

Minutes of the  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
**OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**  
December 6, 2007

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cheryl Murer at approximately 9:05 a.m. in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall. Recording Secretary Sharon Banks-Wilkins conducted a roll call of Trustees. Members present were Trustees Robert Boey, George Moser, Manny Sanchez, Marc Strauss, Barbara Giorgi Vella, Student Trustee Shaun Crisler, and Chair Murer. Not present was Trustee Myron Siegel. Also present were Board Parliamentarian Kenneth Davidson and President John Peters. With a quorum present, the meeting proceeded.

**VERIFICATION OF APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

Confirmation of Open Meetings Act public notice compliance was provided by Board Parliamentarian Ken Davidson.

**MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL**

After discussion with President Peters and review of the printed agenda before us, Chair Murer said, I propose creation of a Consent Agenda that would immediately precede the beginning of the President's Report for today's meeting, and move President's Report Number 57, Action Items 9.a.(4), and our receipt of Information Items 9.b.(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) and (8) and 9.c.(2) to that consent agenda. Agenda Item 9.c.(3) will be eliminated from consideration for today's meeting. The Chair then asked for a motion to approve the agenda as now proposed. Trustee Strauss made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended. Trustee Moser seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chair Murer asked for a motion to close the public meeting to conduct an executive session to discuss the following subjects authorized by the Illinois Open Meetings Act: personnel matters as generally described under §2(c)(1) and (3) of the Open Meetings Act, Collective Bargaining Matters as generally described under §2(c)(2) of the Open Meetings Act, Property Matters as generally described under §2(c)(5) and (6) of the Open Meetings Act and Executive Session Minutes Matters as generally described under §2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. A roll call vote of the Trustees to recess to Executive Session was as follows:

Trustee Boey	Yes	Trustee Moser	Yes
Trustee Sanchez	Yes	Trustee Strauss	Yes
Trustee Vella	Yes	Student Trustee Crisler	Yes
Chair Murer	Yes		

The roll call vote of the Trustees to recess to Executive Session was unanimous.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECONVENED**

Chair Murer reconvened the public meeting of the Board of Trustees at approximately 11:20 a.m. We had a number of matters to discuss during our Executive Session, the Chair said, and I appreciate the patience of everyone here. This is a Board that is representative of the State of Illinois and of this university, so to have an audience like this is a very positive thing, and we appreciate your time and attention.

## **CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

First of all, Chair Murer said, I would be remiss not to wish you all a very happy holiday season. It does not matter how many times you enter the campus on Castle Drive, to see it with the snow in the morning is absolutely beautiful.

We have many matters of paramount issue to the Board and to the university to discuss this morning. In order to accommodate the schedules of two of our Trustees, we ask your indulgence in changing the agenda sequence so that we can address all of our action items first. I will begin with the Chair's Report, and then we will go back to public comment and the President's Report.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT NO. 39**

### **Agenda Item 10.a. – Proposed Board of Trustees Meeting Dates for 2008**

### **Agenda Item 10.b. – Board of Trustees of Committee Meeting Dates for 2008**

The proposed meeting dates for 2008 are listed on page 73 in your Board materials, Chair Murer said, and all of the Trustees have been contacted in regard to these dates. The proposed schedule for Board of Trustees Committee Meetings also is included as an information item and those dates are in concert with the Board of Trustees meeting dates. Chair Murer asked the recording secretary to see that all of the Trustees and their assistants receive copies of these schedules so that the Board can remain in compliance with the new law requiring physical presence at full Board or committee meetings. I want to draw everyone's attention to these dates and request that they be put on your calendars, she said. In order to have quorums, we need to make every effort to be in DeKalb for these meetings. The Chair then asked for a motion to approve the proposed Board of Trustees Meeting Dates for 2008. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

### **Agenda Item 10.c. – Resolution Honoring NIU Coach Joe Novak**

Before we present the resolution and read it into the record, Chair Murer said, I want to make sure that the Trustees have an opportunity to make their comments regarding this beloved individual. Joe Novak has provided exemplary service to NIU and to not only the student athletes, but to all students.

I was fortunate to be here when Joe was hired and promptly inherited a 23-game losing streak, Trustee Boey said. Our individual Board of Trustees had just been organized in 1996. At that time, it was decided that as Chair of the Board I should have lunch with Joe to say, sure we all want to win, but, what is more important is our students and to be sure that they graduate as someone we are proud to see graduate. I remember Joe sitting through lunch with that nice smile of his. When we parted, he said, "Trustee Boey, I take it to heart and you don't have a single minute to worry about." And we didn't. And the beautiful thing is that from that 23-game losing streak, we became a wonderful name in football, in the MAC Conference and even in the nation. He coached wonderful athletes who are now in San Diego and with the Chicago Bears. I am sure that they will be talking about him today as well. So please pass on to him from the Board of Trustees our thank you for all the great work he has done for us, Trustee Boey said, and for the respect NIU has attained in the world of sports.

