will guide implementation of the plan.

The next meeting of this committee will be on November 13. If there are any questions, I will try to answer them.

**President Peters:** Any questions on the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs? The Board meeting is next Thursday, the 18 – the full Board meeting.

**C. BOT Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee – Paul Stoddard and Nancy Castle – report** (Page 7)

**President Peters:** Finance, Facilities and Operations – Paul?

**P. Stoddard:** This committee met also on the 28th of August. They discussed the capital budget which the President has just summarized in detail and a bit more up to date. Also the President mentioned the budgetary flux for our campus. One of the developments there is that we lost a maintenance line of – a deferred maintenance type of money – of $1.3 million per year. This is something that I think has been lost around the state for the last several years. Since we still
need to maintain our buildings, it doesn’t do well to have leaks and so forth, we could use the money and to that end, the Board reluctantly approved – or the committee I should say – approved to recommend to the Board a campus improvement fee of I think it was like $6.75 per credit hour and if you were to take the full load up to 12 hours, it would be $75.00 a semester. Ten of the eleven other state four-year institutions already do this with that fee ranging form $75 at the low end which is what we are doing up to $250 a semester.

The Board approved a couple of large expenditures. These are “pass-through” expenditures, meaning the university is not the funding agency but nevertheless, because we are spending the money, the Board has to approve it. EET’s Rock Program was one of those and a monochromator upgrade for Physics – I don’t know what it does but I don’t think it smashes protons –

**President Peters:** But we need one.

**P. Stoddard:** But we need one – it needs to be upgraded. You don’t want to have last year’s model on that. It’s pink, I believe – it’s just the one color, that’s all I know. Anyway, that was another major expenditure.

The final action item was on this East Chiller plant, those of you who around over the summer know that there was a lot of tearing up of Normal Road and other parts of campus. That was part of this East Chiller plant project. Dr. Williams has tried on two or three occasions to explain the financing of this project to me. It is beyond my comprehension but part of it fell through and so the university is going to have to step up and do the last $800,000 of that project. Otherwise, all that tearing up of Normal Road would be for not. This will essentially project chilling and heating for the east campus, eleven buildings I believe it is, on the east campus.

There are some information items. Student tuition for Illinois state schools, out of the twelve four-year institutions in Illinois, we are 6th lowest so we’re right in the middle of the pack. $21,000,000 in tuition and fee waivers, some of which is for veterans as the President just mentioned. The vast bulk of which were for graduate student tuition and fees. The committee also acknowledged the Professional Excellence awards for faculty and staff that Professor Bryan had just referred to in his committee meeting.

**President Peters:** Very good report. Questions? I’ll just clarify the improvement fee issue. That 1.3 million is a fund that is basically emergency stuff. If an elevator goes out, if a roof goes out and most universities transition that cost to students a few years back which I always thought was a bad idea because I think it’s the state’s responsibility to provide for the basic infrastructure, academic infrastructure of the university. Okay, so that’s what it’s going to be used for. So if you noticed – if you drove by Lincoln and Douglas in may and you had loose filings, or if you didn’t have loose filings, you did when you drove through there so that had to be done and some other things. So I call it deliverable. Every dollar in that fee goes to a project that you can see and makes an improvement. As far as deferred maintenance, just so you know, on this campus and then multiply that by all the other campuses in the state, our deferred maintenance needs are approaching $300 million dollars. $300 million dollars and so we have a huge physical plant, an aging physical plant, that, due to the hard work and ingenuity of our
grounds and buildings people, is working and things like the chiller are going to make a major
difference because of the fragility and the age of the old system and it also eliminates pollutants
in the system so I’m glad we can do that. I’m not happy about the fee though and the Board will
vote to approve it – they may not approve it – but they’ll vote to approve it next week. That was
a good report Paul.

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Jay Monteiro and Bobbie
Cesarek – report (Pages 6-7)

President Peters: Let’s see, where are we now. Legislative and Audit? Jay and Bobbie.

B. Cesarek: You will notice that the report is from June 5 while the other committees met on
August 28. This particular committee meeting was cancelled. Therefore, unfortunately, the
information in front of you as you can see is pretty much old news as was reported by President
Peters since at this time, the Higher Education Act was still pending. Evidently, it’s been
approved and I know you’ve spoken to that but we had a report from Ken Zehnder relative to the
goings on of our state budget which, again, we’ve already talked about and some of the
information relative to higher education, student loans and unsubsidized Stafford Loans are
going to be increased. There’s some issues relative to the Higher Education Act which were
discussed which President Peters has already noted relative to unfunded mandates and I know
that those continue to be problematic and that was pretty much reiterated in the Congressional
Report too and you’ll notice a note about the unfunded mandates. We did have a report from
Mallory Simpson relative to the NIU Foundation endowment policy and the fact that the True
North Campaign is spending much of the endowments for scholarships and that has quadrupled
which is just terrific and so we make sure that 4% of that goes to future student benefits so we
have them in mind as well.

Relative to the Finance and Compliance Audit, Bob Albanese gave a report. Six findings were
noted: 2-financial; 4 compliance (statewide: 9); so I guess we’re under the average by a little bit
and what they were looking at is there’s going to be sort of a new standard for the audit and so
that was noted as well. We’ll see how that plays out with some of the future audits. There was a
note I guess for Fraud and Prevention. There was concern about what NIU was doing in its
policies and what the state mandates in their’s and I don’t know, President Peters, you might
have a little more information on that than I but it was relative to the audits.

President Peters: What was this issue?

B. Cesarek: Bob Albanese was talking about the fact that there was a differentiation between
how the state looked at some of the policies and how the institution did.

President Peters: Oh, how you handle cash and report cash. You know, is it this column or that
column?

