

Minutes of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
March 26, 2009

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Cheryl Murer at 10:09 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, John Butler, Marc Strauss, Barbara Giorgi Vella, Student Trustee DuJuan Smith and Chair Murer. Present via teleconference was Trustee Manuel Sanchez. 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, 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 63, Action Items 8.a.(4), (5), (6), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (19), (25) and (26); Information Items 8.b.(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (8), (11) and (12); and 8.c.(1) to that Consent Agenda. Also please note that the actual agenda items in the President's Report, beginning with Action Item (6) should reflect the number 8.a. before all action items, 8.b. before all information items and 8.c. before the item Directly from the President. The Chair asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda as now proposed. Trustee Strauss made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended. Student Trustee Smith seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Trustee Strauss and seconded by Student Trustee Smith to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2008 Board Meeting. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

It is always a pleasant time for me to be able to make a few comments, Chair Murer remarked. NIU is such a vigorous university, and we always have full agendas containing many important matters before us at our quarterly meetings. We have had much change in our country and the State of Illinois as well. We have a new U.S. President, we have a new governor, and we have a budget proposal that tackles an \$11 billion state deficit. Many joyous things have occurred. My husband Michael and I joined Dr. and Mrs. Peters and several other Board members at the inauguration of President Obama. I hope that the inauguration and the sentiment of the general public attending to embrace change, to embrace new beginnings, will be reflective of what we see from now on.

Despite the meltdown of the capital markets, we at NIU have much for which to be grateful. We have always been a university that has put our students first. That is the mantra of NIU, and our students have always supported NIU. We have been able to communicate to our state government that continued funding is paramount to our growth. However, we are pragmatic enough as a university to understand that we cannot be fully dependent upon the State of Illinois for our support and our existence. In doing so, we have continued to be very appreciative of all the work that has been done by Mallory Simpson, the Foundation and those generous philanthropists who have seen fit to provide funds to the university. We are very proud of our faculty and our deans who seek grants and federal funding in support of research

and particular projects. That aggressiveness needs to persist in the next several years because we will continue to need support based on merit, and grants are allocated on merit on a competitive basis. That is a very important part of what we do. We need to look at revenue generating opportunities for the university and think outside the box. We have to accept the fact that it is not status quo, and that these are not comments made just at this university. We need to be proactive. We need to be transparent. We need to be responsive and responsible. We need to make sure that we are captains of our own destiny. So, through Ms. Buettner's department, we will continue to aggressively seek funding from the State of Illinois and from the federal government. My comments are simply of optimism, of hope, of a very excited attitude that says we are a fine university and we have the responsibility to educate extraordinary individuals.

I would like to welcome the University Advisory Committee, another factor which makes our university great through shared governance: Dr. Stoddard, Dr. Bryan, Dr. Garcia, Dr. Stephen, Ms. Cesarek, Mr. Monteiro.

My term as Executive secretary of the University Council is expiring, Dr. Stoddard said, and so too is my term as UAC representative. I want to say it has been a pleasure working with everyone on the Board. I have been very impressed with the Board collectively and individually as they have shown through their comments and their actions their support and commitment to the university. On behalf of the Faculty Senate, I would like to thank you for that support and commitment and let you know that NIU is a much better place for your efforts. Ms. Cesarek and Mr. Montiero thanked the Board for all their efforts on behalf of the institution through these uncertain economic times.

The Chair thanked Dr. Stoddard for his presence at Board meetings. You have always been here, she said, and you have been timely. We thank you for your punctuality, and your thoughtful remarks are appreciated.

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 meeting. He recommended that Mr. Adam Andrzejewski be recognized for remarks not to exceed five minutes in duration.

We appreciate the time you are taking to address this Board, Chair Murer said, and the fact that you properly submitted your request. In the spirit of transparency, which I am told you are speaking on today, I would like to confirm for the record that you are a declared candidate for the 2010 election for governor for the Republican party. Mr. Andrzejewski answered in the affirmative. It is my understanding that you are going to be speaking in regard to the topic of proton therapy. Mr. Andrzejewski again answered in the affirmative. In light of that, the Chair said, would you please indicate for the record any affiliation or relationship with or influence by ProCure or Central DuPage Hospital, the Physician Joint Venture Partners of CDH and ProCure or the public relation firms representing all of the parties. Mr. Andrzejewski stated that he has a friendship with Doug O'Brien at Res Publica Group (a Chicago-based lobbying firm whose client list includes ProCure Treatment Centers).

Following is a summary of Mr. Andrzejewski's comments:

He stated that his family has strong ties to NIU all the way from his parents, who both received degrees from the university, to a brother, a sister and himself, who all graduated from NIU. With those ties to NIU, he is proud of Northern's efforts to build a proton treatment center, which will add to both the quality of healthcare in Illinois and to the reputation of the university. As an advocate of transparency in government finances, he stated that he was disappointed at the way Northern Illinois University has pursued this project. He said that he had spearheaded the Illinois financial transparency movement within government units across the state. It was his opinion that the university and its leadership had thrown accountability out the window and had not disclosed how proton treatment center dollars have been spent, hiding behind technicalities.