I am very appreciative of the fact that Coach Novak is so well respected among the student athletes, Trustee Vella stated, and that he promotes the mission of the university, which is education as well as training and helping students reach their potential. He is very well known and well respected for that. I appreciate what a warm, wonderful person he is, and he will be missed.

When I first had the opportunity to meet Coach Novak, I asked him how he helped student athletes stay balanced, Student Trustee Crisler said. He told me that you have to be a student first before you can be a student athlete. So I want to thank him for his passion and his dedication for helping students find their balance and being productive.

Chair Murer read the following resolution honoring NIU Coach Joe Novak into the record.

## RESOLUTION HONORING NIU COACH JOE NOVAK

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak has faithfully served Northern Illinois University for 16 years, including twelve as Head Coach of the Huskie football program; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak led the Northern Illinois football program to unprecedented success as a member of the Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division I-A); and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak won 63 games, the most by any NIU coach since Northern Illinois joined the major college ranks in 1969 and ranks tied for eighth all time in the MAC with 62 victories; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak guided the Huskies to a share of four MAC West Division titles (2001, 2002, 2004, 2005), and advanced to the league championship game in 2005; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak took Northern Illinois to two bowl games, with its appearance in the 2004 Silicon Valley Classic, the Huskies' first bowl in 21 years, and in the 2006 San Diego County Credit Union Poinsettia Bowl; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak saw his 2007 Northern Illinois team post the highest grade point average in NIU football history last spring; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak earned respect across the college football landscape for the class, dignity and discipline with which he, his coaching staff and his players conducted themselves and represented Northern Illinois University both on and off the field; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak steadfastly maintained as his number one program goal that each and every one of his student-athletes first and foremost earn an NIU degree, and ensured that hundreds of Huskie football players did just that; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak served as not only a coach, but a teacher, a leader, a father figure and a mentor to his student-athletes, other students on campus and to many young coaches; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak instilled pride in thousands of Northern Illinois students and alumni, provided a rallying point for the university's many constituencies and helped alumni and friends of the institution reconnect with NIU through the football program's success; and

**WHEREAS** Coach Joe Novak has been honored as the Mid-American Conference Coach of the Year in 2002 and was named the Region 3 Coach of the Year by the American Football Coaches Association in 2003;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University in formal meeting herein assembled, commends Coach Joe Novak for his exemplary service to Northern Illinois University and extends its best wishes and sincere appreciation for the many contributions Coach Novak has made to Northern Illinois University's students, faculty and staff.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this resolution be presented to Coach Joe Novak and a copy of this document be placed in the official files of this Board as a part of the permanent record of the great State of Illinois and as a lasting tribute to the performance and accomplishments of Coach Joe Novak.

Adopted in a regular meeting assembled this **6th** day of **December, 2007**.

### BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

*Cherilyn G. Murer*  
*Chair*

*Attest: Myron E. Siegel*  
*Secretary*



Coach Novak was unable to attend the presentation, and Dr. Jim Phillips, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics, accepted the resolution on the Coach's behalf. Whatever I say this morning will certainly not do Coach Novak justice, Dr. Phillips said. He and I have been a tag team on the road as we search for his successor. Joe epitomizes what is right about college athletics. Any of us who know him and have had a chance to be around him understand that it is all about the student athlete. He put his money where his mouth was, and he is going to be sorely missed from our program. The candidates we have interviewed will have large shoes to fill because of what he has done. And we are happy he is going to be around through the summer. As I said before, he epitomizes everything that is right about college athletics, so I

know he is going to be very humbled and honored to receive this resolution; and certainly, he would want to thank the Board of Trustees and the NIU family for recognizing his wonderful accomplishments over the last 16 years.

The Chair asked for a motion to approve the resolution honoring Joe Novak. Trustee Vella so moved, seconded by Trustee Boey.

#### **Agenda Item 10.d. – Proton Therapy Report**

We have five resolutions for Board consideration and approval dealing with the proton therapy facility that we have talked about over the past year, Chair Murer said. As you know, Northern Illinois University administrators and faculty began a comprehensive study of particle therapy in 2003. We have focused on proton therapy because we had such a positive experience in the reopening of the neutron cancer therapy facility at FermiLab, which was under NIU management beginning in 2004. The study yielded a strong interest in bringing proton therapy to Illinois. This is a precise form of cancer therapy targeting only the tumor and not the surrounding tissues, so you can all imagine the added health benefits of this type of treatment. Many of you will recall that FermiLab built the first proton accelerator in the mid-1980s for Loma Linda University in California, and Loma Linda has taken a national leadership position with its success in treating cancer patients with proton therapy. This has resulted in hundreds of millions of dollars of research investment to the university and has given Loma Linda a worldwide reputation as the pioneer in proton cancer therapy.

