
Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

Absent: Alden, Bennardo, Castle, Dawson, Jaffee, Kaplan, Lash, Lusk, Mirman, Mogren, Prawitz, Richmond, Rosato, Schoenbachler, Snow, Thu, Waas, Williams

I. CALL TO ORDER

President Peters: I want to call to order the September meeting 2010 of the University Council to order.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

President Peters: The first item of business is adoption of the agenda. There is a walk-on – walk-in. It’s Jay Monteiro’s report. It should go under VI, C. With that, is there a motion to adopt the agenda as amended? Seconded? All those in favor? Okay.

Moved and seconded by two unidentified students. The agenda was adopted as amended.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 28, 2010 UC MEETING (page 3)

President Peters: Next is III, approval of the minutes of the April 28, 2010 meeting. On page 3, those are not electronic so we actually have real minutes. Are there – I’ll call for additions or corrections. Motion to approve? Second? All right. All those in favor say aye. I’m all confused.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Peters: All right, President’s Announcements; I guess that’s me. Welcome back everyone to our first meeting. We have someone new with us I want to introduce. That’s Pat Erickson. Raise your hand, Pat. Everybody know Pat? She’s the new administrative assistant to the University Council. Very good. She comes out of University Relations so that means she knows everything and everybody. Alan, want to say something or ---

A. Rosenbaum: Sure, we’re delighted to have Pat with us and you should introduce yourself to her. If you would like to come into the office and say hello, I’m sure she would appreciate the company once in a while. The other thing is that I want to remind everybody that, when you speak, please start by saying your name because, at least for a little while, Pat will not know who anyone is and she’s trying to keep track of who’s making motions and who’s seconding and all of that. So she’s got some help from Ferald
I did want to talk a little bit today about my State of the University address focusing on the Vision 2020 planning that we’re going to do this year. And I didn’t get a chance in my speech to really drill down as to what my motivations were behind launching this important effort and I do have a few slides. But, before I go there, I want to tell you how I got there. I spent a lot of time – you know they always say what did you do on your summer vacation? Well, we don’t have that anymore, but I spent a lot of time this summer broadly reading about a lot of things, but futurist sorts of things, but read a lot about higher education and the status of it and some of the economic issues that we’re facing globally and, you know, in the context of dealing with a pretty nasty budget situation, and really a cash flow situation, and a very chaotic and uncertain political environment. And it sort of came to me what is pretty obvious, that we pretty much need to control our own destiny. We’re a very large historic institution with not a lot of resources, but a significant amount of resources that we can allocate in all sorts of ways and that there are certain other things that are so apparent to me that – One was higher education, public higher education, has drastically changed, and changing, and will change in ways that I can only predict. The other thing is that across this country that the funding, state funding, for public higher education is very unstable and declining as a percent of our total budgets. Also, I don’t see that turning around; I don’t see a return to heavy investments by states in post-secondary education until the economy turns around and even then I’m not sure because of all the mandated expenses that come with health care deficit reduction and those sorts of things. That other thing that was pretty apparent to me is that the U.S. statistics on performance in post-secondary education is pretty dismal and, if we’re going to be competitive as a nation, we really have to do a better job and we’ve always led in that arena. The other thing that’s pretty apparent is that so many students that start their university or post-secondary education, whether it’s community colleges or four-year institutions, are not finishing and are saddled with unacceptable levels of debt for jobs that are less certain than they used to be. This is all of great concern to us and going down even further, that those societies, those individuals that are going to do well are those who get a quality education, a modern education that an institution like NIU can provide, and that’s the best preparation for an uncertain world. This was very much on my mind this summer. Then I began to think about, as I do every summer, I sort of review all sorts of reports and data from the university, you know, sort of an annual check-up of the university; I look up the data, all the tests, all the scores and I was impressed at the amount of planning that’s been going on at various levels. We’ve got a lot of good planning going on, the Academics for Teaching plans, fundamental – a lot of good things come out of that. The Baccalaureate Review is moving toward a conclusion. We had a lot of planning with regard to enrollment management this past year out of necessity because of the competitiveness that exists for students and from that we’ve come up with a lot of important initiatives and I thought that there was something missing and I think it was sort of an overriding, overarching set of goals and targets based upon that planning that we should focus on; and our vision and our horizon should be five to ten years. You know, a lot can change in ten years. What was true ten years ago about the landscape is not true today. Actually, when we started our academic strategic planning, conditions have changed. So we also have a plan that’s very, very adaptable. There were certain assumptions that went into my thinking, as well, that again, we’re a state institution. We were chartered by the state; we’re responsible to the state for producing higher education products, our role and mission, the students, and students prepared for jobs, educated students. We produce research. We help with economic development, all of those things. But I don’t believe that we can count on the state in the near term as a stable source, or the major source, of our support – that’s just happened; that’s a fact. So when I thought about all that and I thought about all the quality programs we have and
individuals, it became clear to me that it was really time for us as an institution to step up and to, you know, take matters into our own hands. It’s time that we thought about ourselves, and I wanted to take the year to do that. I feel so strongly about this that I wanted to personally lead the effort to make sure it gets done and to indicate the importance of it, so I’m trying to carve out as much of my time as possible to lead this Vision 2020 effort. It’s our chance to point the direction for this institution for the next decade. It’s our opportunity to do that. We should do that right now. See now’s the time I think we need leadership. You know, you look around and you wonder about the chaos around you, whether it’s financial markets or the economy in general or the political structure, things are not good. But I think that’s the time we really ought to plan and take some risks and define what is really important to you and I for one – and I know you believe this too; that’s why we’re here – I believe in the importance of public higher education for the history and the future of the country. I believe it is one of the key institutions that will lead the way. So, you know, I put all my summer reading away and got out my pad and pencil and came up with a few ideas that are not as well defined as they will be; but I have a few basic goals and objectives and what I’m doing is asking the university community to join in that effort and have your say and this is an opportunity for you and obviously University Council is the major shared governance unit on campus because it has all the various employee groups and students. So I thought I would just go through a few of the slides I presented in the State of the University address to emphasize how important it is to me. It is what I’m going to focus on this year ad nauseam and we want to get this done and I don’t have near all the answers and there are a lot more questions. but I just want to go through a little bit. Let’s see if the technology works.

