UNIVERSITY COUNCIL MINUTES
Wednesday, April 29, 2015, 3 p.m.
Holmes Student Center Sky Room

Full Transcript


VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Arriola, Bond, Campbell, Cappi, Giese, Grace, Harris, Hedin, Lenczewski, Liu, Parato, Riley, Schoenbachler, Schwartz-Bechet, Shannon, Sorensen, Starofsky, Vohra

OTHERS PRESENT: Armstrong, Birberick, Bryan, Carlson, Falkoff, Hanley, Jung, Kaplan, Klaper, Scherer, Stafstrom, Weldy

OTHERS ABSENT: Coryell, Stoddard, Phillips

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 3:04 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

W. Pitney suggested amending the agenda to move President’s Announcements, Item V, down to Item X in order to accommodate a large volume of business.

A motion and second were received from the floor. Agenda was approved.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 1, 2015 MEETING

A motion and second were received from the floor. Minutes were approved.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion and second were received from the floor. The body approved moving into executive session.
V. **CONSENT AGENDA**

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

A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – report – Page 6

S. Armstrong emphasized that the full board meeting main focus was on underrepresented student groups.

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 – report – Page 7

W. Pitney highlighted that the committee unanimously endorsed NIUs program prioritization initiative.

G. BOT Governance Ad Hoc Committee – Deborah Haliczer and Bill Pitney – no report


I. Academic Policy Committee – Virginia Naples, Chair – no report

J. Resources, Space and Budget Committee – Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb, Chair – report – Pages 8-28

I. Abdel-Motaleb summarized the written report, including the statement of budget priorities and the findings from the budget survey. D. Baker responded to the concerns expressed by the RSB committee in its report. L. Freeman and D. Baker responded to questions from R. Feurer about the reserve fund. C. Doederlein commented on the Presidential Commission on Persons with Disabilities’ appreciation of the efforts to include access issues in the statement of priorities.

A motion to approve the statement of budget priorities was received and seconded. The motion passed.
K. Rules and Governance Committee – Jana Brubaker, Chair

1. Proposed revisions to NIU Constitution, Article 7 – Page 29

Related Councils
FIRST READING

J. Brubaker explained some proposed language changes to Article 7 of the constitution.

L. University Affairs Committee – Greg Long, Chair – no report

M. Student Association – Joe Frascello, President – report

J. Frascello provided a verbal report and first recognized the recently elected/re-elected members of the SA in attendance. D. Domke announced that the SA passed legislation to move its senate elections from the fall to the spring to coincide with the executive elections. Also, the $7 printing quota will be back next year for students. Domke announced the creation of the Eco-friendly and Sustainable Printing Task Force. This task force will be aimed at lowering NIU’s overall dependence on paper products in the classroom. D. Domke also announced that the state student legislators are creating a resolution to send jointly from all the student governments across the state to the legislators in Springfield urging them to hold the line on the budget for fiscal year ’16.

N. Operating Staff Council – Jay Monteiro, President – report – Pages 30-31

J. Monteiro announced the four winners of the Operating Staff Outstanding Service awards.

O. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Deborah Haliczer, President – report – Page 32

D. Haliczer highlighted that SPS Council is collaborating on a task force on SPS personnel policies and procedures.

P. University Benefits Committee – Brian Mackie, FS Liaison to UBC – no report

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

1. Election of 2015-16 Executive Secretary of University Council
Per NIU Constitution Article 3.2.1 and Faculty Senate Bylaws Article 2.1 – Page 33

M. Henning moved to accept the nomination of Greg Long for executive secretary. W. Pitney seconded. The motion passed with the following vote:

1 – Yes – 40
2 – No – 5
3 – Abstain – 1

M. Henning provided an overview of the recommendation to move to electronic voting in the fall.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Proposed revisions to NIU Bylaws, Article 9 – Page 36
   Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor
   SECOND READING – ACTION ITEM

W. Pitney alerted members to the first item of unfinished business. W. Pitney moved to accept the revisions. D. Haliczer: Second. No discussion. Motion passed:

1 – Yes – 42
2 – No – 1
3 – Abstain – 3

B. Proposed revisions to NIU Bylaws Articles 15.5 and 15.6 – Pages 37-60
   Proposed amendment to original proposal – walk-in
   Standing Committees of the Undergraduate Coordinating Council
   SECOND READING – ACTION ITEM

