
Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.


I. CALL TO ORDER

John Peters: I will call the November 3 meeting. If you're going to speak, get a microphone and say your name, because that’s the way we keep the record of these proceedings.

President John Peters called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

John Peters: Today, let’s adopt the agenda. There are no additions. The agenda as is printed. Is there a motion to adopt today’s agenda?

Brigid Lusk: (Moves to accept the agenda)

John Peters: Second?

Kendall Thu: Second.

John Peters: All those in favor say, aye.

All: Aye.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 6, 2010 UC MEETING (sent electronically)
John Peters: You have received electronically the approval of the minutes of October 6th. Did anybody read them? If you read them or even if you didn’t, do you have any additions or corrections? Can I have a motion to adopt the minutes?

Brigid Lusk: (Moves to accept the minutes)

John Peters: Is there a second?

Pat Henry: Second.

John Peters: Okay, all those in favor say, aye.

All: Aye.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Peters: Welcome everyone and good to see you. Before we begin, I received a couple of letters. I received one and Alan received one from faculty at other universities, when they heard about our issue, our crisis, and I’m going to ask Alan to read these. I think they were really quite touching at a time when we needed a little boost. Our faculty from across the state sent us some messages, so I’m going to have Alan Rosenbaum read those into the record.

Alan Rosenbaum: The first letter is from the FAC to the IBHE, and it says, “I’m writing on behalf of the Faculty Advisory Counsel of the Illinois Board of Higher Education to express our most sincere condolences to you, your campus and DeKalb communities and particularly to Toni Keller’s family for the horrific tragedy you are all enduring. Our hearts, minds and prayers are with you during this time of extraordinary hardship. As you know, FAC is the most comprehensive organization, representing faculty from public and private universities as well as community colleges across Illinois. So, please know that as your colleagues over the entire State of Illinois and as parents, we are deeply touched and saddened by this unthinkable heartbreak. We wish you all the best as you deal with your loss and hope that the criminal behind this inhumane act will be found and brought to justice soon. Please feel free to share this letter with the Keller family.” The second one comes from the Vice President of the Faculty Senate at Chicago State University and it says, “On behalf of the faculty of Chicago State University, I would like to express our deep condolences to all of our colleagues at NIU and the parents and family of Toni Keller for the horrific tragedy. Our prayers are with the family of Toni and the entire NIU community during this unimaginable time. We wish you and the NIU community all the strength in dealing with this senseless tragedy when the wounds of the previous one are still healing. Please convey our heartfelt condolences to the family of Toni Keller.”

John Peters: Thank you, that was really, you know when you go through this it’s good to know we’ve received support from the national university community but to receive, to know you’re in solidarity with our fellow academics on the public university campuses, it was really, it came at an important time. I do have some formal remarks that I want to deliver to you, and we’re recording them so that we are going to put them up on NIU Today. I thought it was important that I put down my observations and my feelings about this event for you because of the magnitude of it. In spite of the anguish our NIU and DeKalb communities have experienced
over the last several weeks, I want to take a few moments this afternoon to let you know how proud that I am of our students, of our faculty and of our staff as we went through this. On behalf of our entire NIU community, that’s you and others, I want to extend our gratitude and our thanks to the DeKalb County Major Case Squad investigators. That included NIU, the DeKalb and Sycamore police departments, the County Sherriff and the Illinois State Police and other jurisdictions, federal and in Louisiana. The intense and unprecedented level of inter-agency cooperation present among our law enforcement agencies allowed the suspect to be apprehended quickly, which gave our community a much needed sense of relief and having observed their work, their professional work through this, let me say how proud I am of them and how grateful I am but also how professional they are. I really think they do a great job.