Given his connection to the university, Mr. Andrzejewski said he felt obligated to urge NIU to provide public transparency on how millions of dollars are being spent on this project.

Chair Murer stated that it is always a pleasure to welcome back our alumni. We appreciate the concern you have, she said. Certainly sentiments of integrity, honor, duty and responsibility are all tenets of this Board and of this university, and we will take your comments to heart. So that you are aware, we have released thousands of pages in regard to this project through Freedom of Information Act requests that were properly submitted, we are responsive to the State Auditor General and to the federal government. So there are mechanisms in place for communication to the public regarding any funds this university receives.

REPORTS OF BOARD COMMITTEES AND BOARD LIAISONS

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee did not meet.

Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee

Committee Chair Barbara Giorgi Vella reported that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee met on Thursday, March 5, 2009. At that meeting, the committee considered and endorsed the following action items: Recommendations for Faculty and Supportive Professional Staff Sabbatical Leaves for 2009-2010 Academic Year; appointment of Jennifer Rosato, J.D., as Dean of the College of Law; a request for a new degree program in the School of Allied Health and Communicative Disorders; a request for a new Emphasis in Pre-Physical Therapy within the School of Allied Health and Communicative Disorders; a request for a new Specialization in Biology Teaching within the Master's of Science and Biological Sciences; a request for a new Specialization in Health Education, Grades 6-12 and Middle School, with both the Master of Arts in Teaching and the Master of Science in Teaching; a request to delete a combined minor in Chinese-Japanese studies and create new minors in Chinese Studies and Japanese Studies, both within the Department of Foreign Languages and Literature; and acceptance of the Oral English Proficiency Annual Report for 2007-2008. The committee heard reports on the following information items: Faculty reports on sabbatical leaves, Illinois Board of Higher Education Public Agenda update, Carnegie Foundation Classification on Engagement, update on external reviews for doctoral departments and an update on the Degree to Completion Initiative for community college students.

Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee

Committee Chair Robert Boey reported that the Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee met on March 5, 2009. At that meeting, the committee considered and approved recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2010 Student Fees and Fiscal Year 2010 Room and Board Rates; four spending authorizations for an energy performance contract, athletic sports camp housing and meals, International Programs Division Expenditures, and Huskie Stadium turf replacement; eight Fiscal Year 2010 contract renewals for student accident and sickness insurance, the copier and controller system, copy paper, *Northern Star* printing, Materials Management commodities, mass transit, security services and radiation oncology physician services; a contract amendment to the Fiscal Year 2009 student accident and sickness insurance; two collective bargaining agreements; three capital project authorizations including a temporary construction easement, Phase I of the Grant Towers renovation, and Martin Luther King Commons redesign and restoration. The committee also received informational reports on the NIU supplementary retirement plan, quarterly summary report of transactions in excess of \$100,000 and periodic report on investments.

Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee

Committee Chair Marc Strauss reported that the Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee also met in DeKalb on March 5. Steve Cunningham gave a report on changes to the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act, which would grant additional leave benefits for families of military personnel. Ken Zehnder brought the committee up to date with a detailed report on legislation in Springfield and gave an overview of the proposed State budget, which unfortunately shows the state as facing an even higher than anticipated deficit, almost \$11.5 billion, about 20 percent of the total State budget. Kathy Buettner

delivered a thorough report on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, which contains the massive federal stimulus package. A detailed outline of that Act is included in the Board report under Agenda Item 8.b.(10). Brent Gage made a presentation on the 2008 Veteran Education Benefits Program, a provision contained in last year's Higher Education Opportunity Act. The committee will be spending time during the year reviewing all the major aspects of the Higher Education Opportunity Act. Wally Czerniak gave the committee an update on NIUNet. Finally, Steve Cunningham addressed the committee briefly on a bill before the Illinois General Assembly, Senate Bill 1734, which attempts to combine all five State retirement systems into one large system.

Illinois Board of Higher Education

There was no report from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Universities Civil Service Merit Board

State Universities Civil Service Merit Board Liaison Marc Strauss reported that the board met in Urbana on Wednesday, February 18. Notable agenda items included: (1) the election of officers, including his reelection as board chair; (2) an update on proposed rule revisions regarding registers, nonstatus appointments, probationary periods, separations and demotions, as well as seniority. These were published for first comment in the *Illinois Journal* in February, and they will be returning to the Merit Board for final action; (3) and a discussion of action on revised exemption procedures. The most controversial proposed change involves the principal administrative assistant exemptions. At the request of the University of Illinois, and on a 4 to 3 vote, discussion of this was continued until the May 2009 meeting for action. The next meeting is scheduled for May 20 at the system office in Urbana and the customary remote locations.