Okay, right – so again, I thought this – this is not a new strategic planning effort. It’s an attempt to take the planning processes that we’ve been undertaking and develop some goals and benchmarks from those, kind of focus on the most important aspects of them. So certainly the great journey Strategic Plan is key and within that the Baccalaureate Review Task Force and I think ??? on to gen ed as well. That’s another critical component and our enrollment management strategy. Is this all right? Okay. Go ahead. Oh yeah, there’s me. When I first saw that I said, “you mean this leads to me, they’re in real trouble.” I don’t know what the benchmarks are going to be. We’re going to have a steering committee that’s going to help do that but I – there are certain ones that are obvious to me. One is since I’ve been here for ten years, we’ve talked about stable enrollment of about 25,000 give or take a few depending on – is that the right size? I don’t know, should it be bigger/smaller? What’s the mix between graduate and undergraduate? Freshmen, transfer – I mean all those are really good questions that we’ll probably debate and probably not change much, but who knows? We might, but we’ve got to look at that. We ought to take a look at the undergraduate level. This mix of first-time students, freshman students and transfer students from community colleges. This year we had a huge increase in transfer students – 9.2% from 44 community colleges. What’s happened is, it seems to me, is students, to get the right price point, are delaying coming to a four-year university. They’re going one year here, maybe even a little bit longer – not two – and transferring and that’s what we’re seeing is that we have to watch that because that changes the kind of academic programming we have to provide. We ought to take a look at, you know, where we stand in terms of attracting the most highly qualified students in the state. You know, where are we now? Where should we be? What is it going to take to get there? You know, I happen to believe an honors program is very important to a four-year public university that’s offering a real collegiate experience and I’m proud of what we do. I think we can do a lot better. It’s not necessarily a fully-integrated type honors program but we’ve got some good reports on that that we should maybe act on it, take a look at it. So there’s a whole number of benchmarks with regard to enrollment and quality and standards, admitting standards, that we ought to go through and take a look at.