Today there are five proton therapy facilities in the United States, and we are talking about NIU becoming the sixth in the United States. These facilities are Massachusetts General; Loma Linda; the Midwest Proton Radiotherapy Institute in Bloomington, Indiana; the University of Florida Proton Therapy Institute in Jacksonville; and the University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center's facility in Houston. There are two more under construction: In Virginia, Hampton University, a historically Black university, will take a very unique position. Because there is a greater incidence of prostate cancer in Black men, their focus is going to be on the genetic dynamics of cancer and prostate cancer. Some universities have taken a very particular focus, and we commend Hampton's focus. The research that will come out of Hampton's study is going to be beneficial worldwide. The research that comes out of these facilities does not only impact the United States, but it impacts cancer development in the world market. The University of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, the University of Washington in Seattle and the University of California in San Diego are also considering facilities.

It is wonderful that California, Texas and Florida all have such facilities, but we want to bring this service to NIU and have a world-class, university-based proton therapy facility and world-class recognition here in Illinois. Currently, if you are a resident of the state of Illinois, you must travel to any of these five facilities across the country. That is not only a financial burden but it is a personal burden as well on families and patients at a most critical time. By providing this service here in Illinois, and serving as a catalyst for research and development, we are serving our state. Proton therapy is very expensive and very complicated. It requires dozens of accelerator physicists, medical physicists and engineers just to maintain the accelerator and beam delivery system. In addition, physicians, oncology nurses, radiation therapists and dosimetrists need specialized training to accurately plan intricate patient treatments. Where does this training come from? NIU wants to be a leader in the training of these specialists. The difference between proton therapy and regular radiotherapy is that the tumor can be isolated and targeted with a full dose of radiation with no exit dose or harm to sensitive surrounding organs. As a result, for pediatric treatments, neck, head, spinal, prostate or ocular patients, this is a tremendous service, and we are going to continue to see the survival rates continue to be enhanced.

As a Board, we have followed NIU's study of proton therapy carefully over the last three years. There have been innumerable meetings with administration and faculty to discuss the opportunities such a facility would bring to Illinois and to Northern Illinois University for research collaboration. This is the right time for NIU. As we have looked at academic excellence and research, to have such a facility will serve as a catalyst for those objectives of our strategic plan.

The dedication of this Board of Trustees has been unparalleled. Several Trustees traveled to Jacksonville for two days to visit the University of Florida's facility to ask questions, to make sure that

NIU's program will be state of the art. The academics, research and technology that we will be able to develop are of primary concern to us. As chair, I also traveled to Houston and met with potential equipment vendors and the University of Texas at MD Anderson. All of these world-class institutions have seen that proton therapy is a vital element in their growth.

In short, this university and this Board of Trustees have expended inordinate effort to analyze the development of a proton therapy facility from the ground up. I want you to understand that the senior management, that the Board of Trustees and, most importantly, the faculty, under the guidance of the deans and the Provost, have made an unbelievable commitment of time and effort and positive energy in the research of this process to assure that when we come before the public and we affirm resolutions, that we have done that with great consideration, time and attention. It has been a planning process that has included many across the university, and we could not have done it at a better time, interfacing with our strategic plan. We have received tremendous support from our elected officials along the way. To have the Illinois congressional delegation support NIU in moving forward with the proton therapy facility is unprecedented. Funds also have been provided to NIU through planning grants from the federal government. These funds will enable us to hire experts from existing proton therapy facilities as consultants and to begin the curriculum analysis, developing academic programs, strengthening this university and integrating proton therapy with academic excellence in teaching, research and educational training. Proton therapy has become the vehicle to academic excellence while providing world-class medical treatment to patients in the Illinois community.

We are going to present a series of resolutions which will provide NIU with the formal authority it needs to move forward in its quest to bring this desperately needed treatment option to Illinois and to the Midwest. In addition to the facility, NIU will build a curriculum that provides university education and training for medical physicists, oncology nursing, related allied health fields, engineering and accelerator physics, as well as programming in radiation therapy, dosimetry, and residency and fellowship opportunities for physicians in proton therapy. The field continues to grow nationally and globally. Hundreds of trained technicians will be needed to staff these facilities. We want NIU to be the premiere university to educate these new specialists in this growing medical procedure.

