UNIVERSITY COUNCIL TRANSCRIPT
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17 3:00 P.M.
HOLMES STUDENT CENTER SKY ROOM


Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

ABSENT: Akinyemi, Baldwin, Banks, Bond, Boughton, Calmeyer, Cassidy, Castle, Garcia, Guinta, Johnson, Kostic, Lash, Liu, Mirman, Morris, Nuzzo, Parks, Ridnour, Robertson, Schneider, Schols, Seaver, Smith, Sosina.

I. CALL TO ORDER

J. Peters: We call the uh, what is that date, March 17th? It must me St. Patrick’s day, meeting of the University Council to order.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

J. Peters: II adoption of the Agenda – we have a walk-in item under Roman VI. H. which is a Resource Space and Budget Committee report. With that is there a motion to adopt today’s agenda?

E. Hansen: Moved
J. Peters: Is there a second?
B. Lusk: Second
J. Peters: All those in favor say “aye.”

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 27 MEETING (to be sent electronically).

J. Peters: You should have received your electronic minutes. Let me call for any additions or corrections. The motion to approve the minutes of the 27th of January.

J. Stephen: Motion
J. Peters: Is there a second?
A. Quick: Second
J. Peters: All those in favor say “aye.” Okay.

IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS
**A. Nancy Castle – Faulty and Staff campaign**

**J. Peters:** Nancy Castle had asked for some time. She is not here. Okay, but I know what she wanted. Nancy had asked for some time to talk about the newest faculty and staff initiative, True North Campaign. Due to the delay in rolling out the initiative, she has asked to postpone her visit until April 7. In the meantime, look for a letter from co-chairs Dan Gebo and Dan which you should be receiving in the next week. That sounds ominous. She will be here. Should we let Nancy speak to us April 7? Is that alright?

Okay. I have three things to talk about. And the Provost has one item. I want to give you as best I can a status update on the budget. We have a governor’s budget now and the University has one hearing before the House Higher Ed Appropriations Committee. We are scheduled to appear before the Senate Higher Ed Appropriations Committee next week, Thursday? Wednesday, Thursday, something like that. Next week. And so, that process is unfolding. I’ll talk a little bit about that.

Here is the status of our current budget. Up until this morning we were still owed in the neighborhood of $63,000,000 on our $107,000,000 appropriation. We have not received a check, a reimbursement check voucher or vouchers since January 25. And of course that became quite a difficult sticky wicket for almost everybody, public higher education and state government, service providers, and a center piece of my testimony. I am really pleased to date saying that we are expecting momentarily based upon good authority from the controller’s office something over $10,000,000, 10.9 million dollars, for our second payment on MAP disbursements to MAP award recipients that flows to us. So, we were worried about that. Remember that was zeroed out originally for the second semester. It’s caught by $220,000,000. We were successful for a lot of people getting the authorization put back, the second half, and we were all holding our breath because it is the Illinois way--we have a budget, but we don’t get paid. We are getting paid. Now, that’s good news.

The other good news is we had a portion of our fiscal year 2010 budget gapped by federal stimulus funds for all public higher education, that’s $40,000,000 in federal funds that gapped general operating. For us that gap was about 4.2 millions. The state had to apply for it. They did that in a phase II process. They really did not get their paper work in until sometime in the winter. We understand now that that payment has arrive, is arriving in the controller’s office and that is about 4.2 million.

So, you know, we have had a $15,000,000 day. That is almost one pay period. The check is in the mail. Of course, they don’t put anything in the mail anymore. It is being wire transferred. Anyway, you know that takes the edge of a little bit. However, we are still owed in the neighborhood of $50,000,000 on our $107,000,000 base budget, and we continue to make payroll using everything we have that isn’t tacked down and obligated in restricted funds to make our payroll, and we are doing it. We are holding our breath and there is a bill working through the process that would give universities borrowing authority against their general revenue that I was not in favor of, but I did sign on to, and the U of I also signed on because it might be the only way we can keep going. And the way that works is, we would have the
authority up to a certain percent of our GR for a certain period of time. The onus is on us to find the financial mechanism to do that, you know, go to a bank, and it would not have the full faith and credit of the state behind that. It would be as if you were getting an equity line. It’s a pay day loan on your pay day. That’s what it is, a pay day loan. You get an advance on your pay. So anyway, I am not happy about that. I am not in favor of it. I did not want to put ourselves in a position of not having the last card to play, however, I will feel terrible, a failure, if we have to resort to that and I think the state should feel that they did fail if we go to that because it is not good business. There may be some other alternatives that the state is looking at. The best thing to do is to solve the budget, the obvious.