Despite the trials that we have endured over the past few years, I consider it, and I’m sincere in this, I consider it my life’s privilege to serve as your President of this great university and that is renewed to me on a daily basis when our faculty win honors, when our students graduate and when we win football games. Our faculty and staff are committed to do all we can to provide a first-class education in a vibrant and safe intellectual and culturally rich environment. That’s what we do and that’s what we have. No community, whether a city, a town or a college campus, whether it’s Blacksburg, Virginia or Austin, Texas or Huntsville, Alabama or DeKalb, Illinois, no community is immune or safe from predators. As you know, the University established enhanced personal safety precautions, we triggered them as a result of this incident, and it’s really unfortunate that our society today requires such a level of heightened awareness and personal alertness in order to remain safe in a university community. It is a sign of the times.

Over the past two weeks, I spent considerable time walking around campus, talking with and supporting our students, and I want to report to you a little bit on what I observed, although as faculty and staff, you see it on a daily basis as well. I’m really so impressed by the maturity, the drive and the spirit of our students. Most universally, they assured me they were doing fine and while they mourn along with the entire NIU community, they also remain focused on their studies and their projects for various classes, and they are always eager to talk to me about their academic programs and to ask me advice about their careers and advice about life. I had lunch this afternoon at Stevenson with a group of students, and they wanted to know why I couldn’t convince the faculty to let them have next Tuesday off, so I indicated to them that that’s not my call, but they’re focused on their studies and I know you’re proud of them. I repeatedly remind students to take advantage of the heightened safety protocols we activated, including 24-hour personal security escorts and expanded daily hours for our late-night ride service that begin at 4:00 p.m. each day and continue to 8:00 a.m. the following morning, all they have to do is call. They know that, they all know that, and I also encouraged the students to contact their families and check in more frequently, and they said they’re doing that and they also said their parents are doing that as well, which I kind of guessed, being a parent.

NIU remains united behind meeting the needs of each of our students. Although we have a strong campus police presence, the safety and security of our NIU community is everyone’s responsibility and I ask your help in this, something you can do. If, for example, you notice lights that are not working, if bushes are overgrown and block line of sight and to lines of walking paths, darkened areas of campus that could benefit from additional lighting to make
them safe or have any other suggestions to enhance the campus safety of our NIU community, I want you to send those suggestions to a new website that we’re establishing and it’s called, the sign on is, staysafe@niu.edu. That new email suggestion box will be monitored daily to help prioritize and effectively respond to our needs, and I’m convinced that if we’re more cognizant of these issues, our NIU community will be even safer and also have a feeling of, “we can help, we all can help.”

The tragic events of the last few weeks have even further driven home to me the importance of enhanced synergy between NIU and the DeKalb community. What is important now as we look to the future is that NIU continue to stand shoulder to shoulder with DeKalb, Sycamore and County leaders as we engage in long-term strategic discussions and planning that will serve to strengthen and improve our greater community, and I’m not just talking about safety, I’m talking about everything. We have a wealth of University resources and talent that we must harness and utilize to help our County meet the needs of the future, and I was so heartened by the comment made by our newly elected State’s Attorney in this morning’s newspaper, and he said, “I want DeKalb to be safe. If DeKalb’s not safe, the appeal to NIU isn’t there, and we start to develop a reputation of a community that’s not safe, and I think that’s the furthest thing from the truth.” To that, I say, “Amen Clay Campbell, and we stand ready to work with you.”

Now, NIU is a great University, full of vibrant, dynamic, intellectually challenging (actually when I first wrote that, I wrote challenged), intellectually challenging professors and staff urging and walking alongside our students to assist them to develop and reach their full potential. This is a great place. We’re also an extremely caring and responsive community, a safe haven for our students, faculty and staff to expand their horizons. Over the coming weeks and months, please make a conscious effort to share the true NIU with family, friends and neighbors, colleagues and students, parents and prospective students and parents. After all, we are Huskies and all of us, we are NIU. So, I want to thank everybody for what we’ve been through and we move forward together once more.