Bringing proton therapy to Illinois, and certainly, bringing proton therapy to NIU as a vehicle to excellence, is transformational. For years, due to the presence of FermiLab, Argonne and the many fine research universities in the state, Illinois has endeavored to become known as THE accelerator research center of the United States. A proton therapy accelerator for clinical purposes was pioneered at FermiLab but then was moved to California. So it is time to bring proton therapy back to Illinois. We have physics, we have engineering, we have the opportunity and the ability to excel in the clinical operation of a proton cyclotron accelerator. We have the technical knowledge to grow the field of accelerator research, and we have the will to do that.

With that overview, the Chair concluded, I would like to offer the following five resolutions for Board approval. I would ask that the motion be held so that we can vote collectively on all five resolutions, at which time I will ask for a roll call vote.

**Agenda Item 10.d.(1) – Resolution Urging Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center, LLC to Proceed with Proton Therapy Project**

The first resolution urges the Northern Illinois Proton Therapy Treatment and Research Center, LLC to proceed with Proton Therapy Project, Chair Murer explained. This first resolution describes the corporate structuring that must take place to allow for the development of a proton facility at the DuPage National Technology Park. It also describes the roles of Northern Illinois Research Foundation and Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center, LLC, and requests the LLC to report at least semiannually on the status of the development of the proton center including an appropriate financial disclosure once all project financing is complete and contracts have been signed.

**Agenda Item 10.d.(2) – Land Development Resolution**

The second resolution deals with land development, the Chair said. This resolution discusses the reasons for locating the proton center at the DuPage National Technology Park and urges the Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center, LLC to approve a suitable land development agreement

with CenterPoint Properties at the Technology Park. The resolution also recommends that the agreement include an option for CenterPoint Properties' interim financing of construction and development expenses prior to the issuance and receipt of tax exempt bond proceeds from a Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center, LLC bond issuance.

**Agenda Item 10.d.(3) – Proton Accelerator Equipment Vendor Resolution**

The third resolution describes the extensive equipment evaluation process conducted by the university over the last 2 years, Chair Murer said, and recommends that the Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center, LLC consider further negotiations with IBA and Varian/ACCEL for its purchase of equipment related to the operation of the proton facility.

**Agenda Item 10.d.(4) – Medical Service Delivery Resolution**

Chair Murer explained that the fourth resolution related to medical service delivery. The resolution cites the university's desire to create a not-for-profit proton cancer therapy and research center at the DuPage National Technology Park to bring state-of-the-art cancer treatment to the people of Illinois and the Midwest, to further establish Illinois at the forefront of particle therapy research efforts in the U.S., and to provide for the creation of the first university-based proton therapy education and training center in the U.S. devoted to training the full spectrum of health professionals involved in proton therapy. This resolution further recommends to the Proton LLC that it attempt to formally establish regional clinical, research and education affiliations that focus on the delivery of quality healthcare services.

**Agenda Item 10.d.(5) – Resolution – Certificate of Exemption**

Our fifth resolution relates to a state issue concerning a Certificate of Exemption, the Chair said. This resolution outlines NIU's planning process and the work with state leaders on bringing this therapy to Illinois. NIU co-filed an application for a Certificate of Exemption for major medical equipment with the Illinois Health Facilities Planning Board in early August, and this resolution urges the Health Facilities Planning Board to act expeditiously on the pending proton therapy application for exemption. Copies are requested to be sent to most of the state's constitutional officers, members of the General Assembly and the Illinois Congressional delegations.

I want to thank all of our vice presidents, particularly Ray Alden and Eddie Williams, Kathy Buettner, John Lewis and President Peters for all of your hard work, Trustee Vella said. I know there are faculty and others who have worked very hard on this project that I have not mentioned by name, but we appreciate all you have done. This has been a long time coming; we have considered it and pondered it. It supports the academic mission of the university. We have received evidence of a support by the academic community, professors and deans. This has been thoroughly studied by our administration. So we all understand that this is a wonderful opportunity and are confident that we should proceed with the project.

Chair Murer asked for a motion to accept all five of these resolutions collectively. Trustee Boey made a motion to approve all five of the resolutions pertaining to proton therapy, and was seconded by Trustee Vella.

Chair Murer asked for a roll call vote to approve:

- Agenda Item 10.d.(1) – Resolution Urging Northern Illinois Proton Treatment and Research Center, LLC to Proceed with Proton Therapy Project
- Agenda Item 10.d.(2) – Land Development Resolution
- Agenda Item 10.d.(3) – Proton Accelerator Equipment Vendor Resolution
- Agenda Item 10.d.(4) – Medical Service Delivery Resolution
- Agenda Item 10.d.(5) – Resolution – Certificate of Exemption

The vote was as follows:

Trustee Boey	Yes	Trustee Moser	Yes
Trustee Strauss	Yes	Trustee Vella	Yes
Student Trustee Crisler	Yes	Chair Murer	Yes

The roll call vote of the Trustees was unanimous with all six voting "Yes." The motion was approved.