W. Pitney noted that the next item came forward from the Academic Policy Committee and is the curricular committee structure change at the university level. Pitney moved to accept the proposed changes. A second was obtained from the floor. Pitney explained an issue pertaining to the voting privileges for the ex officio advisor on the proposed BCC committee. D. Plonczynski moved to amend the proposed language to revert back to that original language that allows the ex officio advisor to vote. C. Lee seconded. Discussion comments were provided by B. Jaffee, A. Birberick, D. Plonczynski, D. Macdonald, W. Pitney, and E. Weldy. R. Holly recommended calling the question. W. Pitney clarified the motion. The motion passed:

1 – Yes – 24
2 – No – 19
3 – Abstain – 2

W. Pitney confirmed that the motion carried and so that would strike out the nonvoting piece, thus reverting back to the original language allowing the advisor to vote.

B. Jaffee asked about the role of the General Education Committee. W. Pitney and A. Birberick responded. No further discussion took place. The motion failed as 40 votes represented the two-thirds vote necessary:

1 – Yes – 38
2 – No – 6
3 – Abstain – 1
C. Proposed revisions to NIU Bylaws, Article 2.8 – Pages 61-63
   Resources, Space and Budget Committee
   SECOND READING – ACTION ITEM

   W. Pitney moved to approve the proposed revision. D. Domke seconded. No discussion. Motion Passed:

   1 – Yes – 42
   2 – No – 1
   3 – Abstain – 1

D. Proposed revisions to NIU Bylaws, Article 2.3 Page 64
   UC-Minutes Committee
   SECOND READING – ACTION ITEM

   W. Pitney moved to approve the proposed changes. J. Hathaway seconded. Motion was short the 40 votes (two-thirds) necessary and failed:

   1 – Yes – 39
   2 – No – 1
   3 – Abstain – 1

   D. Plonczinski commented that we temporarily lost a voting member. D. Domke moved to reconsider because the member returned. J. Frascello seconded. The motion to reconsider passed:

   1 – Yes – 42
   2 – No – 1
   3 – Abstain – 0

   A motion to approve the proposed changes was provided from the floor and seconded. No discussion. The motion passed:

   1 – Yes – 43
   2 – No – 0
   3 – Abstain – 1

E. Proposed revisions to NIU Bylaws, Articles 2.2 and 2.5 – Pages 65-68
   Proposed amendment to original proposal – walk-in
   UC-Rules and Governance Committee
   UC-Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee
   SECOND READING – ACTION ITEM

   J. Hathaway moved to approve the changes. V. Naples seconded. W. Pitney discussed this item and suggested this be amended because the Faculty Senate has not yet voted to consolidate and make this a joint committee. W. Pitney moved to change the language to consolidate the Rules and Governance Committee and the Elections and Legislative Oversight Committee, but remove
the language that makes it a joint committee with the Faculty Senate. This motion was seconded. The motion passed:

1 – Yes – 42
2 – No – 0
3 – 0

The original motion to approve the changes passed:

1 – Yes – 41
2 – No – 1
3 – Abstain – 1

F. Proposed revisions to NIU Constitution. Article 4 – Page 69
Standing Committees of the University Council
SECOND READING – ACTION ITEM

W. Pitney moved to approve these changes. D. Plonczynski seconded. Motion passed:

1 – Yes – 43
2 – No – 0
3 – Abstain – 0

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Student Grievance Annual Report per NIU Bylaws Article 12.6 – Bill Pitney – Page 70

W. Pitney provided an oral report. He noted that there were two student grievances this past year, one of which was upheld and the other of which was denied. Those both occurred in the first semester of this academic year.

B. Acting director waiver request per NIU Bylaws Article 19.5.2.2 – Page 71

C. McCord requested approval of University Council to make an acting appointment for more than two years. C. McCord moved. A second was received from the floor. The motion passed.

IX. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Program Prioritization Update

D. Baker provided information on the following: a) current administrative searches, and b) current legislative requests. M. Falkoff provided a brief update on program prioritization. M. Falkoff answered questions from B. Jaffee, J. Stafstrom, and R. Feurer. D. Baker and W. Pitney also provided explanations.
A. Recognition of University Council members whose terms are completed, who have been re-elected and who are newly elected – Pages 4-5

D. Baker and W. Pitney provided certificates to those who have finished their terms on UC. D. Baker thanked W. Pitney for his service.

X. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

XI. 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
Q. Meeting Schedule – 2015-16 – Page 72

XII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.