B. Cesarek: Okay, he makes it easy.

President Peters: One column ????. Next year it will be in the right column.
B. Cesarek: Okay.

President Peters: No money lost.

B. Cesarek: Okay, sounds good. Thank you.

President Peters: Now you know my level of sophistication.

B. Cesarek: I appreciate that. I think we’re close to the same level on that because in the explanation but I thank you for that. Kathy Buettner reported on university related organizations and in this instance, again, some of the issues – Attorney General’s opinion on what should be exempted and the institution has another thought about what should be exempted. We’re currently going to go with our own standards at this point and discussions are still in process about how we will proceed. Then finally Laurie Clark provided us with an outlay as far as cost recovery for February 14 and what is being solicited from the Department of Justice and the Department of Education. You will see also Illinois Management Association and we received a wonderful donation from Don Manzulo from Rockford for some police first response kits. So they understand, as you see, Virginia Tech is still waiting for some of their checks. We’re hopeful that ours will be with us a little bit sooner than that.

Hopefully, the committee will report at the next opportunity and we’ll get a little more of an update than four months previous.

President Peters: I have a pretty thorough review of that issue of costs and so forth in the State of the University.

B. Cesarek: Wonderful, thank you.

President Peters: Okay, good report. Let’s move on to Paul.

E. BOT – Paul Stoddard – report (Page 8)

P. Stoddard: Okay, going back in time again, this goes back to the June 19 meeting of the full Board. Obviously, we haven’t met since then so that’s why we’ve given this on this day.

The full Board essentially had approved the things recommended to them by the committees. Items of note:

- Gave interim approval to the FY09 internal operating budget at levels essentially equal to those in FY08.

- Approved a tuition increase for incoming students of approximately 9.5% This is for incoming students only. That 9.5% really has to cover all the projected increases for their tenure at the universities so simple mindedly, if you divide that by about 3 or so, there’s about a 3% increase each year.
President Peters: If you finish in four years.

P. Stoddard: If you finish in four years, yeah. Which is a good incentive. Otherwise, perhaps something that doesn’t effect us in this room terribly much but as an example of foresightedness that I thought should be recognized, the university entered into a gasoline contract that essentially fixed our price at about $3.23 a gallon after taxes and everything. Compare that to what gas has been doing in the last year or two as high as $4.15 or so, about $3.89 right now, we’re saving $.75, a dollar almost on every gallon of gas. That’s available over at the motor pool if you have a university vehicle. If you’re going over with your own private vehicle, they won’t fill you. I tried once. Anyway, it’s also a 10% ethanol blend. The university is also moving, it doesn’t say so in here, but we’re also moving toward more hybrids in our fleet and eventually all the vehicles that can be hybrids, the passenger vehicles, will be. That’s the plan. Other vehicles like trucks and buses and so forth, not quite so much.

The Board approved our tenure and promotion decisions so any of you who are still waiting to hear about those, they passed. To let you know already. They also approved the appointments of Dr. James Erman as Interim VP for Research and Graduate Studies; Dr. Bradley Bond as Acting Dean of the Graduate School, Dr. Richard Holly as Acting Dean of VPA; and Dr. Patrick Dawson as regular Dean of the Libraries. So that was very nice.

They also approved two new programs, the Ph.D. in Geography and an Advanced Computing and Simulation emphasis within the B.S. in Mechanical Engineering.

That was June 19. Then in August they had a special meeting. Most of it was held in executive session so I don’t know anything officially about what went on in there because it was an executive session. I hear that it was probably due to a law suit that was filed against the university by ProCure which is a private concern interested in starting a proton therapy center within a few miles of where ours is going to be and they don’t think we played nice so they wanted to take that to court. But I don’t have any details really about what went on.

President Peters: It could have been about your salary.

P. Stoddard: It could have been. I think they wasted more time and money meeting about that than I make, but that’s okay. So anyway, that’s all I have to say.

President Peters: Okay, good report. Questions, that was last year.

P. Stoddard: That was last year.

F. Academic Policy Committee – William Baker, Chair.

President Peters: Bill Baker, Academic Policy Committee.

P. Stoddard: They have no report.
President Peters: No report.

G. Resources, Space and Budgets Committee – Linda Dersheid, Chair

President Peters: Linda, Resources, Space and Budgets.

P. Stoddard: They also have no report.

President Peters: No report.

H. Rules and Governance Committee – David Wade, Chair

President Peters: David Wade, Rules and Governance.

D. Wade: No report.

President Peters: That’s our favorite committee.

I. University Affairs Committee – Linda Sons, Chair

President Peters: University Affairs Committee, Linda.

L. Sons: No report.

President Peters: No Report.

J. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Rebecca Butler, Chair

President Peters: Elections and Legislative Oversight – Rebecca.

R. Butler: No report.

President Peters: No guess on the Electoral College vote?

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Peters: Any unfinished business?

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

President Peters: Any new business?

IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

President Peters: Any questions or comments from the floor? Anything on your mind? Yes?
P. Henry: Do we know how much of our pension fund is invested in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac?

President Peters: Do I know what?

P. Henry: How much of our pension fund is invested in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac just out of curiosity?

P. Stoddard: I think that should be ???.

President Peters: Oh why did you ruin my day? I don’t know. I doubt if – I know banks take positions and you have to watch the portfolios of your local bank but I don’t know. Usually, you know, SURS – if you’re talking about SURS or TIAA-CREF, either one, SURS has a very good record of diversified investment and their earnings always out perform the other state retirement system if they’d only let us alone. TIAA-CREF is a huge corporation because it cuts across education and medical, they’re sort of like Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and Lehman Brothers. If TIAA-CREF goes, we’re in trouble. I take it that that was a semi-serious because you know how people get – pensions. All right? Anything else?

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

XI. ADJOURNMENT

President Peters: Are we adjourned?

The meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.