Thank you for a unanimous vote, Chair Murer said. I echo Trustee Vella's congratulations to President Peters, Provost Alden, Executive Vice President Williams, Associate Vice President of Outreach and Project Director Dr. John Lewis, Vice President Kathy Buettner, and all of the faculty and staff who have devoted so much time to this project. This is not the end. This is just the beginning, and the hard work is going to continue. But we certainly are moving in the right direction for NIU, and it is a wonderful time to be part of this university.

#### **Agenda Item 10.e. – Executive Session Minutes Release**

The last action item under the Chair's Report is the Executive Session Minutes Release, Chair Murer said. The Illinois Open Meetings Act requires public bodies to review the minutes of their executive sessions on a semiannual basis and determine what parts of the minutes they should make available to the public because they no longer require confidential treatment. Accordingly, Agenda Item 10.e. is proposed for compliance with that legal requirement by taking action upon the duly approved Executive Session Minutes of January 1996 through June 2007 of either the full Board of Trustees or standing committees of the Board which have not previously been released from confidentiality. Upon review and advice of the Board's Parliamentarian, who is also the university's General Counsel, I recommend that the Board approve the Executive Session Minutes for release from confidentiality as described in Board Agenda Item 10.e. Those sections which are still subject to confidentiality, together with sections from subsequent meetings, will be considered again in six months. The Chair asked for a motion to approve the release of the Executive Session Minutes as stated. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

#### **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

It was moved by Trustee Strauss and seconded by Trustee Moser to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2007 Board Meeting. The motion was approved.

#### **CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chair Murer recognized University Advisory Committee representatives Dr. Paul Stoddard, Dr. Ferald Bryan, Dr. Nancy Castle, Dr. Joseph Steven, Ms. Bobbie Cesarek and Mr. Jay Monteiro. Due to the length of the agenda, Ms. Cesarek stated, we just want to say thank you again for the support that you all provide for the institution. I would like to take a second to congratulate Joe Novak for his 16 years of service to NIU, Mr. Monteiro commented, taking our football team to new heights both in sports and academics, but also boosting the name of NIU to national recognition. Also, we are excited to hear about the progress of the strategic plan, the new proton therapy center, the new track and field and soccer facility, and moving NIU to a more global campus and university. And, I want to join Ms. Cesarek in thanking the Board of Trustees for the support they have given the operating staff over the past year and wish everyone happy holidays.

I do not want to forget to mention other key programs that have come together to make this such a transformational period in the history of NIU. This is a time where all energies – the faculty, the administration and the staff – are focused on one positive, common goal: the greatness of this university.

We honored our beloved coach, Joe Novak, this morning. Athletics is such a vital and visible part of any university. We all become very excited when we appear on the pages of *USA Today*. But there are other projects that do not necessarily appear on the pages of *USA Today* that give us equal pride, and those are our academic programs. We are hoping that the proton therapy facility will help us continue to enhance academic opportunities for students through new programs and research opportunities for our faculty. Finally, we have the creation of an NCAA track and soccer field for women's sports. How wonderful as we continue to honor both our male and female athletes.

I want to, again, take the opportunity at this last meeting of 2007 to thank the faculty and staff, and to recognize and thank our leader, Dr. John Peters, for his vision, for his tenacity and for his diplomacy in dealing with so many university constituencies, Chair Murer said. Trustees Vella, Sanchez, Siegel and I

are all alumni of NIU, soon to be joined by Student Trustee Crisler. We are all very proud of our university and will continue to carry that pride. I wish for you and your families a very happy holiday season.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

The Chair asked Board Parliamentarian Kenneth Davidson if any members of the public had registered a written request to address the Board in accordance with state law and Board of Trustees *Bylaws*. Mr. Davidson noted that he had received one timely request to address this Board meeting. He recommended that Ms. Nancy Beisel, Registered Nurse from NIU Health Services, be recognized for remarks not to exceed five minutes in duration. Mr. Davidson confirmed that Ms. Beisel had been provided with the generally acceptable Rules of Decorum for public presentations.

I want to remind Trustees and members of the public who are present today that these presentations are made for providing special information to the Board concerning its pending business, Chair Murer said, and we will take any comments under advisement.

A summary of Ms. Beisel's remarks is as follows:

Ms. Beisel spoke on behalf of her peers in Health Services stating that they tend to the physical, mental and emotional well-being of students attending NIU residing both on and off campus. They are presently in the process of negotiating a union contract with AFSCME 963 and were disappointed at not receiving the four percent increase, retroactive to July, that was received by other university staff. Ms. Beisel stated that she is an RN with 28 years experience earning \$14.74 an hour. As a single parent, she said that she cannot make it in today's economy on that substandard wage and like many of her coworkers, has to work an additional job every Saturday, occasional evenings and many holidays to have disposable income for her family. Ms. Beisel concluded by saying that she and her peers were hopeful the university would reevaluate their substandard salary wage and provide them with competitive earnings comparable to others in their field.