Okay so that is 2010. We are also in the process of building a budget for 2011. Let me talk about that for a moment. The governor’s budget did come out. What we has requested and within the context of the Illinois Board of Higher Education budget levels, what the NIU budget request is basically last year’s budget which is $107,000,000 Eddie? Is that right Ray? $107,000,000. But what that asks for is for the state to put back that gap that occurred because they used federal funds to plug our budget. I don’t consider that to be a needs based budget. Our needs based budget is probably more like $135,000,000. But, I figure that is realistic. Maybe unrealistic, but that is what we put in for.

Okay, the governor’s budget that is on the web site is called maintenance of effort budget. Maintenance of effort is a term that comes out of the agreement that was struck between the state and the federal government when they took the education stimulus funds, and maintenance of effort is operationalized in terms of fiscal year 2006 budget. In other words if you take our money, Illinois, you have to maintain your funding levels for higher education at fiscal year 2006, maintenance of effort.

Alright, so what the governor did was put in a budget for us a request budget that is basically a 6.2% cut or 6.7 million dollars. When it all nets out, if we had 107 this year which included the federal funds, the request for next year is just a smidge over 100,000,000. Which is a little bit before 2006, but I think they calculated the basis a little different. They didn’t look at individual, they looked at the total higher education FY’06. Every public university got the same cut – 6.2%. Community colleges were in the 2.3 range. But then again, the state funding, general revenue funding for community colleges is the smaller part of their budget. It’s tax based. Okay, so, that is what is being proposed and we are asked to testify on that. And, we will see where that goes. It is too early to say. Obviously, at that level, we are going to have to continue economy moves. But that is not the whole story. Outside of the governor’s budget is the governor’s proposal which is really not framed up in legislation for a 1% surcharge tax on income that would be dedicated to education and education is defined as including higher ed. At that 1% level, 1% of state income tax that would raise a lot of money and it would be a surcharge of short-term duration. I guess this happened in ’91 or ’92, again for education. If that were passed and acted on, our budget would be different than this cut, it would be more like our request. I am guessing that we wouldn’t have that much of cut.

You will have to look into your crystal ball and determine whether or not you think there is going to be any action. There does not seem to be any interest in it publically in the legislature.
The governor said they were going to call them into special session during the spring break to deal with it and he backed off that early this afternoon when he said, “who knows.”

That is for our purposes, those are the facts right now. It is never time to …okay, that’s what it is going to be. We don’t know. Because we have got to go through our hearings and let’s see what the legislature does. We don’t have a budget. But, we are very, very much know our budget, we are very much on top of this. Hopefully, we will continue to get payments for this year. When you think about it, yeah, I am worried about how they are doing next year’s budget, but I won’t. I want to get paid. We deserve it. We are getting by and we are operating and we are doing all of the things that a university is supposed to do. But, it is going to have a cumulative effect if this goes on too much longer. It slops into next year. You get another budget in which you don’t get paid, how long can this go?

So, this is crazy in terms of trying to figure out how to set tuition which is, I believe, set by now, but we have got all of those considerations.

Now, let me add a bit more, because when we build a budget you should be aware that we have accumulated over the past ten years, eight years, a bunch of unfunded mandates that you have to add back into this and let’s quickly go over them. They add to about $10,000,000 a year so 1000,000,000 and then you cut 6,000,000 but we always have to find about $10,000,000 in unfunded mandates. There may be more out there. These are the big ones.