NIU Foundation

Trustees Murer and Boey deferred to Mallory Simpson, President of the NIU Foundation, for this report. Like the university, Ms. Simpson reported, the Foundation has been dealing with the implications of the financial crises in our country, and we have been focusing intensively on three interrelated areas – budget, endowment and giving. On the budget front, since a large portion of our revenue support is investment income, we have had to make severe budget cuts from Foundation funding sources for our programs. This is forcing us to explore creative new ways of sustaining a high level of donor engagement in less costly ways. Instead of face-to-face travel, we are going to launch a series of student-centered videos this spring presenting “a day in the life of a student” to draw donors and prospects. In December, I reported that we were going through an exhaustive review of endowments. We have completed that review and contacted all of our living donors to endowment funds to seek their guidance and input on spending considerations. As a result of that process, we are able to make more funds available than we had anticipated, so more scholarships will be awarded to students because of the input we received from individual donors about their preferences and expectations. Organizations across the country are seeing drops in giving. When we looked at the numbers in December, there was an average three to five percent decline in giving across the country. NIU's was just a little more than two percent. We have actually closed the gap so far this calendar year, and we are almost on par with our giving at the same time last year.

Our True North campaign is still progressing well. We have not made the mistake of assuming that no one can give right now. The True North Steering Committee met in late February. Many of the committee members are involved with other organizations that are considering changes in campaign goals, changes in campaign launchings, and changes in timeframes. Staff presented our plans, projections and high level of confidence that we will complete our campaign on time, June 2010, and exceed our goal of \$150 million. The steering committee concluded that we should follow our original plans despite the bleak economy. So far this fiscal year, we have raised nearly \$12 million in campaign gifts and pledges, placing us at \$141 million toward a \$150 million goal. This means we are about 94 percent complete with 15 months to go. In addition to sustaining our selective giving of major gifts, we are encouraging our donors and prospective donors to give back in other ways. If they do not have the ability right now to give of financial means, we are asking them to give of their time, their services and their expertise to support the university, to serve on advisory boards, to speak in our classrooms and to mentor students. We want to sustain this culture of giving; it does not have to be just financial.

A few major commitments since December include Double Huskies Chris and Tony Speiser who have made a \$100,000 commitment to fund scholarships for juniors and seniors from Chicago public schools attending the College of Business. Dean Schoenbachler was involved in those discussions along with me. They will also support entrepreneurship initiatives and discretionary funds for the dean. Earlier, I noted that some people have circumstances allowing them to give. Tony Speiser sold his business this year, allowing him to make that gift. A \$100,000 commitment was received from Jeanie C. Linders, author and producer of the very successful "Menopause, the Musical." It is the proceeds from her touring productions that allowed the funding of her foundation. Harold Kafer worked with Jeanie and me in securing this commitment. Jeanie also is doing something new for the theatre school. She felt that it was important to prepare students for the business aspects of the industry, not just the performance or the production aspects, so she is funding internships, bringing visitors to campus, visiting professionals from entertainment law, marketing and so on, and then supporting a new works festival every other year, which will allow our students to develop new works for production. Dean DuCray and his wife Brenda have generously made a deferred gift currently valued at \$1.7 million by designating NIU as beneficiary of their IRA, a wonderful device for making deferred gifts, and very meaningful to the university but not necessitating an immediate out of pocket expense. That gift is designated for the Department of Accountancy. Finally, William Doyle, a Northern graduate of accountancy, had a long career with BP Amoco as a senior programmer and analyst and credited NIU with much of his success. He is giving his entire estate to Northern, very quietly, very graciously. We had to convince him that he should not remain anonymous. This is his life's work that he is giving to our institution and our students, yet he feels very humble and modest about it. It is a beautiful story, and what an impact he will have. So, as you can see, the beacon of philanthropy still is burning brightly and lighting our way "True North."

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Vice 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 61, Action Items 8.a.(4), (5), (6), (9), (10), (11), (12), (13), (14), (15), (19), (25), and (26) and our receipt of Information Items 8.b.(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (8), (11) and (12) and 8.c.(1) to that consent agenda. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 63

President Peters welcomed everyone to the spring meeting of the Board. This is one of our more intense meetings of the year where we set student fees, room and board rates and talk about budgets, he said, but it is time to always put things in perspective. It is so refreshing to be part of an institution that very seldom gets outside of its main purpose, and that is to educate the next generation of teachers, scientists and poets. We will not meet again until June, and between now and then, we will graduate upwards of 2,500 students with bachelor's degrees, master's degrees, certificates and Ph.D.'s in four ceremonies – three undergraduate and one graduate. We should never lose sight of the fact that we are here to create new knowledge and discovery and to help society. I want to thank everybody, particularly the staff. We have had a rough year because of February 14, and we have come through it very strong, having learned how to manage our way through adversity. This is a well-managed institution.