I want to take just a few more moments to talk to you a little bit about Vision 2020. The events of the past two weeks have slowed me down a bit on 2020, but my vision is still clear, it’s just I’m two weeks behind. I had indicated that we were going to have our steering committee in place by Thanksgiving and I think I will make that, but I thought what I wanted to do is spend a few minutes updating you on the progress of that effort and really I want to kind of clarify because I’ve clarified in the past month my own thinking on this, what Vision 2020 is and I also want to say what it is not. It’s not another strategic planning exercise. It is not that at all. The reason? We’ve done that. We’ve done it in so many ways. Many of you, I’m looking around and I see many of you have participated in a fundamental way. We’ve already done that. Rather, it’s a benchmarking effort that will take the findings from our planning activities and identify a discrete number of measures or benchmarks that will guide our progress in the next 10 years for which we can measure our progress. The basic input for the measures come from the priorities that we sift out of the Great Journey Strategic Plan, the Baccalaureate Task Force Review Report that is fresh, our students’ success efforts, our Enrollment Management Task Force, we’ve got a couple other task forces going now under the leadership of Provost Alden and faculty activity and online integration of courses. So, all of those things, those planning efforts,
that’s good work, and what we need to do is capture it but also I think we need to measure our progress toward whatever goals we come up with.

Now, there is a steering committee for Vision 2020 and that’s a broad-based, probably about 30 people on it, and that’s been hard to put 30 people, in my mind, in one room that represent all of us but I think I’m getting to the point where I’ve got it. Their job is to review the charge that’s going to go to about six work groups and to perhaps give some examples of measures that we might look at. Their jobs is also to become experts on all our strategic plans and then they’re going to receive the reports of the working groups in Vision 2020 and then they’re going to put together a penultimate document with measures that we’ll put out to the community for comment, then we’ll bring it all together and I’ll take it to the trustees. In general, that’s the process. It’s consultative, it’s everybody’s involved, but their job, the steering committee, is to focus and give some help to the work groups.

Now, at this point, and these aren’t formalized and I’m still thinking about this and taking input, I see about six work groups that are going to develop measures in six areas and I don’t want to go into great deal today but just to give you an idea of the thinking, one is going to be academic programming and that is from our Great Journeys. What are the good ideas about academic programming and how can we measure success and by the way, the steering committee and the work groups are going to be sprinkled liberally with individuals who are involved with and help develop all of our strategic planning documents so that there is nothing lost and we don’t reinvent the wheel. I don’t want that at all. So, I want a sprinkling of new people and people who had participated. So, academic programming, faculty work excellence and faculty rewards. So, how do we reward faculty? How can we encourage more excellence among our faculty in terms of research, in terms of national awards, great teaching, you know, whatever, but that will be that group. Third, very important, student recruitment, retention and student success; pretty obvious what that is. A fourth one, the student experience, the living/learning situation, the extramural activities of students, what kind of an experience are they getting at NIU that helps round out their great education. Alright, the fifth one is facilities and environment. What is the status of this 800 acre, how many millions of buildings do we have Eddie? A lot, yeah, with $0.5 billion of deferred maintenance. How does it look when we build buildings? Are they energy efficient? The facilities and sustainability of the look of the campus. Then the last group is sustainability and that is, how are going to continue to fund all this and achieve our goals with declining state support and an uncertain future and so a heavy emphasis on how are we spending our money, are we spending it wisely, how are we allocating? But that’s not the real problem. The real problem is, how do we raise more revenue. Because you reallocate and reallocate and reallocate and there’s not enough to reallocate. So, that’s my thinking.

So, the role of the work groups, which will be co-chaired, it’s not that I don’t trust individuals, but we’ll have co-chairs of each work group. I want them to identify a few key priorities in each of those areas that were previously identified in reports, the strategic planning, and to develop a few measures and benchmarks, and there will be some rules, you know, you could just spin off all kinds of measures, but they should be feasible, pragmatic, fit our plan, doable, fit the role and mission and be fiscally attainable. So, we’re bounded a little bit, and what we’re going to do, and I know I’m going to, as soon as this is in panel, I’m going to start meeting with a lot of groups and just listening, and I imagine the work groups will be holding listening sessions as
well and we’ll have a big website. The idea, though, is to try to make this as focused and as streamlined a process as possible.