Since about 2002, we have been asked to pick up the much greater share of the group health contribution for our health insurance. That is about 3.5 million per year that we started to pick up in 2000, about 3.5 million a year in group health insurance. We do it. We are glad to do it, but it is an unfunded mandate. We pick up the tuition for the Illinois Veterans Grants, the Illinois National Guard Grants, the MIA POW grants that total, those total over 4,000,000 a year. There is a federal program, but heretofore the state program includes housing. So, it would be best if our students, veterans took the federal program. We are trying to make some, I think the feds are trying to make some adjustments. But right now, they are taking the Illinois program because it provides housing benefits. And of course the legislature has not given us anything. So, you now the sprinklers, we advertise that, about 1.7 million a year for the sprinklers. Although, this one is an unfunded mandate, but it is a cost and that is because of the large increases in minimum wage over the past several years. We basically have to provide them about $230,000 extra in payments for minimum wage.

Okay, so we kind of get a feeling going into this of what we have to do. And, I talked to the employee groups or the leaders yesterday and had a good discussion. I will be talking to the various employee groups so everyone has the information. You know there are a lot of rumors out there. that are not true and that is because people are nervous. We do not have a lot of definitive information.

There is some legislative action out there that you should be aware of or watch. Among those things we are watching there is a bill and don’t know how far along in the process it will go, that will eliminate dependant benefits tuition remission for employees. I have to think that is a very
bad bill for all of the reasons, you know the reasons, but there is a lot of opposition to that, there is a stack of opposition slips that big, but that is out there.

There are a few other bills. The one that has not emerged yet, a couple of bills have emerged, but sooner or later we are going to see pension reform bill. And right now it is hard to talk about because we don’t know what it is going to look like. And that is one we are watching 24/7. I like to say that dealing with the budget crisis like this, everything has to be on the table, and by that I mean efficiencies, budget cuts, reforms in systems, perhaps pension systems has to be considered, has to be on the table, revenue enhancement has to be on the table. Everything has to be on the table. But we have not seen anything. A couple of bills are out, but we are watching. Until I know what the “it” is we cannot analyze it. When we know what it is, then believe me, we are going to get with you and explain what it is and determine what our position is on it. That I can promise you, but right now, I can’t say because we don’t know, because it is not there even. Okay, there are $17,000,000 in the capital renewal budget which means per unit. It used to be 30; we cut that a few years ago to 17. We will take, that’s roofs, potholes, HVAC systems that we need to do. So, we are in an election year that is dominating the talk, the budget problems are real. It is tense down in Springfield. The talks are serious. We were down hearings, trustees went, many trustees, we had alumni day, we met with most of the leaders. We went in and talked to the leaders. There is definite support for higher ed. There is definite support for NIU. But this is a very, very difficult time.

This is having, the state situation is having a pretty drastic impact on the state and I worry about that. At our House Appropriations Hearings, I did a slide show, they wanted a slide show. I put a slide up and I want to read you this slide. I was trying to make a point. And representative Pritchard said in his e-mail, he said I was blunt. Those of your…that was kind. But here is the slide I put up –

Challenges, Bond rating. I am going to read this -- New York, February 9. 2010. Moody’s Investors Service has down-graded the long-term rating of Northern Illinois University from an AAA to a AA and maintain the university’s rating on a watch list for possible further downgrades. The downgrade and continued watch list status reflect payment delays currently experienced by the State of Illinois Public Universities which have placed material pressure on NIU’s liquidity position.

So their inability to pay us what was appropriated, authorized, has affected our bond rating and every other university. I don’t think U of I got affected. They are in a different situation. I think I said something about as tax payers; I am ashamed of this situation. So as we go out and we bond, we pay more money. We are very frugal. We don’t waste a lot of money around here, never have. We don’t have money to waste.

There was a good bit of work done by our Center for Government Studies in a recent policy survey and we were thinking how do you make the case for a tax increase? There is some interesting data and some of it is a bit troubling. There is one, the Center asked if you would support increases in state spending for: public schools, Medicare, medical aid, job training, low income families, public health, student financial aid and higher ed. And basically of that spectrum, higher ed is on the lower end of people that would support, over-all state-wide 49% of
the survey said they would support an increase in higher ed. 64%, that was the tops, said they would support public schools, no surprise there.