What Chair Murer said about President Obama's inauguration was true. I spent a lot of time talking to young people from across the country, and for those of us who remember the 1960's, that same feeling of renewal, excitement and pouring energy into politics to change the world was apparent. I heard quite a bit of that while talking to students from Williams College, Ohio State, University of Florida and a young man in an NIU shirt. It was exciting to talk to the young people, irrespective of partisan politics, and being from an educational institution, it was great to see their involvement.

Let me set the context for the budget and our actions for today. Since we last met we have a new governor, Governor Quinn who has taken the reins and is providing leadership. But the issues he faces are large because they have been neglected. We have to understand that and work with him and our legislators to make our way through this. The Governor introduced his 2010 budget last week and almost everybody found something they did not like in it because of the pressures. Recently, the General

Assembly's forecasting arm, the accountability and economic forecasting arm informed the legislature that they thought the real deficit over the next two fiscal years would be in the range of \$12.4 billion, instead of \$11.6 billion. But as previously reported, some of it is accounting because the \$11.6 billion did not include \$835 million in red ink from the previous budget that they failed to roll into the current budget. So, as the Governor is formulating a budget, without any action on the part of the General Assembly, that is a \$5.1 billion deficit for this fiscal year that grows to \$7.3 billion for the next fiscal year. It does not take an economist with the skill of my predecessor, who was a great economist, to know there is no way to cut your way out of that. Given the fact that so much of a State budget is fixed and indexed to Medicaid payments, theoretically, contributions to the State pension systems, the things that are constitutionally obligated, leaves very little discretion to cut. Yet, as I traveled around the country recently talking to university presidents and visiting around the country, public higher education is doing things I never thought I would see in 40 years such as furloughs and slashing programs.

NIU's share of the State General Revenue fund in the Governor's proposal increased from \$107.4 million in 2009, with 2.5 percent held back, to \$109.2 million in 2010, an increase of 1.6 percent. This is in an era where universities are cutting double digits all over the country. The percentages of increases in GR across the nine major state public university units ranged from just under 1.0 percent to about 1.6 percent. But everyone received about 1.28 percent. NIU's is at 1.6 percent because, historically, for the past three years, outside of our GR base we have received additional funding of \$700,000 for our CHANCE program. This year they zeroed that out and put it in our base budget. Other universities are up or down depending on taking out or putting in things that were or were not in the budget, shifting functions from one university to another or from a university to a state agency, but it was a level playing field in terms of the GR. NIU is approaching the level of a half a billion dollar corporation. There has been a shift in the past 10 to 12 years from a predominantly state-aided budget to a tuition-driven model. Thus there has been a shift in how we fund ourselves, which is in large part through more grants and contracts, including federal grants and earmarks and tuition and fees. This is the same story all over the country: states have backed off their investment, for obvious reasons.

One of the assumptions the Governor made when making this budget was the option of using the money from the federal recovery and stimulus package to help with state budgets. He had about \$119 million in federal recovery funds that could be used to help higher education, and there were some caveats. By taking the federal money, the state is required to keep the funding at the 2006 level. Unfortunately, 2006 was a little lower for us than other states. The Governor chose to take that money and put it into the budget gap and into operating for higher education. Do not assume that this is it. This is just the opening salvo in this budget round.

The IBHE capital budget just funded includes \$22,517,600 for the Stevens Hall renovation. If there is a capital bill, that will be funded this year. It also includes \$2,787,000 in planning money for the new Computer Science Technology Building, which will be a major academic administrative building. We also made additional requests outside the IBHE capital budget for Cole Hall, for a chiller project on West Campus, and for renovation of Grant residence hall under the federal stimulus plan and guidelines. Remember that the Governor chose to use the \$119 million in flexible federal dollars to help higher education to plug the operating fund gap. An article appeared in the paper this morning that they are working on some agreement for a \$3 billion capital bill. Within that context of there ought to be a little space for Cole Hall, and we are all going to work hard to see that Cole Hall is included.

There are a couple of other caveats on this federal stimulus. Over the next two years, we get in our base about \$6.2 million of the total \$109 million, and that is one-time money. In two years, for the 2012 budget, unless the State comes in with permanent dollars, our budget would automatically be reduced by that number. My directive to our budgeting people is going to be to invest that money in variable costs versus fixed costs as much as possible, in one-time things such as classroom improvement and less in people. We have appropriation hearings in the Senate scheduled for April 1 and in the House on April 2. We are going to make the case strongly to support this budget, and the Trustees and others are going to assist in the inclusion of Cole Hall in some budget.

Chair Murer said it best, and I heard it from our Foundation people: there are numerous things going on in the country and in the world that are quite troubling. Leadership is required, and we expect so much of our new U.S. President. Parents and students are worried. What we really need to do is act like we have

always acted for over a hundred years. We need to grab hold of our own destiny and not be stymied by this. We need to move forward with renewal. We need to move forward with new ventures, being very cautious about how we spend money, including ventures such as proton therapy, a research venture that has tremendous implications for the academic side of the university and also for training our students.