My intent is still to be able to deliver a product that the trustees can embrace within the academic year. We’ll push hard. I don’t know if we’ll make that, but let’s set that as a goal. So, I haven’t communicated with you much on that and on the events of the past few weeks when I was ready, it kind of got in the way. It’s so important for a great university to keep moving. We have a lot, think of what we have going on right now. Think about it. We have, at our disposal now, through the support of the trustees and through some good planning, we will be investing, us investing other peoples’ money, about $200 million in physical plant to improve our housing stock and our learning-living community. We have, in this tough time, we have squeezed some dollars out of the state to refresh and renew Cole Hall and Stevens. We have, that’s huge when you think about it. There are so many things that we have going for us right now that to delay Vision 2020 makes no sense. We have to move ahead. I’d love to talk about the elections but I don’t know anything about them; I’ve been too busy, but we’re in an environment that’s changing and I think, as I said to you many times, the institutions that are going to come out on top are those that know who they are, know where they want to go, get in control of their destiny and work hard and stick together. Now, we’ve been rocked a little bit. It’s been hard on all of us, but we are moving forward and it is unfortunate that we get a little extra measure of media scrutiny because of events that happened here over two years ago, but that’s it, that’s the nature of it. So, with that, I’m going to get off the soapbox and say we’re ready to move again, that we need your help and with that I’m going to end and take any questions that you have or I’ll take questions at the end. Alright? Yeah? Yes, remember your name and the microphone.

**Kerry Freedman:** My questions is just, it has to do with the discussion that we’ve been having on and off in the Faculty Senate for the entire year and last spring even, about faculty representation on planning committees of various sorts at the University level. So, could you just give us an idea of the kind of faculty representation you’re going to have on these groups that you’re establishing for 2020?

**John Peters:** Yes, you know, from your own experience, when you try to put a broad-based group together, you want to make sure that you have every constituency covered and while on the Steering Committee, you have to have a lot of people who are experts in certain areas that are not necessarily academic, and then there are individuals who wear two or three hats. They may be a faculty member but they also might be a Provost type, Vice Provost. But, I’m going to have at least, outside of the constituent-based things like Alan, I’m going to have at least three senior faculty members and three Department Chairs on the Steering Committee in addition to other people who are faculty members. So it won’t be a majority, but there will be input. What I’m looking for is fresh perspective. So, that’s not the most elegant answer to your question, but it was always on my mind. It won’t be a majority of the Steering Committee but it will be darn near a majority.

**Kerry Freedman:** Can I just make one more comment? I’m really glad to hear that and I’m sure the Faculty Senate will be delighted to hear that. Just a reminder based on the conversations we’ve been having, from our perspective and the Faculty Senate, faculty representation, we think, is very important connected to teaching because upper administrators who have been
faculty, of course, have a faculty experience, which is important, but it’s often the case that the faculty who are actually involved in programming and teaching are the people who can best represent the students. Obviously, when students are involved in the committees, they represent themselves, but we are sort of the conduit to the students, so we are representing two very important groups in the community. So, I’m just really glad to hear that it’s not just higher administrators who have been faculty in the past, so thanks very much for that.

John Peters: The other thing is the way I’ve structured the committees, you notice that I split off academic programming and excellence from the more student-oriented kinds of things, to focus like a laser beam on things like engaged learning, general education renewal, new pathways, things that came out of the academic planning efforts, the Great Journeys, and that’s the kind of thing faculty know. The other thing that the campus has to chew and I think they are, we really have not definitively, from my perspective, carved out the role of technology and online learning with regard to our curriculum. I don’t know what the answer to that is; that’s a faculty answer. I don’t have that answer, but I do know if someone asked me, “What’s the role of online learning at NIU?” at a conference, I’d start coughing. So, somebody on a piece of paper ought to say, “This is what online learning means in the instructional repertoire at NIU.” Only faculty can answer that. That’s a tough one too and expensive.

