
G. Burns attended for C. McCord; M. Hankla attended for R. Soucy.

Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.


I.  CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 3:11 P.M.

II.  ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was approved as amended (walk-in addition – BOT LAEAC report).

III.  APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8 AND NOVEMBER 5, 2008 MEETING

Stephen made the motion; Lusk made the second; the minutes were approved.

IV.  PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Peters updated/reminded the council about procedures for announcing University closures due to inclement weather. The NIU homepage has a direct link to the latest weather developments and announcements. Decisions on class closings and other such issues are generally made by 6:00 am. When in doubt, check the website for official word. On the budget front, the state has asked that institutions hold 2.5% of their general revenue fund in reserve, in case the state needs it back to balance the budget. Given the uncertain economic times, that number could grow higher. NIU’s budget priorities continue to be maintaining a high level of educational quality and preserving student, staff, and faculty employment. The President also briefly commented on the proposal to merge SURS in with the other state retirement funds. Details are not yet worked out, so this bears watching. At the President’s request, E. Seaver described the changes to the commencement ceremony, and spoke to the rationale for those
changes. **B. Hemphill** discussed the proposed agenda for the February 14 anniversary “Day of Remembrance.”

V. **CONSENT AGENDA**

A. **Bylaw change** to Article 9.24 – **refer to University Affairs Committee** (Page 2)

Stephen made the motion; Tollerud was second; the consent agenda was approved.

VI. **REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

A. FAC to IBHE – Earl Hansen – **report** (Page 3)

There was a written report only.

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Joseph “Buck” Stephen and Ferald Bryan – no report

C. BOT Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee – Paul Stoddard and Xueshu Song – no report

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Jay Monteiro and Bobbie Cesarek – **report**

**J. Monteiro** reported on the LAEAC meeting. NIU has received a total of $8 million in Federal Department of Defense Grants to continue funding to develop the Proton Treatment and Research Center, the NIU Institution for Neutron Therapy at Fermilab and also to fund the College of Engineering’s Rapid Optimization of Commercial Knowledge or the ROCK program. Effective July 1, 2010 institutions will be required to disclose in course schedules (and they say to the maximum extent practicable) the ISBN of every required and recommended textbook and supplemental materials and retail price information. Publishers will be required to provide price, copyright dates of the three previous additions, any substantial revisions, and the different formats that are available.

**President Peters** added that we are working our way through the new Higher Education Reauthorization Act. There are many regulatory items to it with which we have to comply.

E. BOT – Paul Stoddard – no report

F. Academic Policy Committee – William Baker, Chair – no report

G. Resources, Space and Budgets Committee – Linda Dersheid, Chair – **report** (Page 4)

**L. Dersheid** reported that the committee met with Dr. Williams back in October but a lot has changed since then. He was looking pretty optimistic about our budget at that time. The state only supplies between 24 and 25 percent of our total budget. Stevens Hall, Wirtz Hall, Cole Hall
remain at the top of our Capital Budget request list. We also talked about the issue of Kishwaukee Hall and how the studios will be lost for that. The Art Building and Montgomery Hall are also in need of some repairs.

**President Peters** added that even though the state had not found a way to fund a capital budget, there is talk of another federal stimulus package. The Governor sent to Washington as part of the requests to develop a federal stimulus package that would focus on internal improvements and capital projects in the state. **B. Jaffee** asked about merging Cole Hall funding with the capital budget. **E. Williams** responded that they remain separate. **President Peters** said that the Legislature decided in the spring that they would rather deal with Cole Hall as part of a larger capital bill with all kinds of things in it than as an emergency appropriation.

H. Rules and Governance Committee – David Wade, Chair – no report
I. University Affairs Committee – Linda Sons, Chair – no report
J. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Rebecca Butler, Chair – no report

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

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

There were no comments or questions.

**X. INFORMATION ITEMS**

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 3:58 P.M.