Now, things in terms of funding for higher education across the state is going to change and it’s changing pretty fast. It’s no longer enrollment driven but it’s productivity driven. (go back; go back to the other one – right). For instance, in the state of Ohio, the base budgets to all the public universities now are – going forward (they’re phasing it in) – are going to be based upon course completion rates, the percentage
of students that you actually graduate within four, five or six years, retention rates – average time to
degree. So it’s moving from an enrollment driven model to okay, the state is subsidizing this education,
now we want to see the product. That’s almost going to be universal and, you know, that’s a good thing
to focus on anyway. I’ve taken a look at some of our course completion rates and you know, they vary
depending upon the kind of course, but it seems to me pretty frustrating when students sign up for a
course and we have to put in place a good academic program and academic resources and then 30% of
them don’t complete the course. Now there are reasons why – many good reasons – why they wouldn’t,
but that is something that policy makers are looking at now and they’re asking us why. So, you know, the
usual kinds of things. (go ahead) You know, and in doing this, you know, we want to look at ourselves
and we want to benchmark ourselves – where are we. I think we’re a fairly unique institution, but we’re in
a competition so we have to look at our peer groups and see where they are on these issues and some are
ahead of us in some areas and behind in others. Once we identify, you know, the goals that we think we
ought to really focus on which will define our character in the next decade, then we’ve got to ask
ourselves well, how do we get there? So if you want to increase your graduation rate from what 53% to
65%, how are we going to do that? How do you get that done? If you – how are we going to pay for this
assuming that state funding is going to be perhaps erratic and not increasing, not stable and a smaller
percent of our total budget. How are we going to sustain this? Well, certainly we have to be more
efficient, but we also have to find new sources of revenue and sustainability goes beyond just fiscal too.
It’s also, you know, the environment and that sort of thing. (okay, go on) So I don’t – there are a lot of
benchmarks that you could come up with, but I don’t think we ought to come up with more than ten to a
dozens otherwise we would – we’ll never get done. Obviously, there’s a facilities component as well to
our goals. I mean, what kind of facilities do we want? How environmentally green do we want to
become? Those all should be included. Anyway, here’s where it gets a little – I’m making it up as we go
along – but I’m going to appoint a steering committee. I’m already – I can’t believe the number of e-
mails I’ve received – but I’m going to appoint a steering committee. I don’t know, a couple of dozen
people from all aspects of the university. Maybe some outside people as well, alums, that sort of good
thinkers to serve as a steering committee and then we’re going to get warmed up and then the steering
committee will break down into task forces. You know, let’s say student, fiscal, facilities, financial, you
know, some reasonable break down and make sure that we include in there individuals who have been
part of the great journeys, the enrollment task force, the various other committees that we’ve had so there
can be a coordination so we’re not running off separately. And then we’re going to prepare studies,
pulling together data and Institutional Research people to help us understand where we are in our peer
group and then we will – it’s my goal to – have a final report that can be accepted by the Trustees,
embraced. That’s important because we need our governing group to validate what we think is important
for our vision in 2020. We need them to embrace it and accept that. Okay there is – okay. There are
other benchmarks that are – could be – appropriate that I would I think characterize the kind of education
that I know we deliver at NIU based upon our studies and that is engaged learning, putting students with
faculty experiences – very, very important – studies abroad – I mean these are all things that we ought to
talk about and chew on and come to some agreement. You know and most of these you can’t really
disagree with can you? I think it’s just the level of, you know, what’s the level, what’s the right mix, how
do you measure it? Are we sure that it has a good predictable outcome? And you could probably sit here
and give me 30 or 40 others and that’s what this exercise is going to be about.

So I just wanted to spend a few minutes one more time talking to this group about why I think this is
important and it’s an important time to – it’s the right time to – do this and how serious I am about getting
this done this year, at least the broad outlines. I think it’s a critical time for us to do this. You know, if
you think about the – if we don’t do this, I think we’re going to drift. We’ll do okay; we’ll be alright but I
think we can be excellent and position ourselves for the new environment. You know, there’s going to be
winners and losers in public higher education in the next decade. The competition as you know is fierce.
We’re going to be – we’re going to be successful and I know why because I know this place and I know
you. There’s nothing we can’t do if we put our minds to it but again it’ll be a matter of choices. You
know, there’ll be some things – we can’t do everything. So I’m going to shut up and I’ll take questions if you want.