Kerry Freedman: I can write that for you if you want.

John Peters: I’m sure you all have answers. Anyway, when I can’t sleep, this is the stuff I think about, and I haven’t been sleeping. Alright, anymore? Good, this kind of dialogue, I’m going to come to the Faculty Senate once I get this out there a little bit and hear what people have to say. But, that doesn’t mean representatives, I’ve had a lot of faculty who I didn’t know who have emailed me and want to participate in this and boy, that makes me feel really good, a lot of students too. I think I have about 600 people who want to serve on the Steering Committee. I’m excited about this. I think we’ve done such good work on planning and often nothing comes to planning and what I’m saying is, let’s get a few things that really make sense out of this planning, measure them and put resources behind them and get going, drive the institution forward. That’s also, in the future, we can have a say in what the future looks like for 10 years by picking the right indicators. If you have more questions, we can talk at the end if you think about some.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Comprehensive Review of the President – Refer to University Affairs Committee

John Peters: Alright, the consent agenda, is there a motion to approve today’s consent agenda? There is one item, self explanatory.

Kendall Thu: I move.

John Peters: Second?

Sue Willis: Second.
John Peters: All in favor say, “Aye.”

All: Aye.

VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS, AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE - Earl Hansen – report – page 3-8

John Peters: Alright, let’s move to reports and we have, Earl has a written report on pages 3-8. Earl, I know you’re here.

Earl Hansen: Yes, I am.

John Peters: I hear you.

Earl Hansen: I was rather concerned on your initial comments about the intellectually challenged faculty. There were a number of us back here who started to perspire. Before I begin, Earl Hansen, Representative of NIU to the Illinois Board of Higher Education Faculty Advisory Committee, and I kept that committee informed on the information that you were sending out, and they immediately reacted to this thing, wanting your email address, both of you up there, and I did do that and had dialogue with them from all over the state. There is a concern and I think they summed it up pretty good in those two memos that came in. We met at Oakton Community College on the 15th of October, and the Senate and House Education Representatives were there and it’s all in the report there, but I found it interesting that this year, we’re going to be inviting as many people as we can from State Legislature to our meetings so we can get across to them what we, as a Faculty Advisory Committee, feel are the needs. We can’t just keep asking them for money. We’re going to but whether we get it or not is another question, but they need to know what we can do to improve the lot of the state, which was the McMahon item that I brought forward last month to this body and to this Senate. Just to highlight this thing, Chicago spends $30 million on remediation. Basically, when we get into that, we’re putting kids into classes that they can handle and putting them in other classes that they can’t that they should have had in high school and the consensus of the Advisory Council is that the high schools failed the kids, not the kids flunking the high school. The high school didn’t deliver what they were supposed to deliver, and that needs to be brought home because we’re trying to turn an economy around and the economy is driven by what we do in higher education and research and bringing industry and whatever into the state. Jumping on, we will have a representative from academia sitting on the IBHE Board, which is appointed by the Governor, and that is to take place, we should know what that is, who that is and when it’s going to be next week when we meet in Bloomington. If not, it will be in Springfield in December.

John Peters: Earl, do you know who the current representative is?

Earl Hansen: We don’t have one. We’re supposed to have one. We’ve never had one sitting there. They’ve never let us put one on it.
John Peters: I didn’t know that. If I knew it, I forgot it.

Earl Hansen: That’s been a kind of bone of contention.

John Peters: So the previous governor didn’t appoint one?

Earl Hansen: Nor did this one until just now. We have not had anybody there. We’ve presented them with people and they’ve never been seated.

John Peters: OK.