Ms. Beisel provided the Board with a list of names from the community and other students who are supportive of their request to receive the four percent salary increment increase.

We appreciate the sensitivity and seriousness of these issues, Chair Murer said, and we also would instruct the President to assure that all salary negotiations are maintained in the appropriate manner according to statute, in particular, relative to collective bargaining.

## **REPORTS OF BOARD COMMITTEES AND BOARD LIAISONS**

### **Executive Committee**

The Executive Committee did not meet.

### **Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee**

The Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee did not meet.

### **Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee**

Before I give my report, Trustee Boey said, I would like to recognize someone without whose service, our voices would never be heard. This is the last Board meeting for Rick Calderon of Media Services, our sound consultant, who will be retiring at the end of this year. We thank you for all your help both here and in the Executive Sessions, and best wishes on your retirement.

Committee Chair Robert Boey reported that the Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee met on November 15. At that meeting, the committee considered and approved recommendations for: Phase VIII Energy Infrastructure Performance Contract, Fiscal 2009 Mass Transit Contract, Capital Project Approval for the NCAA Track and Field, and the Permanent Easements for the Bethany Road expansion. The committee also received reports including the following: Semiannual Progress Report of Active Capital Projects with a Budget Over \$100,000, Quarterly Summary Report of Transactions in

Excess of \$100,000, Annual Summary Report of Obligations of Financial Resources, and a Periodic Report on investments. There were presentations to the FFO Committee on the Internal Policy for Naming of Facilities and on the East Campus Chilled Water Plant Project. The recommended items addressed by the Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee are included in today's President's Report for Board approval.

### **Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee**

Committee Chair Marc Strauss reported that the Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee met in DeKalb on November 15. Ken Zehnder provided a report on substantive and budget legislation as well as a summary of the major issues involved in the capital and transit discussions in Springfield. Capital funding remained in flux as of the meeting and has yet to be resolved. Mr. Zehnder also provided a report on the FY08 appropriations cycle in Congress and announced that as of November 15, only one appropriations bill, the Defense Bill, had passed Congress and been signed by the President. NIU has two projects funded in this bill: One to continue the research program NIU's College of Engineering has developed at EigerLab in Rockford and the other to continue to fund the planning and development for the proton therapy facility for Illinois. He also discussed key issues, including Higher Education Reauthorization. In light of the recent issues raised in the national media about study abroad programs, Deborah Pierce, Executive Director of International Programs, provided the committee with information about NIU's Study Abroad Program and practices. Finally, Dr. Steve Cunningham, Associate Vice President of Administration and Human Resources, provided an overview of the results of the State Universities Civil Service Merit Board's recently completed audit of certain personnel functions at NIU. All of these reports are included in today's President's Report.

### **Illinois Board of Higher Education**

President Peters reported that the last meeting of the Illinois Board of Higher Education was held on Tuesday, December 4, at Northeastern University. Among the issues of importance to NIU and this Board of Trustees was the IBHE board approval of the NIU Ph.D. in Art Education.

### **Universities Civil Service Merit Board**

Board Liaison Marc Strauss reported that the State Universities Civil Service Merit Board met on Wednesday, November 7, at the system office in Urbana. The agenda included: (1) An update on the proposed rule revision to Section 250.140 of the Illinois Administrative Code dealing with pilot and research programs, which became effective on November 13. (2) A report on budget matters, a review of the FY07 annual report and a status report on the progress of the Auditor General's review of the system. (3) Reports were received from the Human Resource Director's Advisory Committee and the State Universities Civil Service Advisory Committee. And, (4) a meeting schedule for 2008 was approved for meetings on February 20, May 21, August 20 and November 12.

### **Northern Illinois University Foundation**

Committee Liaisons Murer and Boey deferred to Mallory Simpson for the Northern Illinois University Foundation report. In light of the length of your agenda this morning and the import of your other business, Ms. Simpson said, I will give you a couple of highlights from my report. Our True North campaign has gained tremendous traction since its kickoff last May. We have reached \$115 million of our \$150 million goal. Of that, we are at \$17.2 million toward our \$31 million endowment goal, which is the focus of our final phase. We have developed a comprehensive marketing communication plan for the campaign and should have our brochure in your hands by mid-January. Some regional events are being planned to take the NIU messages from faculty and students across the country. Now I will share some wonderful news about a very recent major gift commitment that Dean Promod Vohra has worked on extensively with Development Officer Jon Salvani. I am delighted to announce that as a result of their efforts, Baxter International has generously committed to funding and naming a state-of-the-art reliability testing lab in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology. This two-part gift involves around a half million dollars worth of state-of-the-art equipment and \$450,000 over a three-year period to fund the management and operations of the lab. It truly is bringing some cutting edge, state-of-the-art expertise to this region. So congratulations to Promod Vohra and to all of us at NIU.