Today, the Board, is going to be asked to approve several projects that are going to renew and refresh our campus by improving appearance and livability while also enhancing the underlying infrastructure that will help us operate more efficiently far into the future. In so doing, we are going to spend money for jobs, thereby helping with the stimulus. One of the most visible and exciting examples of that renewal is a proposal recommending major renovations in Grant Towers. One thing I hear from students, almost universally, is can you do something to modernize Grant. It is one of our largest residence halls and remains essentially unchanged from when the building opened its doors more than 40 years ago. The needs of our students have changed significantly since then, and this remodeling project will reflect those changes. Larger rooms, enhanced privacy and use of natural light will make the hall a more pleasant place to live. New fire alarms, sprinkler systems and an enhanced electrical system will make it safe. Today we are submitting our plans for Phase I of that process, which will begin with C Tower this summer, with subsequent towers to follow and the lobby as the last phase. You will also vote on improvements to the MLK Commons, an important part of our campus where so many important events have taken place, Yet two decades of Midwestern weather, brutally cold winters and scorching summers have taken their toll on that public space. Therefore, the university is joining with the Capital Development Board to renovate that area.

Also on today's agenda, is a request for a construction easement to the NIU Foundation, the developers of record for the Memorial Peace Garden dedicated to the events of February 14, 2008. When completed, this peaceful, reflection garden on the west bank of Watson Creek will enhance our campus landscape and aid in the ongoing healing of our campus community. It is an approximately \$160,000 project, most of which has been raised through private money, and I want to thank the Foundation. The storyboard of the garden layout is on display for viewing.

Finally, being submitted for Board approval will be the appointment of a new Dean of the College of Law. Ms. Jennifer L. Rosato, who is here today, comes to us from Drexel University. She is a well-published author in the area of bioethics. She has also appeared on Court TV and radio programs dealing with the law. The President introduced Ms. Rosato and asked her to say a few words.

Most importantly, Ms. Rosato said, I want to thank the Board and the community for its faith and its trust in me. I know there are high expectations coming in, and I will do my best to satisfy those expectations. I did not know very much about NIU when I started interviewing for the deanship, and I have to say that everyone I spoke to from the assistants in the law school to the Provost and the President sold me on the university and the law school in a wonderful way. I think I am a pretty good lawyer. I tried to cross-examine individuals right and left and just could not make anyone budge. There is so much love for this institution and so much commitment to the goals of the institution. What I have learned about NIU is that there are core values this university truly believes in and is uncompromising in, and those are the value to students, the commitment to education, the engagement with the community, the access for those that might be less advantaged to be able to take advantage of all the privileges that education provides. That is also very important to me. I also learned that this institution does not sit on its laurels. It has great ambition, and that is what really attracted me to the university, not only its core values, but that I could make a difference, that I could contribute. With that attitude, I invite you all to give me suggestions to help me create opportunities for the law school and help it realize its potential. I will be here July 1 and hope to have a chance to meet everyone of you.

Dean Rosato, I would like to welcome you on behalf of the Board of Trustees, Chair Murer said. Trustee Vella and I are both College of Law alumnae. You join a group of deans who are truly committed to this university. My thoughts after President Peters' and your comments are that we are all echoing one fact today, that we are motivated by determination, not by fear. We welcome you and hope our law school will not only thrive but soar under your tutelage. Trustees Vella and Boey welcomed Ms. Rosato and said they looked forward to working with her.

UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED BY THE BOARD COMMITTEES

Agenda Item 8.a.(1) – Fiscal Year 2010 Student Fee Recommendations

The Fiscal Year 2010 Student Fee Recommendations process by which student fees are set is truly an example of shared governance, President Peters said, because we have various subcommittees pretty much dominated by student input as they develop these various fees to a final recommendation that comes to me. I usually start the process by indicating to Dr. Williams, the Provost and Vice President Hemphill that these should be kept to as low a percentage as possible, understanding that there are uncontrollable costs and understanding which areas need an injection. Very recently, I was trying to figure out why the university graduated so many student leaders and public officials such as the young man you heard today, James Barr who is a former Student Trustee, and others. It is because they get real world experience in building a budget and learning how it is negotiated and put together. It dawned on me that I do not know many universities where students get that kind of experience. Excluding health insurance fees, the increase recommended for approval averages 3.37 percent for those who pay for health insurance coverage. For students who opt out and can show proof of insurability, the increase is 4.95 percent. A list of the increases can be found on page 11 with the executive summary of each fee following.

Yesterday, I had a chance to review the student fees with a reporter from our student newspaper, the *Northern Star*, Trustee Boey said, and it was a good discussion. At the conclusion we both agreed that it was a very fair fee recommendation. It was interesting to have a chance to review with the newspaper reporter because, just as Dr. Peters said, that process is dominated by student involvement. Just a couple of quick notes. The state GR funded in 1996, the first year NIU had its own Board of Trustees, was over 50 percent of the budget, and now it is around 20 percent. The last time we renovated a student residence hall was in 1996, when the planning on Stevenson began. It is time to pay attention to those residence halls to remain in competition and retaining students on campus.