**P. Henry:** When you do appoint a steering committee, will that be made known to the university as a whole so we can sort of get feedback to these people?

**President Peters:** Oh yeah. Yes. We’re throwing – part of Vision 2020 is new microphones.

**P. Henry:** If we’re here in 2020.

**President Peters:** How’s this? Right. This is going to be an open process and we’ll have a website and I haven’t made up my mind about any of that. You know, I have some people in mind but I’m going to mix it up pretty good. I’m going to, you know, get some junior people on with, you know, some fresh ideas, not that those of us who have been around long don’t have fresh ideas. But I want – this is important that the community get behind this and then the working groups, there’ll be. You know, when you think about it, I’m thinking about a lot of participation as we move down in the working groups so you can kind of pick what you’re interested in. I presume we’ll have hearings and things like that, open discussions. Okay? Yeah?

**J. Kite:** Jonathan Kite.

**President Peters:** Yeah.

**J. Kite:** So I was wondering what the student involvement on this steering committee is going to look like or if you’ve thought about that?

**President Peters:** Well, we’re going to put the S.A. President on for sure and probably a residence hall person, but here we’re going to have student input. You bet, because you remember a big part of this is the residence hall complex – the living, learning component. I didn’t talk about that today because that’s moving forward. It’s a huge, you know, the residential renaissance that we’re very excited about. That’s a key to the future so there definitely will be student input and alumni and donor input. We’re going to have to ask alumni and donors to support some of these activities with their private funding. All right? Okay? So, you’ll be hearing a lot about this; getting involved in it. I’ll report regularly. We’ll have a website I suppose; maybe even a Facebook account, I don’t know, we’ll see. All right. So we ---

V. **CONSENT AGENDA**

**President Peters:** Consent Agenda. We need a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Is there a second? All right. All those in favor? All right.

A. Approve University Council Standing Committees for 2010-2011. (page 11)

B. Approve University Advisory Committee to BOT, confirmation of Kerry Freedman to a three-year term (2010-2013) (page 12)

The motion was made and seconded by two unidentified students. The Consent Agenda was approved as written.

VI. **REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**
A. FAC to IBHE – Earl Hansen – report

**President Peters:** Let’s move into reports. We have a report from Earl Hansen on the Faculty Advisory Committee to the IBHE; actually three reports I guess.

**E. Hansen:** Well you’ve got notes in there of three meetings that I attended. Those of you who don’t know me, I’m Earl Hansen. I’m in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology. I’m the Faculty Advisory Committee representative to the IBHE and the topic of conversation for the last two years has been the financial demise of the state of Illinois. President Peters has given a very blunt and open comment on the funding and the status of funding in the state of Illinois. The present issues that have been discussed in quick summarization was that most of the state institutions were having trouble getting neophyte or new faculty members active in committee work and it was suggested that we might want to look at what we’re doing with our new faculty that is keeping them from wanting to get on committees. They have to spend their time on scholarship activities and funding and so forth. Another issue was the two seats on the Illinois Board of Higher Education which are designated for faculty members yet – and that’s by state law – yet I don’t think they’ve filled it yet. They hadn’t by our August meeting anyway – or July meeting – and right now we’re trying to have them take two Faculty Advisory Committee members and put them on there until we can figure out how we’re going to get people on there from different institutions. And – that’s about it. The whole thing in a nutshell.

**President Peters:** Okay, any questions for Earl? I would add – Earl, I don’t know if you said it or not – but the Executive Director, Judy Erwin, retired abruptly on August 15 so Don Sevener is the interim and a search has begun for a new Executive Director so we’ll be watching that. All right. Any other questions?

1. **May 14, 2010** (page 13)
2. **June 21, 2010** (page 18)
3. **July 26, 2010** (page 20)

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Ferald Bryan, Kerry Freedman – report (page 27)

**President Peters:** All right, let’s move on to Kerry Freedman who I guess is going to give the Board of Trustees Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee report for the August 26 meeting.

