I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by President Peters at 3:05 P.M.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Thu made the motion; Tollerud was second. The agenda was approved as amended by the addition of two walk-in items.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 8, 2009 AND APRIL 29, 2009 MEETINGS MEETING (pages 3-8)

Motions were made and seconded to approve the minutes for the April 8 and April 29 meetings with minor corrections. The minutes for both meetings were approved.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Peters: Welcomed the members of the University Council and stated that his remarks would be brief because most of the content will be included in his State of the University Address, scheduled for the following afternoon. The University has met its enrollment targets, and has considerably increased graduate student enrollment. Recruitment and enrollment are of utmost importance as a disproportionate percentage of the University’s operating revenue comes from tuition and fees. Retention is also a significant problem and Vice-Provost Seaver will be
responsible for that. The president commended Drs. Alden, Hemphill, and Seaver for their ongoing efforts in the areas of enrollment management and student retention. The president ceded his remaining time to Drs. Hermann and Hemphill to update the UC on H1N1 preparations.

**L. Herrmann**: reported that the 2009 H1N1 is the predominant influenza A virus circulating world-wide, but that it remains at a lower level of severity than originally feared and the new H1N1 vaccine, when it’s available, is likely to be effective against H1N1. The University has placed an H1N1 link on the homepage and will communicate information about the availability of vaccines through that link. All members of the university community were encouraged to follow the self-care guidelines and preventive measures.

**B. Hemphill**: commented that the University has done everything possible to deal with H1N1 including stocking up on hand sanitizer, increasing attention to the cleaning of doorknobs, faucets and other frequently handled hardware, and the designation of isolation spaces. Flu vaccinations will be available on September 22 and October 14 but it is not clear that the specific H1N1 vaccine will be available by those dates. He cautioned against over-reaction stating that many of the reports of H1N1 in the media are not actually confirmed cases.

In response to questioning by President Peters, L. Herrmann confirmed that Health Service is not seeing an elevation in reported flu cases on campus compared to previous years and also that the flu vaccine would come directly to Health Services when it becomes available.

**R. Alden** called the Council’s attention to the communiqué distributed by the Provost’s office regarding faculty response to student absences and asking all instructors to make whatever reasonable accommodations possible to prevent students from being penalized for absences due to flu and to facilitate their keeping up with work and course obligations.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approval of University Council Committees for 2009-2010. (Page 9)
B. University Advisory Committee of the Board of Trustees – 2009-2012 – appointment of Greg Waas for a three-year-term (Page 10)
C. Policy on Nepotism – refer to University Affairs.
D. Resolution from Faculty Senate – refer to Rules and Governance (Page 11)

P. Vohra made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda, Gupta seconded, and the motion passed.

VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Earl Hansen – report. (Pages 12-13)

E. Hansen reported that the FAC met at DePaul University. He reported that President Peters was well received at the IBHE meeting. The IBHE is working vigorously with the Senate and legislature in Springfield in trying to get MAP grants reinstated. Improving retention and graduation rates is an issue on all campuses and the faculty must step up
and play a role in that effort. He (Earl) encouraged faculty to communicate with him regarding their input to the FAC.


J. Stephens reported that the President and the committee are very concerned about financial aid to students, especially with respect to the MAP grants and are doing whatever they can to encourage the governor and legislature to restore funding. He noted the belief that pressure to restore funding must come from students and their families. Faculty may not represent themselves as coming from NIU in their political communications. There were no action items. The committee considered the program review findings. There was recognition of the 2008/2009 Faculty Emeritus rewards for faculty and staff (Professional Excellence awards). He noted the retirement of Linda Sons. Research support from the public and private sector has increased by $0.7 million dollars to $53.9 million dollars in this fiscal year. That’s an increase of 1.25%, which is lower than hoped for. Finally, he noted that the committee retained the Ph.D. in economics as a result of input from the faculty rep. suggesting that the committee is responsive to the faculty.


A. Rosenbaum noted that there have been two meetings since the last University Council meeting and F. Bryan reported on the June 4 meeting stating that it was old news and self-explanatory and that he would address questions of which there were none.

A. Rosenbaum reported that there were nine action items. These included the approval of the capital budget containing funds for the renovation of the Stevens building and Cole Hall. Dr. Williams reported that the University has asked the state to release the funds that have been appropriated.

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Jay Monteiro and Bobbie Cesarek – report. (Pages 17 – 21)

E. BOT – Jay Monteiro – report. (Pages 22)

F. Academic Policy Committee – Kendall Thu, Chair – no report.

G. Resources, Space and Budgets Committee – Barbara Jaffee, Chair – no report.

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

I. University Affairs Committee – Linda Thompson, Chair – no report.

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

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Clinical Faculty Appointments – referred to Rules and Governance at 04/29/09
University Council Meeting. (Pages 23 – 24)

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Rosenbaum solicited input from the UC regarding the method of distribution of the agenda and minutes for future meetings. W. Baker suggested that we send out the agenda both electronically and in hard copy. After some discussion, a straw vote was conducted and the vote was to send the agenda out both electronically and in hard copy form. The minutes, however, will only be sent electronically. The votes were very close in both cases.

IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. 2009 – 2010 Meeting Schedule (Page 25)

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 P.M.