This is rather baffling to me. This point is by age group the people who are 55 and older only support an increase for higher ed, only 30%. So the older folk, 55, well 55 isn’t old. That same group, 62% support public schools.

Here is the one – education level, a support group more spending for higher ed, high school or less education 51% would support spending, for some college 52%. A college graduate is the lowest. 48% would support spending. Now maybe, let’s hope it is a methodological error. Barb, it’s not? Isn’t that disturbing? It tells you something about tax. That same group by the way, 61% would support more spending for public schools. ,but they are pretty low all across the spectrum.

So there we are on the budget.

Let me give you an update on something that is related to the budget and that is last year at this time, maybe it was longer than that, Provost Alden reorganized the way we did enrollment management because we needed to be more proactive. This is a highly competitive area and we depend on our enrollment now for our budget. That is just the way it is. We have shifted the way we do things. Obviously, we are doing a lot of new media. We have got to reach the kids by new media. The old view books and bulletins, we have been doing advertising and you know, this is an important time now. We have packaged our financial aid and sent out how many, several thousand financial aid packages. You cannot read the old data, like applications are false positives because the kids now apply to on line to a lot of schools and decide later. But anyway, we are going to be out there with advertising and knock on wood, we will do quite well, let’s hope. Part of this that I didn’t realize is the role of faculty in recruiting.

I understand that we have a software package called Hobson’s or something like that. Maybe you are all familiar with that. Where through your department chair you can generate personalized letters for these perspective students. And I can’t think of anything, that is really, that will make a difference. So I am really pleased to hear that and encourage you to do that. We are moving to a very sophisticated process in enrollment management and admissions process. I have seen a lot Rob Peterson regarding changes and I am very pleased with those.

Okay, third thing. Tomorrow is another one of those days at NIU. We are going to release the report, the 2/14 report. We have had a lot of people say what is taking you so long? In fact it is kind of early for this kind of report if you track this nationally. It takes so long to get perspective on how we dealt with this and we are still dealing with our people. Virtually every day, monumental. I thought big on the historical record. I would read to you my introduction cover letter. It’s a draft. That will go out. And tomorrow by the way at 10 a.m. this is going to be posted on the Northern Today link, you go on that Northern Today link, it links to a face page for the report and it is a PDF format.

I am going to read this for the record. I thought long and hard about what to say about this. This kind of captures my feelings about what this report is. The report we present today – which is tomorrow – represents countless hours of painstaking efforts by members of the Northern Illinois
University Community. Within its pages we offer our analysis combined with that of other agencies dealing with our response to the tragedy of February 14, 2008, when five extraordinary lives were cut short at Cole Hall and 21 students were wounded. The report compelled us to dissect the most tragic hours that this campus has every endured and to relive events that remain all to vivid in our memories. I think sometimes the public and the press do not understand that every time a question comes up, we relive that and it is difficult for us. Despite an immense personal grief that is still raw for many in our NIU community we worked steadfastly to write this report, endeavoring in the hope that others may learn from our experiences. Just as we learned from the information shared from Virginia Tech following shootings there in 2007. No institution can ever be completely prepared for such a horrible event, but hopefully, by sharing our experience, others may better prepare and respond to the needs of their campus communities during times of tragedy. And we get called on about this all of the time.

We also attempted to answer questions in this report that have haunted us since that fateful day. In particular, why would anyone, especially a young man who had enjoyed such success on our very campus ever commit such a horrible crime. There may never be as definitive answer to that question, but I sincerely hope that what we learned in pursuit of that answer will add to the growing body of scholarship and research on violent crime and help prevent similar tragedies in the future. As difficult as it is to relive the events of that day, it also serves as a reminder of how grateful we are as a university community.

At our time of greatest need, thousands of people from all over the world would reach out and help us, from our local law enforcement officers and emergency medical technicians who are on the scene within minutes providing invaluable assistance to hundreds of counselors across the Midwest who dropped everything and answered our call for help to members of our DeKalb county community who welcomed our students back with cookies and hugs all provided aid, support and comfort during a very difficult time. Their actions have much to teach about the value of preparedness, cooperation, neighborliness and humanity. We will never forget February 14, 2008, and the terrible cost in human lives and bright futures. The NIU community continues to recover and it is our hope that this report contributes to that healing process.