Earl Hansen: On the paragraph on the bottom of page 4 where it says, “I was stated,” it should be, “It was stated.” That’s a typo on my part. The rest of this is pretty self explanatory. It rambles on in talking about what the Community College Fund form is going to be and talks about the newspapers not being informed as to what goes on in higher education. If you go to the last page, at the very last paragraph, this is where the Faculty Advisory Committee is going to go, it says, “After some discussion, the motion was passed that the intention of the IBHE/FAC during 10 and 11 focus on articulation, remediation, higher education, advocacy, public distribution of our messages including McMahon’s message and last, representation by faculty on any board or committee that is considered with making policies for higher education.” So, if we can push that fourth one, I’m going to look for this body, maybe put somebody on this committee. I just think we should have the same people going all the time, get a different perspective on it, and that kind of sums it up.

John Peters: Ok, any questions on that? You know, we’re in an election situation now and it’s still up in the air who the Governor is going to be. That’s a kind of a critical piece as to what’s the future of postsecondary education and what are the priorities going to be.

Earl Hansen: Yes, it is.

John Peters: But, there are a couple of things that are, at least three things that are coming down that won’t change. One is there was a Senate Joint Resolution #88, which called for the IBHE to conduct a study of the financial basis for public higher education including community colleges and the monetary award program in the state. I was on that, am on that, and basically the report is now in draft form, and it’s no surprise that the focus of the report is going to be, what is the State getting for its investment in postsecondary education relative to the priorities that are stated in the public agenda of the Illinois Board of Higher Education, and that agenda is a good one, but it’s loaded with getting more individuals in postsecondary and through postsecondary education, access, affordability. The report probably is going to consider changing, or requesting that the Legislature/Governor change the basis on which postsecondary education is funded to performance measures. In other words, not how many students are at Southern Illinois University but how many do they graduate. Not how many math students are enrolled at University of Illinois at Urbana but how many complete the math course. So the focus, it’s turned around. This is happening in 11 other states. So, that’s another reason, seeing this and knowing this was going to happen to us, why Vision 2020, one aspect of it is we have to make sure that we start putting emphasis. Those are not really bad things to put an emphasis on.
The problem is that, and the President has raised this issue, and it is the other side of the coin of what the Faculty Advisory Committee recommended, is that per unit of output, if you have an at-risk student that is underprepared for the collegiate experience, through no fault of their own because if you can fill in the blank, that you shouldn’t be penalized because it takes that student longer to track through or it takes us more resources to give that person developmental courses. Now, we can do a better job, sure. We can do a better job. We will do a better job. But, that has to be accommodated in these various formulas. Because you just can’t say, I think it’s irresponsible to say that postsecondary or higher education should produce more students but not take into account that we’ve got a lot of at-risk students in this state, and the formulas have to take that into account because otherwise, the organism will adjust by merely inappropriately increasing their entrance standards. Then, the end result is less Illinoisans getting postsecondary education. It’s the wrong solution. So, that’s one I hope that the Faculty Advisory Committee, and we watch that.

**Earl Hansen:** That was the intent of where we were going with this. It’s a concern, if you talk to anybody on that Faculty Advisory Committee, and they’re from the junior colleges, they’re from the private and the four-year institutions, and they’re also from the online programs.

**John Peters:** Yeah, right, well there’s a lot to it but again, we’re in a kind of a, what would you call it? A developing political environment in a sea of red ink.

**Earl Hansen:** Yes.

**Pat Henry:** I just wanted to second the idea of not getting overly simplistic in this evaluation thing because I know, in terms of completing a program, it’s often the case that people will come back for a refresher or people will start a program in one place and finish it in another place and if that starts counting against us, I think that will be to the detriment of the whole thing.

**John Peters:** Well, you raise a very good point and the devil always is in the details in these systems. One of the problems in the State of Illinois as compared to some states that have tried to do this, there’s no data. There’s no collective, trackable database. Then, of course, private institutions, they don’t have to give them your data. So, how do you know then? How do you make informed choices? Alright, Earl, thanks.

