I. CALL TO ORDER

W. Pitney called the meeting to order at 3:06 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

J. Novak moved to approve the agenda. H. Bateni seconded the motion. Motion passed.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 29, 2014 FS MEETING

G. Conderman moved to approve the minutes. G. Baker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Use of microphones – William Pitney

W. Pitney reminded senators to use the microphones for the meeting.

B. Student Conduct 101: What Faculty Should Know About Us – Pages 4-7

Brian Glick, Asst. Director, Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct

B. Glick and J. Meyer presented information to faculty senators about the Office of Community Standards and Student Conduct.
C. NIU Cellular Phone Stipend Policy Proposal and Presentation – Pages 8-10
Matt Parks, Senior Director, Network and Communications Services, DoIT

M. Parks and S. Hammond provided an overview of the proposed Cellular Phone Stipend Policy from DoIT. The proposed plan would move NIU away from supporting over 600 managed devices. The proposal represents best practices in higher education.

D. Other Announcements

W. Pitney clarified a column in the Northern Star related to the BOT wanting to engage in promotion and tenure changes that was not accurate. Presently, at Board of Trustees meetings, the BOT is presented with a list of faculty that are to be promoted and tenured. What the BOT is requesting is more information about that process. They do not want to change anything or have a role in tenure and promotion.

W. Pitney updated the FS that a letter had been sent to the PLUS Task Force letting them know the outcome of the FS vote on endorsing the PLUS program. A letter was also sent to Drs. Freeman and Birberick announcing the FS vote on a statement of concern related to the PLUS implementation.

G. Baker announced that the Responsible Conduct of Research Advisory Board, is launching a brown bag luncheon forum series.

V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

A. Chicago State University Faculty Senate

W. Pitney updated the FS on the current state of the Faculty Senate at Chicago State University and its Board of Trustees. Its Board of Trustees had elected to no longer recognize Chicago State University’s Faculty Senate as an official university body. As of yesterday morning, this has changed; its BOT decided to re-recognize the Faculty Senate.

B. Position Exemption concerns related to State University Civil Service System (SUCSS) – Pages 16-21

W. Pitney explained the SUCSS position exemption process and concerns that have emerged over time with this process and how it may impact faculty. G. Slotsve commented that this is an important issue but we must proceed with caution as we are not suggesting reclassifying positions that meet the specifications for our Civil Service System, but to try to maintain some flexibility for the exemption process to allow NIU to be at a better competitive advantage and have a little bit more flexibility. P. Stoddard moved to refer the issue to the Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee. G. Slotsve seconded. Motion passed.
VI. CONSENT AGENDA

VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – no report

B. University Benefits Committee – Brian Mackie, Faculty Senate liaison to UBC – no report

C. Computing Facilities Advisory Committee – George Slotsve – report

G. Slotsve provided an update on the questions pertaining to movement of over 10,000 ports of some 24,000 users during the middle of the semester. The issue was raised to CFAC. The error rate on that activity was around two percent. The activity had to be done during the semester as they needed to have full load on the system and their concern was, if they tried to do this in the middle of the summer, for example, everything was going to go down the first week. There was a backup plan in case a failure. The process started at 3 a.m. so there was sufficient time to cut back over to the old system and the old set of ports at around 5:30 or 6 in the morning. IT acknowledged and they do take responsibility or ownership for some of the communication problems that occurred during the transition. M. Haji-Sheikh mentioned that the problem was they did not make any effort to coordinate IP addresses for fixed systems at all prior to conversion. He reported that it shut several classes down because EET uses distributed servers for identification of software users. G. Slotsve suggested that EET have their representative on CFAC work to sort that out.

G. Slotsve updated FS on the move to Office 360 over the next few months. IT is changing from GroupWise to Outlook Exchange and that will be done department by department or school by school. M. Haji-Sheikh expressed the concern of those who use Lenox systems.

D. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Dan Gebo and William Pitney – report – Page 22

W. Pitney highlighted that the Board of Trustees Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee voted to approve the move from an Ed.D. to a Ph.D. in counselor education and supervision and they also voted to approve the doctor of nursing practice, the DNP degree in health sciences, the College of Health and Human Sciences.


W. Pitney noted that this is a written report only.

F. BOT Legislative Affairs, Research and Innovation Committee – Deborah Haliczer and Dan Gebo – report – walk-in

D. Haliczer noted that Lesley Rigg provided a report indicating some increases in NIU’s funding
in the research areas. There were 12 new researchers who were able to get funding recently. The other point of interest from the meeting was a presentation from Anna Quider who is NIU’s federal relations representative.

G. BOT Compliance, Audit, Risk Management and Legal Affairs Committee – Deborah Haliczer and Greg Waas – report – walk-in

D. Haliczer noted that the annual report from NIU’s director of Internal Audits was given. There were 19 completed audits of the 21 scheduled. Tom Phillips provided an overview of crime statistics and the CLERY Report.


VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Richard Siegesmund, Chair – no report

B. Academic Affairs – Sarah McHone-Chase, Chair – Open Access for NIU-produced published journal articles proposed resolution – Pages 25-26

S. McHone-Chase provided a brief overview of the Open Access Policy for NIU-produced published journal articles reviewed by the committee. This is slightly expanded from last year’s resolution for the FS. IL Public Act 098-0295 specifies that as a public university we have to have such a policy. The current resolution contains a specific policy that will move from here, if approved, to the UC. G. Long moved to accept the resolution. G. Baker seconded. Motion passed.

C. Economic Status of the Profession – George Slotsve, Chair – Faculty Salary Report – Pages 27-37

G. Slotsve presented a faculty salary report. The report compares NIU salaries with other state institutions of higher education. The report is presented by department.

D. Rules and Governance – Robert Schneider, Chair – no report

E. Resources, Space and Budget – Jim Wilson, Liaison/Spokesperson – no report

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Stephen Tonks, Chair – no report

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR
C. Campbell requested that someone from the administration provide an update to the FS about the program prioritization process. W. Pitney stated that Executive Vice President and Provost Freeman is coming to the January Faculty Senate meeting and the two items she will discuss include academic program prioritization and a budget update. M. Haji-Sheikh asked why NIU would choose the Dickeson model. W. Pitney clarified that the process is very systematic and thoughtful and it is faculty driven. We as faculty will be on the academic prioritizing task force and the faculty on that will have to be stewards of the institution. M. Haji-Sheikh presented other concerns about the process. M. Falkoff commented that everyone should bring a healthy skepticism to the whole process. He clarified that the criteria have not been chosen, the task force for developing the criteria has not been chosen, and all of those questions, all of those issues that are raised are appropriately up for debate. He pointed out that academic and non-academic programs, all programs, will be up for review.

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

W. Pitney pointed out the information items listed for your perusal.

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

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

V. Naples moved to adjourn. Second. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.