I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. T. Lin, seconded by L. Prince, to approve the agenda. The motion passed.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 12, 2006, meeting were electronically approved.

B. Student Information System Update

E. Seaver reported that there are three items related to the new student information system that have been started through the curricular process for discussion. The first item, the academic calendar, has already been addressed and resolved. A second item, the repeat policy, is presently before the Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee (APASC). He explained that the current repeat policy with relation to the 13-month rule will not be able to be retained automatically with the new student system. Discussion is in progress to determine how that rule could be accommodated within the new system. Also under discussion is the issue of how the grades will be assigned. In addition, there are a series of other issues that will be taken through the curricular governance system. He said that the NIU Connect
steering committee looks at all areas where there appears to be a gap or an issue is outside the normal realm of the new system. In such cases, research is done to find possible options which are then presented to governance groups for review and discussion.

E. Seaver also announced that a Blackboard website for the NIU Connect project has also been developed which will be available to all faculty and staff as a communication tool soon.

III. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. **Ombudsman Report**

Tim Griffin, NIU Ombudsman, reported data on activities of the Ombudsman Office over the 2005-2006 academic year. He reminded everyone that the data he was presenting is confidential and should not be shared. He reported that there were 373 issues from undergraduate students and fourteen former students presented to the office of the Ombudsman during 2005-2006. Referrals, however, are not included in the data figures. He said concerns reported to the Ombudsman may relate to various issues including financial, academic status, student conduct, classroom instruction, faculty and/or staff performance, employment and other miscellaneous issues. He pointed out that the office of the Ombudsman is not involved in the resolution of issues; however, policies and procedures are identified and provided to the students. Final decisions on actions toward resolutions are made totally by the student and are not always reported back to the Office of the Ombudsman. He also commented that data collected by his office reflects that dramatic improvement is being made in many aspects of NIU’s campus environment.

B. **CUAE Representative to Serve on the Affirmative Action and Diversity Resources Committee**

M. Lenczewski stated that the Affirmative Action and Diversity Resources Committee (AADR) has requested that a member of CUAE serve on the committee. L. Prince volunteered to serve in this capacity.

C. **Topics for November Meeting**

M. Lenczewski reported that Bob Albanese, Associate Vice President for Finance and Facilities, will be guest speaker at
the November 14, 2006, CUAE meeting. Dr. Albanese will give an update to the committee on parking and bike path issues and discuss signage, bus shelter, green space issues, etc. D. Pender asked that handicapped parking and door accessibility also be discussed.

T. Griffin suggested that another potential topic for discussion by this committee might be concerns expressed by students and others related to the receptiveness of different aspects of the institution to those of different religious beliefs and practices.

V. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 14, 2006, beginning at 2:00 p.m. in Altgeld Hall 225.

Respectfully submitted,
Mollie Montgomery
Recording Secretary