**K. Freedman:** I can be brief. The two points that were probably most important was that Dean Dawson of the library gave a presentation on the library including its history which was quite interesting and he focused actually on his ideas about updating the library, particularly increasing the digital collections in the library. People on the Faculty Senate know that this has been a long-term discussion this last year as the result of some lack of communication with the faculty so he and the Provost addressed that a bit. There’s going to be a meeting on September 17 when the Provost will recharge the Dean to address this issue, figure out some process by way of communicating with the faculty during these changes because apparently the changes are going to be fairly dramatic.
The other important point was that Lisa Freeman gave a presentation on incoming grants and in the last year we had quite a substantial increase in grants in the university most of which came from the ARRA but it was all good news.

So that’s my report.

**President Peters:** Thank you Kerry. Any questions on that report?

**C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Alan Rosenbaum, Greg Waas – report** (page 29)

**President Peters:** Now that was B1. B2 is the BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee report of August 26 and Alan Rosenbaum is going to give that one I understand.

**A. Rosenbaum:** I’ll be brief about this one because I didn’t attend the meeting. This was the one that Greg Waas attended and did the report and Greg is not here. You can read the report. The major items here are the appropriated capital budget requests and also the non-appropriated capital budget, and what we learned at this meeting was that there is apparently a difference between academic buildings and non-academic buildings regarding whether the university can pay for repairs and things like that out of the budget or whether we have to have a revenue bond to pay for it. The other item of interest was item H which refers to the first-year residence hall project which is a very interesting project that the university is getting involved with. We’re partnering with the Collegiate Housing Foundation which is a non-for-profit organization and they are going to contract for and pay for instruction of the freshman first-year residence hall which will be a thousand-bed facility. And this is apparently very important to us because our housing stock is rather old. I think our newest dorm was built about 40 years ago and, in terms of what students are mentioning when they talk about whether or not they want to come to NIU, apparently the housing arrangements is one of the items that they are not giving us high marks on. So this will be a state-of-the-art facility that the university will be constructing in collaboration with the Collegiate Housing Foundation and that was a kind of very interesting arrangement and an important item.

The rest of the report you can read for yourselves.

**President Peters:** Thank you. Any questions? Yeah?

**P. Henry:** I’m all in favor of – sorry, Pat Henry, Foreign Languages – of the new residence hall but the deep need for classroom and office space on campus is something that I never seem to see mentioned in these things.

**President Peters:** Well, we are moving ahead with Cole Hall. The engineering designs are in place. The bids go out in November, probably break ground in January. Number two, Stevens is moving forward with the programmatic consultations then that pops up on the next capital item on the list, which is called the Computer Science and Technology Building which is a major, major educational classroom building. So, you know, the thing about academic buildings is you’re either part of the state capital projects or you raise private money the way we did for the College of Business, Barsema. You can’t bond for them – issue revenue bonds because there is no revenue stream, whereas residence halls, there’s a revenue stream which is room and board. So it’s like a mortgage. You can get a mortgage on housing because you have a revenue stream. There is no direct revenue stream on an education building, but you raise a good point. But that will be part of Vision 2020 and, you know, for ten years the state hasn’t invested capital so what
did we have to do? We had to go out and raise our own money. We had to go out and raise, you know, $20 million for the Barsema Alumni Visitor’s – the Barsema College of Business but that’s a good point. Other questions?

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Jay Monteiro, Todd Latham – report (page 31) and August 26, 2010 report (walk-in)

President Peters: All right? Now, Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs. We’ve got Jay and Todd. That’s for April 29 and August 26 and that’s the walk-in.

J. Monteiro: Right, I’m just going to report on the August 26 walk-in as the other one is kind of old information at this point.

During the 96th General Assembly Report, Ken Zehnder kind of summarized the summer and I’ll just give you a couple of the positive points that he mentioned.

