VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Baker, Bateni, Bond, Brubaker, Campbell, Carlson (for Plonczynski), Chakraborty, Chen, Chmaissem, Coronado, Dawson, Deng, Doederlein, Domke, Donovan, Ferrell, Feurer, Frascello, Fredericks, A. Freeman, L. Freeman, Haliczer, Hathaway, Henning, Henry (for Block), Holly, Jaffee, Kamholz, Liu, Long, Macdonald, Mason, McCord, Mogren, Mohabbat, Monteiro, Moremen, Naples, Pitney, Riley, Sagarin, Shannon, Sorensen, Summers, Tahernezhadi (for Vohra)

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Abdel-Motaleb, Arriola, Block, Giese, Hedin, Khoury, Lee, Lenzewski, Neal, Perea, Plonczynski, Schoenbachler, Schwartz-Bechet, Starofsky, Ueckert, Vohra

OTHERS PRESENT: Bryan, Kaplan, Klaper, Mann, Stafstrom, Weldy

OTHERS ABSENT: Armstrong, Coryell, Falkoff, Phillips, Stoddard

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 3:10 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda was received from the floor and seconded. Agenda was approved with one suggested addition from W. Pitney: New Business, specifically edits to Article IX.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 28, 2015 MEETING

Motion to approve the minutes was received from the floor and seconded. Agenda was approved with no edits.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Budget Presentation – Doug Baker

D. Baker provided an overview of the proposed state budget allocation for higher education and how that would impact NIU. The presentation was situated in the context of the operating budget for the whole state, which is approximately $31.4 billion. Out of the governor’s budget proposal, he suggested an increase of over $300 million to the budget and a $389 million reduction in higher education, approximately 31 percent. The president provided an overview of NIU’s budget.

L. Freeman explained that there was a series of very constructive conversations whereby an innovative way to include more student voices in the program prioritization process was
identified. J. Frascello commented that the students were encouraged by the conversations related to program prioritization. Moreover, Frascello noted that the Illinois Student Government Association will address the proposed budget cuts. D. Baker noted that there are a number of groups in the state preparing to voice their concerns over the state budget. W. Pitney explained that the Council for University Faculty Senate Presidents has had some communications this past week to bring our voices together. Next Wednesday, March 4, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and members of the FS/UC Resources, Space and Budget Committee are meeting to have some dialog about the budget.

D. Baker noted that we need to do some contingency planning. Each of the vice presidents is developing a contingency plan at a very high level; this will allow for an understanding of the impact the budget proposal will have on NIU. Baker noted that we must also look at process reengineering. R. Moremen asked about whether there is any discussion of contingency planning for either outcome of the court decision with regard to the pension plan. D. Baker commented that this would most likely result in a shifting of the expense on to higher education institutions.

V. CONSENT AGENDA

VI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – no report

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Dan Gebo and William Pitney – no report

C. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Jay Monteiro and Rebecca Shortridge – no report

D. BOT Legislative Affairs, Research and Innovation Committee – Deborah Haliczer and Dan Gebo – no report

E. BOT Compliance, Audit, Risk Management and Legal Affairs Committee – Deborah Haliczer and Greg Waas – no report

F. BOT Enrollment Ad Hoc Committee – Bill Pitney – no report

G. BOT Governance Ad Hoc Committee – Deborah Haliczer, Jay Monteiro and Bill Pitney – report – Page 3

The meeting focused on changes to proposed bylaws and listed in the report are the different subjects that were discussed. And these were bylaws that had actually been brought up at a previous meeting; they were just doing a second reading on those.


I. Academic Policy Committee – Virginia Naples, Chair – no report
J. Resources, Space and Budget Committee – Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb, Chair – no report

K. Rules and Governance Committee – Jana Brubaker, Chair – no report

L. University Affairs Committee – Greg Long, Chair – report
   1. Approve 2024-25 academic calendar – Pages 4-6

G. Long presented the academic calendar for 2024-2025. A motion to approve the calendar was received from the floor and seconded. The motion passed.

M. Student Association – Joe Frascello, President – report

J. Frascello noted that the Student Association is going to be a part of the discussion on state budget issues. B. Donovan explained that recently Student Senate Speaker Domke, Student Association Director of Academic Affairs Alex Martin, and he met with Provost Freeman, W. Pitney and others to have a discussion about the concerns of not having students on the program prioritization task forces. The conversation was productive and resulted in a mechanism for students to have a voice following the production of the task force reports via a student panel. L. Freeman explained the framework for the process and recapped where in the prioritization process NIU is currently at and clarified where student voices will be heard in the overall process.

J. Frascello also noted that the Student Association elections for the executive branch will be held at the end of next month.

N. Operating Staff Council – Jay Monteiro, President – report – Page 7-8

J. Monteiro pointed out that Friday is the deadline for turning in nominations for the Outstanding Service Award and, in a time of low morale, that’s a good way to honor your Civil Service employees. It doesn’t cost anything to turn in the nomination forms and they are due this Friday.

O. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Deborah Haliczer, President – report – walk-in

D. Haliczer noted that morale is the theme that’s being discussed extensively by SPS Council, Operating Staff Council, Faculty Senate, and the University Benefits Committee. Haliczer also summarized the SPS awards.

P. University Benefits Committee – Brian Mackie, FS Liaison to UBC – report – Pages 9-10

This was a written report only.

Q. Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee – Mary Beth Henning, Chair

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed revisions to NIU Bylaws, Article 9 – walk-in
   Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor

W. Pitney explained a small suggested change to Article 9. As the evaluation committee for the
Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor was preparing to conduct its evaluation, missing language
was noticed. The use of “Supportive Professional Staff” was absent in the bylaw. This has been
added.

IX. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

D. Baker directed attention to the information items.

J. Stafstrom asked whether there was a process at the state level comparative to our program
prioritization process. D. Baker responded by explaining the system we have in place isn’t likely
a system we would create if we could start from scratch. This is true of higher education as well
as the K-12 system. Moreover, the system is not coordinated as well. In sum, there are
opportunities to change the way we operate and improve efficiencies and effectiveness.
The P-20 Center is bringing together some northern regional community colleges, NIU, and the
K-12 systems as well as employers looking at student pipeline issues. D. Baker noted that a
speech by Diana Natalicio (available via APLU2012) notes quite well the relationship between
higher education and community and the necessary change that needs to take place in order for
an institutions to prosper.

X. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Minutes, Academic Planning Council
B. Minutes, Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee
C. Minutes, Athletic Board
D. Minutes, Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
E. Minutes, Committee on Advanced Professional Certification in Education
F. Minutes, Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education
G. Minutes, Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
H. Minutes, Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience
I. Minutes, Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
J. Minutes, General Education Committee
K. Minutes, Honors Committee
L. Minutes, Operating Staff Council
M. Minutes, Supportive Professional Staff Council
N. Minutes, Undergraduate Coordinating Council
O. Minutes, University Assessment Panel
P. Minutes, University Benefits Committee

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m.