Throughout this entire student fee process, Student Trustee Smith noted, I had a chance to speak to all of the students who served on the various subcommittees. Even though no one likes to increase the fees, they recognize the condition of the economy, and considering what the fee increase proposals are, they are still relatively fair and reasonable for students. Because these students were involved throughout the entire process and support it, I definitely give my support.

Trustee Butler pointed out that he also served on the president's fee study committee as a student. I found it to be a formidable experience, he said, and one that causes me to appreciate the process much more.

When we talk about student fees, Chair Murer said, we continue to appreciate the value of our student trustee as an equal member of this Board because his participation is very important as the spokesperson and the voice of the student body. We appreciate the support that not only you have given but that of the student body as well. Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the FY2010 Student Fee Recommendations. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(2) – Fiscal Year 2010 Room and Board Rate Recommendations

A companion issue to the student fees is the Fiscal Year 2010 room and board rate, President Peters said. The board rate is not being increased this year, but room rates are increasing an average of 8.67 percent. On page 16 is a display of the costs for different types of housing, depending upon the building, the size and other preferences. The components of this rate average are made up of increased costs for utilities – gas, water, electric – and the increase in minimum wage. Much of this money goes back into the system in student wages. Another reason for this increase is the mandated sprinkler systems for fire and safety. We like to make sure that we have a reserve for emergency repairs and also add to renovations. Out of the nine public institutions that have residence halls, NIU's rates for 2010 are about fifth out of nine with an average four-year rate of about \$39,940.

Trustee Butler inquired about the extent to which student involvement exists in setting these rates. Ms. Kelly Wesener, Assistant Vice President for Student Services, stated that as part of the process of setting the room and board rates, they meet with the Residence Hall Association, the student governing body in

the residence halls, to go through the entire budget and make sure that they understand where these increases are occurring, what the impact is, and to make sure the university has their support. They give a final written recommendation to Housing and Dining in support of the proposed fees. They were very supportive of these rates.

During our Finance Committee meeting, Trustee Vella said, we discussed the problems associated with raising these fees at this particular time and the fact that it is not something the Board wants to do. It is just that we have no other choice. We always put the students and their needs first. We want to give them a safe environment, and this is the best we can do at this time in order continue to to have the kind of institution we have here. As Trustee Vella said, we take seriously our financial stewardship as a Board, Chair Murer said, and we need to make sure that there are enough financial resources to maintain the university. I cannot say it any better than Trustee Vella did, Trustee Boey said. During that Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee meeting, we each articulated the fact that we wished we did not have to raise any rates at all; but the facts are we do not have a choice.

Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2010 Room and Board Rate Recommendations. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Butler. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(3) – Energy Infrastructure Improvements – Phase IX Performance Contract

Northern Illinois University was one of the early adopters of energy infrastructure improvements, President Peters said. This is Phase IX in our performance contracting program, which has proven to be a way to get major improvements in infrastructure using someone else's money at a time when we would have to bond it or find other ways to finance it. Performance contracting results in window replacement, door replacement, HVAC replacement and roof replacement if necessary. Every summer, we have focused on a different set of buildings. This summer, if approved, we will move to Grant Towers, Founders Library, Williston Hall, Faraday Hall, the Psychology-Computer Science Building, Dorland Building and the Heating Plants. This will reduce energy, and those savings will be used to pay for this contract. The university is requesting Board approval to move forward with this project up to \$12.5 million in improvements, including the finance charges.

In reply to a question from Trustee Butler, regarding the obligation of the university to pay prevailing wage since the funds are not actually paid at the time of the work, Robert Albanese, Associate Vice President for Finance and Facilities Operations, said that as part of the contractual agreement, the winning vendor agrees to pay prevailing wage, and the university as well as the unions on campus monitor that.

Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the Energy Infrastructure Improvements-Phase IX Performance Contract. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Strauss. The motion as approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(4) – Fiscal Year 2010 Athletic Sports Camp Housing and Meal Expenditures

Agenda Item 8.a.(5) – Fiscal Year 2010 International Programs Division Expenditures

Agenda Item 8.a.(6) – Huskie Stadium Turf Replacement

Consent Agenda Items.

Agenda Item 8.a.(7) – Fiscal Year 2009 Student Accident and Sickness Insurance Amendment

Here, again, is another indication of what is happening with our economy, President Peters said. Approval of an additional expenditure is required to cover the FY09 student accident and sickness insurance premiums for the year. Due to a 20 percent increase in students purchasing coverage, we need to augment our order by \$1 million. Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the FY09 student accident and sickness insurance amendment. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(8) – Fiscal Year 2010 Student Accident and Sickness Insurance Contract Renewal

Associated with the FY09 amendment is the renewal of the FY10 Student Accident and Insurance Contract with Academic Health Plans of Colleyville, Texas, the President said. This is the fourth of a

nine-year renewal option. Rates are set based on usage every year, and all the appropriate procurement rules were observed.