**Earl Hansen:** You’re welcome.

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Kerry Freedman and Ferald Bryan – no report

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

D. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Jay Monteiro and Todd Latham – no report

E. BOT – Alan Rosenbaum – report – pages 9-10
**John Peters:** Alan has a report from the Board of Trustees.

**Alan Rosenbaum:** My report is on the special meeting of the Board of Trustees, which was held on October 21st. This meeting essentially concerned two main points. The first one was the approval of a revenue bond that the University is going to use to do some of the renovations and repairs that President Peters was talking about earlier. This is apparently a very good time to do this because of the federal Build America Plan, which pays, I believe, 35% of the interest on these bonds.

**John Peters:** Annual.

**Alan Rosenbaum:** Provided we can issue those bonds by December 31st. Hence, I think the reason for moving up this meeting and not waiting for the later, normal meeting. As part of this, there is money for mostly student-related and recreational-related items, but also the roadways and parking facilities. These are all things that apparently cannot be paid for out of state funds, hence the need for the revenue bonds. This will include the renovation of Grant Towers, the Gilbert Hall renovation; it’s going to be converted back into a dormitory, which it apparently was originally. The Holmes Student Center that we’re in will get a new roof, which will probably be a good thing for us since we meet in the Sky Room. The roadways will be repaved, bike paths will be, yes, this should be for Pat Henry, she’s been advocating for more bike paths forever, for as long as I can remember, so we will have more bike paths, better bike paths, and an intramural sports complex constructed on the West Campus north of the Convocation Center, and that’s going to have ball fields, football and soccer fields and lighting that will allow for nighttime use.

In addition to the revenue bonds, a certain amount of money is going to come from new student fees that will be implemented gradually beginning with a $25 per semester fee and then increasing gradually over four years. The Student Association has fully endorsed the student fees, so I know in the past, faculty members have been concerned about increases in student fees, but the students apparently are completely on board with this. If they’re not, you can certainly speak up, but the President of SA spoke to the board and strongly urged them to approve this with the inclusion of those fees. So, this was approved by the board.

The second item, you’re all pretty much familiar with, and that is the salary stabilization plan and you are, I assume, all familiar with the details of this, so I’m not going to go into them; they’re in my report. I think one of the key elements of this is the fact that the Board and the President have come up with a tiered plan, which although it won’t fully correct for salary compression, certainly recognizes the need for the lower paid employees at the University to be lifted up and so you have a tiered plan with an inverse relationship between salary and the percentage of raises. It also includes a merit component for tenured faculty and the details of that were posted. I posted a memo from Provost Alden on the Faculty Senate webpage. So, most of you are familiar, at least with the skeletal details of this plan. The other thing I’d like to add though is to tell you that the Board of Trustees didn’t merely approve this. They wholeheartedly endorsed it. So, they were very happy to be able to provide the raise to faculty and staff, and they felt that this was the right thing to do and I think in the process, they possibly could have set themselves up for some heat in the current fiscal climate in the State and yet, they really were strongly behind this and so we appreciate that.
There were a couple of other just items that included pastors and things like that. They’re listed if you’re interested in reading them. Does anyone have any questions about the Board of Trustees and the special meeting of the Board of Trustees? Okay.

**John Peters:** Brigid has a question.

**Brigid Lusk:** This is really not an important question but how can I find out what parking lots are going to be resurfaced?

**Alan Rosenbaum:** I believe you can get that from the Director of Parking, who is Kristin Mommsen. Is that correct that she has that information?

**John Peters:** She will, yes.

**Alan Rosenbaum:** And the Parking Committee is on top of this by the way. I sit in on Parking Committee meetings. I can tell you that we’re working on this roadway and parking lot resurfacing thing.

**John Peters:** The real question there is Brigid’s parking lot going to be resurfaced?

**Brigid Lusk:** Of all the faculty, I have 4-wheel drive to drive over.

**John Peters:** Parking. Always at the University of Tennessee, we had 30,000 cars on campus every day and 11,000 spots. It was $150 a month and you were issued a hunting permit, unless you paid a lot of money for it. But, you know.