And actually, I view this as closure. I view this as the ending of the public phase of this, although every day we heal. But I think I see this as important. When you see it, you will see how substantial it is. And really, in another year from now, we will have more to add to this body of knowledge So, ten o’clock tomorrow we relive that moment.

Ray, after that uplifting…

Ray Alden: I just wanted to announce this is about the time of year we start talking about academic convocation which occurs at the beginning of the fall semester. It will take place on August 20th at 11 a.m., beginning preparation at 10:30 for the March. We have the opportunity to meet with all of our first year students at that time, we encourage faculty to be there and March. We will provide regalia for each, student affairs provides at least one set of regalia for each department. Some of the cost of that regalia. We generally have 2500 to 3000 students attend, so it is a well attended event and in addition to participating, we are asking faculty who have worked with their students on research projects to submit a proposal, one of the highlights of
convocation, are the presentation by faculty and students about those kind of engaged learning opportunities of research together with the slides and the testimony, discussion by the students of what their projects were about. This year’s proposals are due at the end of this month. There is a form on the web, probably get to by just searching for convocation proposal, but it is niuedustuaff/convocation/proposal and you can probably get to it by a key word search. We are urging all the departments to submit proposals so that we can have a diverse discipline over time presenting their activities. And we ask that faculty plan on attending, replying to us in early spring by e-mail or my office phone number is 753-1585, Mary Spring. This was an announcement on behalf of the convocation. Thank you very much.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

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

A. FAC to IBHE – Earl Hansen – report


Earl Hansen: Physically, anyway. The FAC advisory committee met in Edwardsville last month. Okay, on the 19th. It is an interesting campus. I don’t know if you have been there or not, but the campus is totally away from the community. You have to be going to the campus to get to it. Anyway, in brief, I was woken up by a text message that morning about a shooting on campus here. I walked down to the lobby to see my other people from other institutions there asking what is going on at Northern and the meeting kicked off. At the beginning of the meeting, we observed a moment of silence for the tragedy at the University of Alabama at Huntsville and also the shooting at NIU. They were in tuned with this.

On April 6th the faculty advisory committee met with the members…will meet with the members of the Illinois Board of Higher Education at Harold Washington College with the intent of going one-on-one as best we can with them. In cursory here, pardon my notes, excuse me, the committee…the group broke into committees dealing with various and sundry items that they are dealing with from certificates given by different institutions which fall under higher education which can be a private institution, a intuition that might be offered in courses through television or computer based courses whether it be University of Phoenix of someplace else in relation to transfer credits and the like. They also talked about the need for people in higher education to let the general public know, and I think John alluded to this, that really the economic future of the state is pretty well tied what higher education is doing with research, jobs and the likelihood of, if you get into rural parts of Illinois where the students area at a community college and they basically are either becoming either vocational merchants or auto mechanics and I am not knocking either one of those, but very few of them are going on to higher education basically going back to the community and serving. They tend to have a different approach or outlook. The majority of community colleges don’t do that. They send most of their students on to four-year institutions and they also are going to send a letter of condolence to both Huntsville and NIU. That pretty much sums it up.

J. Peters: Questions?
Pat Henry: I am missing pages 1-14 in my packet.

J. Peters: The pages were not in there.

Alan Rosenbaum: We can certainly provide that if you just e-mail Robin and she will send that out to you. We apologize for that.

Earl Hanson: One more thing, on those reports, I tend to put in websites that you might want to look at. If you want to stay on top of this stuff, connect to the website and see what is going on.

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

C. BOT Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee – Alan Rosenbaum and Gregory Waas – no report.


E. BOT – Ferald Bryan – report (p. 3)

J. Peters: Roman VII F, BOT, Ferald is a report on page 15.

Alan Rosenbaum: It is there.

