I. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

J. Stafstrom moved to approve the agenda, seconded by D. Zinger. **Motion carried.**

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Approval of October 2, 2013 minutes

J. Hathaway made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected, seconded by D. Zinger. **Motion passed unanimously.**

III. NEW BUSINESS

a. Catalogue language “D” grades

E. Mogren explained that as a result of implementation of MyNIU system, NIU was not able to use the formula that had been in place for accepting transferred “Ds” and was therefore no longer in compliance with the statewide Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI). He indicated that the language needs to be changed the matter is what the language should be. He referred the committee to the
proposed language. J. Wolfskill questioned whether the language change is required by a state law. L. Elish-Piper said that she understood that we would be the only institutions not in compliance with it and it would mean that the transfer students would be held to different regulations. M. Myles added that it may not be state law but by our participation in IAI, we would not be following that agreement.

There was discussion regarding the effect on transfer students who take courses based on advisement received at community colleges and then NIU does not accept the courses if they receive a D. Other institutions may allow this. It could mean NIU loses students to other institutions. Elish-Piper said that the proposed language is not across the board – there are provisions for core competency courses, etc. as well as departments requiring certain grades for any courses in the curriculum. There was also mention of students who completed an A.A. or A.S. degree and the courses being accepted as a group. Myles brought up that it isn’t just community college transfer grades it includes D grades transferred from other four year institutions as well. Why is NIU’s D better than another institution’s D? Byrd said that perceived disparity also needs to be looked at; holding different types of students to different standards. That is not good. People talk – to each other, to parents, alumni, etc. Hlubek mentioned also how some professors are upset at community colleges regarding the credit for equivalent courses not accepting the D from the other institution but accepting a D in the NIU equivalency course. Buster-Williams pointed out that students transferring in without an Associate’s degree need a minimum 2.5 GPA. She said it is more likely that you are talking about students who received an isolated D rather than someone who had a history of poor performance because the later would not meet the minimum admission requirements.

J. Umoren moved to accept the proposed language, seconded by M. Myles. After further discussion the following language was agreed upon.

NIU will accept completed transfer work with a grade of “D.” Be advised that a grade of “C” or better is necessary to meet the requirements for many core competency courses, prerequisite courses, majors, minors and certificates.

Motion passed unanimously.

b. Curriculum Item Referred by CUC

Six-Year (3+3) Integrated B.S. or B.A./J.D. Program in Political Sciences and the College of Law

Guests appearing for this topic were Matt Streb, Chair of Political Science and David Gaebler, Professor, Law School. Streb gave some background on the matter. He indicated the Law School approached the Department of Political Science – they are excited about it. They worked through the College of LA&S
and Dean McCord is excited about it as is Vice Provost Birberick. Streb indicated that if the proposal is approved and passed it is something that could be applied to other majors or disciplines or colleges. As proposed, students would need to be Political Science majors. Students would be required to have a 3.25 GPA and score above the 50th percentile of the previous year’s matriculating law class. Students who did not select the 3+3 major to begin with would be allowed to change into that major as long as they had completed 90 hours including all general education and POLS B.A. or B.S. degree requirements. The GPA and LSAT requirements are not the same as for regular Law School admission. The proposal was to make it attractive and available for stronger students coming through Political Science, according to Gaebler. The first year of law classes would represent the last 30 hours of the POLS degree requirements. The law courses would be considered electives for the POLS degree.

There was discussion regarding the various scenarios that students may follow. There was some concern voiced about students having the dual status. Questions about what the transcript would look like. What would happen if the student wanted to go to a different Law school? Gaebler indicated that it would be difficult for someone to transfer to another Law school because typically the law courses are a complete year and not offered by semester. Marsh asked if transfer students would be precluded from the program. Streb indicated that he had discussed that with Dean Doederlein and although difficult, it would not be impossible to do. Byrd indicated that credits for the degrees would be “shared.” The first year of law classes would be applied to the undergraduate degree and then reapplied for the completion of the law degree. The number of students who would take advantage of the program is uncertain but Gaebler indicated they would be happy with a few.

A motion by J. Wolfskill, seconded by Marsh to accept the language as submitted. Motion passed.

CEET – Emphasis 7 – Applied Manufacturing Technology

Mogren introduced Cliff Mirman, chair of the Department of Technology. Marsh asked if the gen ed requirements were waived. Mirman indicated no. Mirman explained that this emphasis is duplicating the current program but allowing for an on-campus group. It is for students with an AAS degree, which is typically a 60 hour program. It brings the technical components of that AAS program. The students are given up to 43 hours in proficiency credit.

A concern was raised about the credit hour requirement for courses taken at NIU. Concerns about the proficiency credit granted were voiced as well. The proficiency credit granted in this case is for actual courses taken for the AAS degree. There was also discussion about waiving the 30 hour university residence requirement. It was pointed out that there are current programs that contain that
type of waiver. Mirman indicated that the existing program, Industrial Management and Technology is exempt from the 30 semester hour university residence requirement. Discussion included the upper division credits earned. Mirman indicated that the maximum number of transfer credit hours would be 89 because the students go back to the community college to complete some general education courses. Some voiced their concern over the number of contact hours.

There were questions about the language. Stafstrom brought up the issue of proficiency credit and its definition – there seems to be more than one. Wolfskill asked how proficiency credit is notated on a transcript. Byrd indicated she could bring that information to the next meeting. After further discussion Wolfskill moved to refer the proposal back to the department for clarification of the language, seconded by Marsh. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Add the topic of proficiency credit and its definition to old business for the next meeting.

**COE – Department of Literacy and Elementary Education**

A motion was made by Marsh, seconded by Stafstrom to approve the title change in the section of the catalog under Limited Admissions and Limited Retention. **Motion passed unanimously.**

**HHS – Nursing and Health Studies**

The proposal is regarding the acceptance of course work that was completed over five years prior to admission/readmission. Umoren clarified that it was specifically for Nursing courses. The discussion included how the repeat of a course with a grade of “C” or better would be handled. Byrd indicated that we will have to explore how to code this into the degree audit because currently, it does not restrict courses from satisfying degree requirements based on the timeframe. Marsh moved to table, seconded by Wolfskill to explore the possibility of enforcement of the five year rule as well as clarification of language. **Motion passed.**

An attempt to change the date of the next meeting from November 13 to November 20th will be made. The committee will be notified.

Byrd announced that proficiency credit posts on the transcript as other credits applied for Health & Human Sciences. This was a Nursing student. Mogren indicated that was something that could be discussed further.
IV. ADJOURNMENT

Myles made a motion to adjourn @ 5:40p.m., seconded by Marsh. **Motion passed.**

*Respectfully submitted,*
Jeanne Ratfield  
*Administrative Assistant*  
*Office of the Provost*