In conversations I have had about the prior voted upon fee increase, Trustee Butler said, a question has come up periodically about why we bother to exclude the health insurance fee in considering the percentage increase. That is deducted because the negotiation that leads to that figure is controlled by usage and other factors that we do not have as much control over as we do the other fee issues. Taking out the health insurance fee increase and looking at the resulting percentage, Dr. Peters said, actually makes it 3.37 percent.

Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the FY10 Student Accident and Sickness Insurance Contract. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(9) – Fiscal Year 2010 Document Services Copier and Controller System Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 8.a.(10) – Fiscal Year 2010 Copy Paper contract Renewal – ITS Document Services and Materials Management

Agenda Item 8.a.(11) – Fiscal Year 2010 *Northern Star* Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 8.a.(12) – Fiscal Year 2010 Materials Management – Central Stores Commodities Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 8.a.(13) – Fiscal Year 2010 Mass Transit Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 8.a.(14) – Fiscal Year 2010 Public Safety Security Services Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 8.a.(15) – Fiscal Year 2010 Radiation Oncology Physician Services Contract Renewal

Consent Agenda Items.

Agenda Item 8.a.(16) – Collective Bargaining Agreements

The two collective bargaining agreements being presented for your approval are both full agreements with the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 150, President Peters said. One represents eight employees in the Materials Management Department and the other represents 17 employees in the Grounds Department. The Materials Management agreement runs from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2012. The Grounds agreement runs from July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2011. The terms and conditions of these agreements are consistent with university policies. Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the collective bargaining agreements with the International Union of Operating Engineers for the Materials Management and Grounds Departments. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Strauss. Chair Murer asked for a roll call vote, which was as follows:

Trustee Boey	Yes	Trustee Butler	Abstain
Trustee Strauss	Yes.	Trustee Vella	Yes
Student Trustee Smith	Abstain	Chair Murer	Yes

The motion was approved with four voting yes and two abstaining.

Agenda Item 8.a.(17) – Temporary Construction Easement

This is the request to approve the temporary construction easement to the NIU Foundation in order to begin construction of the Memorial Peace Garden we discussed earlier in the meeting, the President said. Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the temporary construction easement for the Memorial Peace Garden. Trustee Vella so moved, seconded by Student Trustee Smith. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(18) – Grant Towers Renovation - Phase I Living and Learning Project Initiatives

The Board gave approval last year for the university to begin the planning of the Living and Learning Project, which is a major renovation of all of our housing units, President Peters said. This is Phase I beginning with Grant Towers, which is where the main interest and need are. This is a \$14.85 million renovation. Because there is a revenue stream, there will be a bond for this. The students are excited about it. Currently there are around 500 students in a tower. Because of code, there will be approximately 400 students per tower when the project is completed.

With regard to an increase in fees for room and board, the President said, we are a public university, we built it and they did come. Our enrollment now is directly related to our revenue and our viability as a university. We are becoming an enrollment driven institution. Therefore, we need to improve our housing stock to be competitive with the best universities in the Midwest region. Chair Murer requested a motion to approve the Grant Towers Renovation-Phase I Living and Learning Project Initiative. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Student Trustee Smith. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(19) – MLK Commons Redesign and Restoration

Consent Agenda Item.

Agenda Item 8.a.(20) – Recommendations for Faculty and Supportive Professional Staff Sabbatical Leaves for the 2009-2010 Academic Year

During the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee meeting, two reports were heard from faculty members who had taken sabbaticals. Yesterday in University Council, Dr. Peters said, I heard expressions of thank you and support from the faculty for the Trustees' support of this wonderful program. Faculty are chosen through a detailed merit process in which they have to present a project, it has to be evaluated, there has to be an outcome, and the outcome has to be to improve research and teaching.

Every year we have people come to the Academic Affairs Committee and tell us about their experiences in their sabbaticals, Trustee Vella, Chair of the AASAP Committee noted, and it is one of the best meetings we have all year. I am thrilled to be a part of this university every time the faculty members give reports to us on what they have done. Each time a report is given, it makes me wish I could go with them and be part of that. It is wonderful that we have this program, because people may not realize how important it is to the promotion of knowledge and experiences for our students. As Trustee Vella said earlier, every year when we come to sabbaticals, it is probably one of the most misunderstood items about the university for people who are not involved with university activities, Trustee Boey said. People think it is a great way to get a paid vacation. We really need to do a better job of educating people not associated with the universities and making sure they understand that this is really a chance for research. I would like to thank the Provost for encouraging these presentations, Chair Murer said. I agree that it is very important we integrate the dynamics of the university with the Board of Trustees. The faculty and students are who we are. I too enjoyed the diversity of presentations in the humanities and the sciences. Please continue to do this and to thank your faculty for the time and efforts they put forth.