Ferald Bryan: It is there. Thank you. I was pinch hitting for Alan on that day for the Board of Trustees. The full Board Meeting on Thursday, February 25. Long meeting, but they conducted it efficiently, using. I will wear my parliamentary hat for a moment, they were making very efficient use of the consent agenda and routine items in an efficient way. Those that I have listed here for you are the items that they actually voted on during the meeting. Much if those items I think now are old news, maybe more covered in local media. I will highlight a few of them. The College of Law Excellence Fee was approved. Transit contracts and student accident and sickness contracts were approved. The Northern Illinois Proton Treatment Research Center Amendment was approved. They did explain that that center is yet still an open field and the economy is to blame for that. I expected there would be more questions but they left that alone because of the bad economy. Good news the Cole/Stevens Complex Capital Project was approved including the possible razing of Cole Annex if needed. Fees were approved and they were very cautious to try to maintain them in a 2.97 aggregate increase. I note that residence hall room and board fees increased. On H. please note that there was very strong support, the entire board expressed its strong support in these difficult times for sabbatical leaves. They realize how essential it is to our research mission at Northern. Also, under I, the appointment of Lisa Freeman as Vice President of Research and Graduate Studies effective in July. It was approved. She was present at the meeting. She received lots of praise. Degree changes were approved. New B.S. in Philosophy, B.A. in Russian deleted. The Board accepted the reports and accepted some changes in FO1A laws. That is my report and I would be happy to answer any questions.
F. Academic Policy Committee – Kendall Thu, Chair – no report

G. Resource, Space and Budgets Committee – Barbara Jaffee, Chair – walk-in report

J. Peters: I think the next meeting has been changed. The date is early. It’s not June, it is May 13th. Alright, no questions, so let’s move on to Barbara, H, with a walk-in, Resources, Space and Budgets.

Barbara Jaffee: You have my report here. I will just mention that the committee is mandated to meet regularly to discuss faculty input on resource needs and priorities. So this meeting on March 3rd followed the request of committee members to solicit faculty input from their various divisions on research needs and priorities. So we met to share that information. It was interesting to hear how certain interests and concerns are shared across a number of colleges and I listed these in the report as well as concerns that are more college specific. So we will meet again on Monday, March 22, to fulfill our other responsibility which is to meet occasionally with representatives from the upper administration. I want to thank everyone who talked to their representatives on the committee and shared their information, but there is time before Monday if anyone would like to contact either me or their representative on the committee who will be happy to bring that information forward at the meeting on Monday.

J. Peters: Have you got any questions? My view, I can’t tell you how many budget cuts I have been through. The best thing to do is make sure that information is out there and people know, because otherwise you get rumors. Our banker informs me I misspoke; we are still owed $62,000,000 because the MAP money cannot be deducted from the general fund. For a guy who really knows his budget, I apologize. Alright? Thank you Barbara.

H. Rules and Governance Committee – Rebecca Butler, Chair – no report

I. University Affairs committee – Carol Thompson, Chair – no report

J. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Abhijit Gupta, Chair – no report

J. Peters: Now I am going, I think that is last of the reports – Unfinished Business. I am going to turn the Conflict of Interest (tape ends here.)

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Conflict of Interest (p. 4-10)

Alan Rosenbaum: University Council Jim Erman informed UC that NSF has instituted a change in policy, one of which states and I will quote, these are from the minutes, ““Institution must have a plan to provide appropriate training and oversight responsible [for] research of graduates, and graduate students, post graduate researchers who will be supported by NSF to conduct research. It is also anticipated that NIH will post similar guide lines early in 2010 and
that the NIH policy more heavily weighted toward conflict of interest policies. At that time, our
conflict of interest policy was in a rather extended revision process.

Provost Alden at that meeting proposed that the Office of Research and Graduate Studies and
the Office of the General Council take the current draft policy that was working its way through
the various departments for larger university level conflict of interest and extract those sections
that have to do with research and create a draft document that would then be brought to the
Responsible Conduct of Scholarship Committee for review and then to the Graduate Council for
approval, finally bring it to the University Council. There was a motion that incorporated this
proposal, and it was approved by the Council at that meeting. It was then handed over to the
Office of Research and Graduate Studies. It has now worked its way through that.