Senate Bill 642 which we know was to allow state universities to borrow against expected tuition receipts. And Ken commented at this point NIU had not had to do this and that the state was now current with NIU in regards to payments from the state in regards to FY2010. He also mentioned HR919 which resolves the Board of Higher Education to establish a commission to study the Illinois procurement code and this is so that purchases by public universities can be completed more efficiently.

I’ll move down to the Congressional Report and Lori Clark, the Director of Federal Relations reported that NIU had sent five Congressional interns to Washington D.C. this past summer and the Congressional Office was very impressed with our NIU students and gave them all A+s and they were very impressed and hoped that we would send them more students next year.

Moving on, there was an update on the Internet/Internet 2 Video Technology that has come through the School of Music and Dr. Bauer reported that we’re being seen in 50 states, Washington D.C., three dozen countries and on five continents. These archived concerts from the School of Music are posted on NIU’s YouTube station and, since January 2009 when they set up the YouTube, they’ve had more than 70,000 people viewing our videos so that’s quite impressive. He also described a new program called “Music in Hospitals” and it’s going to be a combined program with NIU School of Music and the Elgin Symphony Orchestra where they’ll be performing live concerts at Sherman Hospital and this program will also include a new TV channel through the hospital where they’ll be showing these concerts and they hope that in the future Sherman Hospital will add more non-music NIU channels to their programming. They’re also hoping this concept will be expanded and may go to some of the 80 other hospitals that are serviced by NIUNet and its Illinois Rural Health Net program.

Then Kathy Buettner, Vice-President University Relations gave an update on the status of many marketing and branding things that are going on with NIU now. She talked about the new “advisory link” where you can go in and sign up for alerts that are coming out to campus and will be given via e-mail and it will be non-emergency type information, so if a building is closed or there’s flooding or that type of thing. She listed some of the other things that have been rolled out. New NIU billboards are going up in the Chicago-land area. NIU is now on Facebook, Twitter and a number of other social networks. We’re creating PSAs (Public Service Announcements) to be put on the radio and also on TV between football games and that type of thing.
The meeting wound up with Dr. Cunningham, Vice-President Human Resources and Compliance giving a follow-up report on NIU’s domestic partner provisions and basically it was summarized that NIU’s programs and policies are very consistent with our peer universities here in the area and the MAC.

**President Peters:** Okay, questions? Thorough report. Okay.

E. **BOT – Alan Rosenbaum – report** (page 33)

**President Peters:** Let’s see, the final report from Advisory Committees, Board of Trustees, Alan Rosenbaum is going to give that. It’s for May 13 and June 23.

**A. Rosenbaum:** Again, just to go over some of the highlights of the Board of Trustees meeting of May 13, the Board held its elections for the upcoming year and the results were that Trustee Strauss was re-elected as Chair of the Board; Trustee Butler was elected Vice Chair; Trustee Boey was elected Secretary; and Trustee Murer was elected fourth member of the Executive Committee. There was also a report on the final results of the True North Campaign with the final total exceeding the goal and coming at somewhere between $160 and $165 million so that was a very positive report.

The Board approved 17 action items which included 54 recommendations for promotions, tenure, and tenure with promotions which we’re always delighted to see. There were also a number of action items including the appointment of La Vonne Neal as Dean of the College of Education effective July 1, 2010. The 2011 tuition recommendation included a 9.5% increase in tuition costs and there was also the approval of the interim FY2011 internal budget. The final item on this May 13 meeting was a resolution that the Board passed honoring President Peters for ten years of exemplary leadership as President of NIU and that also included a very nice retrospective of President Peters’ accomplishments so we all want to congratulate him on that as well. So --- (clapping).

On June 23 there was a special meeting of the Board of Trustees. From what I understand, the primary reason for this meeting was the approval of the ground lease for the aforementioned freshman housing complex. So, because this is not being built by the university, apparently we have to lease the land to the Collegiate Housing Foundation and so the Board to approve that and they also approved the limited reorganization of the office of Human Resources and Compliance and the promotion of Steve Cunningham to the position of Vice President for Human Resources and Compliance. That was essentially the special meeting. Any questions? No one has any questions about the special meeting or the 13th meeting? Okay.