## **CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL**

Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the items placed on the consent agenda earlier in the meeting. They include President's Report Number 57, Action Items 9.a.(4), and our receipt of Information Items 9.b.(2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7) and (8) and 9.c.(2) to the consent agenda. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Moser. The motion was approved.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 57**

Since much of what I wanted to talk about was related to proton therapy, President Peters said, I will be brief. I want to thank the Board and the faculty – Kathy Buettner, John Lewis, Ray Alden, Eddie Williams and the incredible number of people who have spent literally hours, days and months working on this transformational project. I want to especially thank the Board of Trustees under your leadership, Chair Murer, for your involvement in this project and in strategic planning. I have been so pleased to see that you have met with faculty and heard their plans. You are setting a high standard for future Board members, and I applaud you for that.

I also want to take the opportunity to formally recognize and thank outgoing Law Dean LeRoy Pernell for a decade of distinguished service to NIU. Dean Pernell has done much to advance the public service mission of the college and to obtain funding for initiatives that have raised our profile in the legal community. The Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic in Rockford, named after Barbara Vella's father, continues to provide excellent hands-on training for new lawyers and provides much needed free legal advice to people in that community who could otherwise not afford professional legal advice. The Ken Chessick Skills Training Center in our College of Law is improving the presentation skills of all of our law graduates, and that facility is also an accomplishment engineered and overseen by Dean Pernell. During his tenure here, LeRoy has also succeeded in diversifying both the faculty of his college and the student body, both of which are increasingly important in our efforts to serve the NIU region and make our university reflect the full complexity of our region's population. So for all those accomplishments and many others, we thank Dean LeRoy Pernell and wish him well in his new endeavors at Florida A&M University where he will soon be taking that institution to new heights.

## **UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED BY THE BOARD COMMITTEES**

### **Agenda Item 9.a.(1) – Energy Infrastructure Improvements – Phase VIII Performance Contract**

As you know, President Peters said, we make no initial capital outlay or investment in these performance contract projects. They are paid for by energy savings guaranteed by the contractor at least to the level of the funding of the project, including finance charges, for up to 20 years. All of the technical and financial risks are shifted from the university to the contractor. The President requested that the Board approve the university's ability to initiate the selection process and execute a performance contract with a qualified firm for the proposed Energy Infrastructure Improvements-Phase VIII not to exceed \$9.3 million. Work will begin in March 2008 with completion by December 2009. Under the terms of the contract, payment commences at the completion of the work, payable over the life of the contract from guaranteed energy and operation savings. Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the Phase VIII Performance Contract for Energy Infrastructure Improvements. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Boey. The motion was approved.

### **Agenda Item 9.a.(2) – Fiscal Year 2009 Mass Transit Contract**

The Fiscal Year 2009 Mass Transit Contract is for the Huskie Bus Line, the President said. As you know, we have a Student Mass Transit Board which is in charge of this program, and they sent out RFP's. Out of 19 requests, they received one bid. It was from the former contract holder, ATC Vancom, which is now Veolia Transportation of Oak Brook. This contract represents a 5.7 percent increase from the last contract. There are several reasons for this: a fuel escalator; maintenance of a newer bus fleet which is equipped with newer features required for ADA compliance and accessibility; environmental factors, including a 20 percent biodiesel fuel mixture; the purchase of hybrid buses; increased insurance costs; and the addition of one bus line to decrease waiting time, which the students wanted. The Chair requested Board of Trustees a motion to approve for 2009 expenditure authority of \$3.7 million to Veolia

Transportation. Student Trustee Crisler so moved, seconded by Trustee Moser. The motion was approved.

### **Agenda Item 9.a.(3) – NCAA Track and Field – Capital Project Approval**

President Peters asked Dr. Jim Phillips to brief the Board on the NCAA Track and Field request.

Thank you once again for a chance to seek Board approval and support for this project, Dr. Phillips said. Your words rang true about the world-class proton therapy project that was approved this morning. One of the things we talk about in Athletics all the time is a world-class academic and athletic experience for our student athletes. I am very proud to introduce our head track and field coach this morning, Miss Connie Teaberry, who, when you look at her resume and her leadership, stands amongst very few. She was a decorated student athlete at Kansas State University both academically and athletically, an honor roll student, a world-class track athlete and participated in the 1996 Olympics. We are very fortunate to have Connie Teaberry on our staff. But she has been working in less than desirable conditions. We have been using the convocation center parking lot and some of the facilities within the center. So to say that we are excited about this project would be a major understatement. Without any further ado, I want to introduce Connie Teaberry to the Board this morning.