Just to remind you that the reason we went through this procedure instead of sending it through
University Council committee was because there was some urgency; it was felt that we needed
to be in compliance; otherwise some researchers would not be able to continue their funding. And
so, we tried to do this as quickly as possible. The other problem is that every aspect of this has
to be approved by legal. So, it is a complicated process where the process has to be reviewed by
Legal Services, and if there are any changes, they would have to be reviewed again.

That brings us to where we are today, and that is that the policy, conflict of interest policy has
come back from this committee. It has been approved by the Graduate Council. The idea is for
this policy to be inserted in the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual under General
Policies and Procedures Item 10. There is already a space for it in the Academic Policies and
Procedures Manual, but there is no policy in there, so this is where it will go. And, what we need
to do is to get a motion; I am going to ask Jim Erman to move the policy. If it is then seconded,
we can then have discussion and Jim has agreed to answer any questions regarding how this was
done, and if you have any concerns about the policy, then Jim can address those. This is not a
change of the Constitution so it does not require a second reading, and so, essentially, if the body
approves by vote, this would become policy either immediately or at whatever date the
University Council would like this to start.

So Jim, I will turn it over to you, and you can take it from there.

Jim Erman: Thank you, Alan. What you have in your agenda is the complete revision for the
Conflict of Interest Policies. And the revisions actually started in 2006-2007, worked their way
into the Responsible Conduct of Scholarship Committee. They have been vetted through Legal
Services with minor editorial changes. Editorial changes were also approved by the Responsible
Conduct of Scholarship Committee this spring as well as the Graduate Council this spring.
Primarily what is included is the definitions of potential conflict of interest and also
requirements. If there is a potential of conflict of interest that the individual, the University
Management Plan how they will handle that conflict of interest as included now in the
guidelines that are required by Public Health Services. So for individuals seeking federal
funding to support their research, this is a requirement.

I will move the adoption of the revised Conflict of Interest Policies for inclusion in the Academic
J. Peters: Does that require a second? We have a motion on the floor to adopt the policies. Is there a second?

Bobbie Cesarek: I just wonder, Dr. Erman, would you give us...if there is any way to do a quick overview of some of the changes that were made. Obviously, going through the entire document, we don’t know what was there before and what is there now.

J. Erman: Motion

J. Peters: Is there a second?

Bobbie Cesarek: I thought it was seconded, my apologies.

P. Henry: Second

J. Peters: There is a second. Okay. Discussion, questions.

Jim Erman: From reading the previous guidelines, the current guidelines, they are very similar except for two major revisions:

One is the composition of the committee on Ethics and Professional ism where previous printed documentation there was a standing committee in which members were rotated every two years. In the revised guideline that committee on Ethics and Professional ism will be appointed on an ad hoc basis as needed, specifically for the conflict of interest which is under potential management.

The second major revision is E4 which is on page 6 of my copy that is the conflict of management plan. Where a s before if there were a potential conflict you needed approval to proceed; now, one actually needs a detailed conflict of management plan in order to satisfy federal guidelines for federal research support. We included that in the conflict of interest plan. Those are the two major changes. One minor change is that financial conflict of interest has been mandated t $10,000 where the previous guidelines were $5,000. Increase in inflation, how much you financially … company or other entity which you are doing research for.

J. Peters: Bobbie, does that answer your question? Let me ask our general council. Has this been given your final review? Okay. Ready for the question? All of those in favor of approving this Conflict of Interest Policy say “aye.” Opposed? The policy to drop in where there was space. We need it.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

J. Peters: Is there any new business before the house?

IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR
J. Peters: Let me skip over comments and questions from the floor. I draw your attention to X. Information Items, of various minutes of committees. Those are posted on the web. Comments or questions from the floor? Enjoy spring! Stay tuned.

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Graduate Council Meeting Minutes 9/14/09
B. Graduate Council Meeting Minutes 11/2/09
C. University Benefits Committee Minutes 11/19/09
D. Undergraduate Coordinating Council Minutes 12/03/09
E. General Education Committee Minutes 1/27/10

XI. ADJOURNMENT

J. Peters: Move to adjourn.
B. Burrell: Motion

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 p.m.