**VII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

**President Peters:** We have no reports from Standing Committees.

A. Academic Policy Committee – Kerry Freedman, Chair

B. Resources, Space, and Budgets Committee – Laurie Elish-Piper, Chair

C. Rules and Governance Committee – Suzanne Willis, Chair

D. University Affairs Committee – M Cecil Smith, Chair
E. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Abhijit Gupta, Chair

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

President Peters: Is there any Unfinished Business to come before the house? All right.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Article II: Grievance Procedures for Faculty and Staff – Todd Latham (p. 35)

President Peters: Now New Business, I’m going to call upon Todd Latham.

T. Latham: Todd Latham, President of the Supportive Professional Staff Council. I place before University Council today a request to consider proposed changes to Article 11 of the Grievance Procedures for Faculty and Staff. The SPS Council realized the need for a more concise, streamlined and updated document that addresses the grievance procedure for SPS appointment category. As such, the Council formed an ad hoc committee that was comprised of Tim Griffin, Deborah Haliczer, Linda Perkins, and Michael Spires. They were charged with the responsibility to review all existing documents, existing procedure and report back to the SPS Council proposed changes. Included with that was a four-page rationale of changes that reflect the document you have before you that tracked changes that was requested by the UC Steering Committee. The document really does a good job, it was drafted by Deborah Haliczer, that explains the need, the purpose and why the changes are being proposed to University Council. We also consulted with other parties that may advise other individuals of various employment categories through a grievance procedure including the Ombudsman and the Faculty and SPS Faculty Advisor. The SPS Council approved this document. Originally it had two modifications and now it’s before the University Council to consider. I’ll take the silence as consent.

President Peters: So any questions? So the idea then is to give this to the Rules and Governance?

T. Latham: I believe that was the recommendation from the Steering Committee. So we’re satisfied with that. We believe that’s a good place to start and ---

President Peters: We’ll take that as a motion. Is there a second? All right, now discussion. All right, so all those in favor of sending this action to Rules and Governance say aye. Opposed? All right, Rules and Governance. I think that’s Sue Willis, right? You accept it? You don’t have a choice. Okay.

X. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

President Peters: Comments and Questions From the Floor. I forgot to introduce some new people who joined us since our last meeting. That’s Lisa Freeman, the Vice-President for Research. There she is; wave your hand so people know who you are. She came to us from Kansas State. A veterinarian by training and a pharmacologist and in your recent posting, you headed the Innovation Center in Olathe. So bring innovation to DeKalb; we need to be innovated. Dean La Vonne Neal came to us from Colorado Springs and welcome. All right. And – ah – it was announced this week that after a 40-year legal career
and many years at NIU, Ken Davidson, our General Counsel, is filing his last briefs. Ken, thank you for keeping us safe. We are launching a national search as soon as I get to it, another thing on my plate. All right – comments and questions from the floor. Sue Willis?

S. Willis: Being that we now have an action item, I’d like to ask committee members of the Rules and Governance Committee to come up afterwards so we can arrange to meet.

President Peters: All right, so gather around Sue after – all right?

XI. INFORMATION ITEMS

President Peters: You’ll notice that there are several information items under XI for your perusal. You know, a lot of people spend time working on these committees and annual reports so if you do have questions, you should raise them.

TAPE TURNED OVER HERE – THERE WAS NOTHING RECORDED ON SIDE 2.

A. 2010–2011 meeting schedule (p. 70)
B. Academic Planning Council meeting minutes, April 26, 2010
C. Athletic Board meeting minutes, April 21, 2010
D. Operating Staff Council meeting minutes, May 6, 2010
E. Operating Staff Council meeting minutes, June 3, 2010
F. Operating Staff Council meeting minutes, July 1, 2010
G. Operating Staff Council meeting minutes, August 23, 2010
H. Undergraduate Coordinating Council meeting minutes, April 1, 2010
I. Annual Report – Academic Planning Council
J. Annual Report – Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
K. Annual Report – Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
L. Annual Report – Graduate Council
M. Annual Report – Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor
N. Annual Report – University Assessment Panel
O. Annual Report – University Council Personnel Committee

XII. ADJOURNMENT

President Peters: Motion to adjourn? We are adjourned.

The meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.