If this is approved, Ms. Teaberry said, this would be huge for us. I speak on behalf of the track and field program as well as Coaches Marcie Miller and Steve Simmons with the soccer programs when I say this would bring great recognition to our student athletes. The recruiting will change tremendously as far as the caliber of athletes we are able to attract to Northern Illinois University in addition to the public school students who participate in the camps we have here in the summer, because right now we do not have a camp for track and field due to the lack of facilities. But getting these kids to see Northern Illinois before they even get to the college ranks will be great. I was excited about this program even before it was brought to the Board with the possibilities of Northern getting a new track, and I was especially excited about what it can do for our athletic programs, especially women's sports. The girls who are graduating are already trying to come up with possibilities to come back if we do get this track so they can use it. They are trying to organize an alumni meet. I asked one of the students if she was going to be able to hurdle next year, and she said, "I'm going to do it Coach, I'm going to do it. If we get this track, I'm coming back." So even the graduates are finding ways to come back and be a part of the festivities if the project is passed by the Board. Again, I want to thank you for considering it, and we look forward to the possibility of having a track meet here next year.

I could not be prouder, Chair Murer said, and I am sure the rest of the Board of Trustees feels the same. We cannot be prouder than to offer the appropriate facilities for ALL of our athletes. And do remind them that the Provost has multiple graduate programs that can keep them here for many years.

On behalf of Coach Connie and her team, the soccer program and the many women athletes who are going to use this, President Peters said, we request approval to establish a budget of \$3.2 million to take bids and to execute construction contracts to build an NCAA track and field. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Boey. The motion was approved.

### **Agenda Item 9.a.(4) – Permanent Easements for Public Roadway and Utilities**

Consent Agenda Item.

### **UNIVERSITY REPORTS FORWARDED FROM THE BOARD COMMITTEES**

#### **Agenda Item 9.b.(1) – Semi-Annual Progress Report of Active Capital Projects**

The Semiannual Progress Report of Active Capital Projects contains information on projects previously approved by the Board of Trustees or the President that are currently in progress.

#### **Agenda Item 9.b.(2) – Quarterly Summary Report of Transactions in Excess of \$100,000**

#### **Agenda Item 9.b.(3) – Periodic Report on Investments**

The Quarterly Summary Report on Transactions lists all transactions from \$100,000 to \$250,000 that were approved by the President according to Board *Bylaws*. The Periodic Report on Investments

contains a report on investments made in accordance with the approved University Investments and Cash Management Policy.

**Agenda Item 9.b.(4) – 95<sup>th</sup> General Assembly Report**

**Agenda Item 9.b.(5) – Fiscal Year 2008 Appropriations for Higher Education**

**Agenda Item 9.b.(6) – Congressional Report**

**Agenda Item 9.b.(7) – Study Abroad Update**

**Agenda Item 9.b.(8) – State Universities Civil Service System Compliance Audit**

Consent Agenda Items.

#### **ITEMS DIRECTLY FROM THE PRESIDENT**

##### **Agenda Item 9.c.(1) – NIU Board of Trustees Professorship**

The NIU Board of Trustees Professorship program has been developed by Provost Alden and myself as part of strategic planning to try to increase the reward and regard programs for our faculty, President Peters said. We envision that this will be a five-year award and renewable through a highly competitive process. The award carries a \$10,000 annual stipend, and no more than three will be given in any year as we increase to a total of 15. The *Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees Professorship* is designed to recognize those faculty who have achieved a consistent record of excellence in teaching, scholarship or artistry, service and outreach, and academic leadership; and have earned a national or international reputation, for professional achievements; and are deemed likely to make continued and substantial contributions to higher education. Special emphasis is going to be placed on the recognition of faculty who are renowned scholars or artists and who have engaged their students in their research or professional activities. I am very happy that we were able to find resources for this program, Trustee Strauss said, and hope we will be able to continue to find resources for similar programs in the future.

Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the university request of the faculty award entitled *NIU Board of Trustees Professorship*. Trustee Moser so moved, seconded by Trustee Boey. The motion was approved.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

Before we conclude, I would like to echo President Peters remarks on behalf of the Board and express our appreciation to Law Dean LeRoy Pernell, who is leaving the university with such a legacy. We give him great encouragement and wish him the best in his new position as Dean at Florida A&M University College of Law.

#### **NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, March 27, 2008 on the main campus in DeKalb.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chair Murer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Vella so moved, seconded by Trustee Strauss. The meeting was adjourned at 12:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Banks-Wilkins  
Recording Secretary