F. Academic Policy Committee – Kerry Freedman, Chair – no report

G. Resources, Space and Budgets Committee – Laurie Elish-Piper and Jozef Bujarski, Co-chairs – report – page 11

**John Peters:** Okay, moving on, our last report is Resources, Space and Budgets. Todd Latham I think is going to give that report.

**Todd Latham:** The Committee of Resource, Space and Budgets met with Dr. Williams on October 18th. This was a continuation of dialogue from our September 13th meeting. At that time, Dean Schoenbachler presented to the committee with a documented titled, *The State of Illinois, Northern Illinois University Financial Audit Ending June 30, 2009*. The document is available for you to view through the URL that we provided. It gives a good overview of our financial status. We didn’t realize it was available online, but the Dean was good enough to find this for us and share it with all of us, so I encourage you to look at it. It will tell you a little bit more about our liabilities, our assets and our equity. That’s a good document. I hope you view it. The Dean then went on to continue a discussion regarding enrollment management and the target goals that were established for undergraduate and graduate students for the upcoming year. We also discussed that currently we are experiencing a downfall of our enrollment a slight
percent. That led to a discussion about MAP funding for the State of Illinois and how it could have an impact on our students, and we discussed how proprietary and private institutions are competing for us to secure MAP funding for their own students, which ultimately could have negative impacts on our students and their ability to secure such funding. We then went on to tackle the issue of sustainability of intercollegiate athletics. This was a continuation of a discussion of data provided by Jeff Compher to us. We discussed such areas as operating budget, the institutional support that’s provided, student fees and athletic resources. Those are other resources. Ultimately, the committee decided that our University handles its athletics budget much better than Ohio University. The last charge for the committee was to investigate how many donors to athletics also donate to academic areas. We’re looking for those types of individuals that are retracted in one way and reciprocate in another so that ultimately the University benefits in multiple areas. That will be coming to you next after the committee concludes that investigation. Following that was some further discussion with Dr. Williams as he explained to us how student fees are dedicated, which essentially means that those fees can’t be transferred to other funds, even in the most difficult of times and each committee, there’s a committee process that reviews each fee through representation. They identify major categories. That information is then forwarded to the President and ultimately reviewed by the Board of Trustees typically at its March or April meeting. Then the last item for discussion by the committee involved our continual desire to be involved in the Vision 2020 process with President Peters and Provost Alden and we look forward to that opportunity and it’s good to hear that we’ve got some news about that today. Are there any question for the committee? Thank you.

John Peters: Questions?

H. Rules and Governance Committee – Suzanne Willis, Chair – no report
I. University Affairs Committee – M Cecil Smith, Chair – no report
J. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Abhijit Gupta, Chair – no report

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

John Peters: Alright is there any unfinished business to come before the House?

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

John Peters: Any new business to come before the House?

IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

John Peters: I just have a couple of announcements. I see that just recently we announced that our Lincoln Laureate this year is Kate Green from Political Science. I don’t know if she’s in the house. Is she really? I thought I saw her. Stand up. (Applause). I thought I saw you. It’s not just that she’s a Political Science major, but she’s also the granddaughter of Jim Banovetz who really, he built the MPA program here, so the fruit has not fallen far from the tree. So,
congratulations to you and to all the faculty who have helped. Alright, is there any other questions you have? Remember, there is a game on Tuesday, and it’s, we’re undefeated and that team, well I don’t know what team we’re playing, some team from Ohio, the Rockets, but they’re going to get hopefully a taste of DeKalb hospitality.

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Committee on Initial Teacher Certification – August 27, 2010 minutes
B. Undergraduate Coordinating Council – September 2, 2010 minutes
C. Graduate Council – September 13, 2010 minutes
D. Committee on Advanced Professional Certification in Education – September 13, 2010 minutes
E. University Assessment Panel – September 17, 2010 minutes
F. Committee on Initial Teacher Certification – September 17, 2010 minutes
G. Academic Planning Council – September 20, 2010 minutes

XI. ADJOURNMENT

John Peters: But anyway, do good. We’ll see you. We’re adjourned.

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.