I would like to thank the Board members on behalf of the faculty, Provost Alden said, because as was pointed out, sometimes sabbaticals are misunderstood. However, they involve a highly competitive process that generally includes students and/or engagement with communities. They definitely involve the building of a knowledge set and excitement in a faculty member's portfolio for coming back into the classroom. The University Council personnel committee has adopted a new policy as a requirement of the sabbatical process that the personnel committees at the department and college levels review the sabbatical reports of everyone coming back from sabbatical leave to make sure that what was promised during the proposal phase was actually accomplished. You can rest assured that this is not a paid vacation and these people work extremely hard in developing their professional background as well as their effectiveness as educators.

Chair Murer asked Provost Alden if at some time in the future it would be possible to identify how many publications and/or research projects are published following sabbatical and to what extent we see extended funding as a direct result of the sabbatical. The Provost said that the requested information would be assembled and presented at a later date. This is a verification of the issues that we have been addressing in terms of our financial responsibilities, the Chair said, and it is a true example of the benefits, not only academically and intellectually, but also as resources given back to the university.

Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the recommendations for faculty and supportive professional staff sabbatical leaves for the 2009-10 Academic Year. Trustee Vella so moved, seconded by Trustee Boey. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(21) –New Appointment – Dean of the college of Law

Following a national search, President Peters said, Jennifer L. Rosato has been selected for appointment as Dean of the College of Law, effective July 1, 2009, with the unanimous concurrence of the faculty of the College of Law, and our Executive Vice President and Provost, Ray Alden. I want to thank Ray and Harold Kafer, who helped chair that search committee. Jennifer is recommended for appointment at the rank of full professor with tenure. Ms. Rosato is senior Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Professor of Law at Drexel. She has served as acting dean and professor of law at Drexel University's College of Law during the first year of the law school's operation. Ms. Rosato received her bachelor's degree with distinction from Cornell, and the Juris Doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania Law School. She also was editor in chief of the *Journal of International Business Law* at the University of Pennsylvania.

I am happy to welcome you, Trustee Vella said. We are proud of our university and our law school. I really appreciated your comments about how you think our university is seeking excellence, and we are. Also, your background as a bioethics scholar is very important at this time, Chair Murer said, so we are anxious to have you participate in that process, also.

Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Ms. Jennifer Rosato as Dean of the College of Law at the rank of full professor with tenure. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(22) – Request for a New Degree Program

The Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) program is a new doctoral degree program in physical therapy to be offered by the School of Allied Health and Communicative Disorders in the College of Health and Human Sciences, the President said. This program was vetted extensively in the March 5 Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee meeting. Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the request for a new Doctor of Physical Therapy (D.P.T.) program. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(23) – Requests for a New Emphasis and Specializations

This item contains requests for one emphasis and three specializations, Dr. Peters said. The first is a Pre-Physical Therapy Emphasis that is attached to the D.P.T. degree just approved. The Specialization in Biology Teaching within the M.S. in Biological Sciences is being offered to teachers who are teaching in the sciences, but may not be qualified in the sciences or the stem areas. The Specialization in Health Education, 6-12 and Middle School within the Master of Arts in Teaching will allow students to meet the goal of initial certification to teach health education in grades 6-12 and at the middle school level. The Successful completion of the proposed Specialization in Health Education, 6-12 and Middle School within the Master of Science in Teaching would provide classroom teachers with secondary certification (Type 09) the opportunity to obtain endorsements in health education in grades 6-12 and at the middle school level. Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the above requests for a new Emphasis and three new Specializations. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(24) – Requests for New Minors

The university would like to offer two new minors, President Peters said, one in Chinese Studies and one in Japanese Studies that would be administered by the Department of Foreign Languages and Literatures in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Chair Murer requested a motion to approve the request for the new Minor in Chinese Studies and the new Minor in Japanese Studies. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.(25) – Request to Delete a Minor

Agenda Item 8.a.(26) – Oral English Proficiency Annual Report 2007-2008

Consent Agenda Items.

Agenda Item 8.a.(27) – Federal Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) Board Regulations Amendment

Changes were made in the NIU Board *Regulations* to bring the university into compliance with the recent congressional authorization to provide benefits under FMLA for families of military personnel experiencing certain issues, the President said. A full discussion on this amendment was held in the Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee meeting held on March 5. The appropriate language was added to bring the university into compliance.

I asked that the Legislation and Audit Committee receive a report on the relationship between the existing Board *Regulations*, which I believe do not include explicit mention of domestic partners, and the existing university practices, which I believe do at some level, Trustee Butler said. My question relates more to where we are in relation to our practices, and I was satisfied that information can be produced.

Chair Murer asked for a motion to approve the Federal Family and Medical Leave Act Amendment to Board *Regulations*. Trustee Strauss so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

UNIVERSITY REPORTS FORWARDED FROM THE BOARD COMMITTEES

- Agenda Item 8.b.(1) – NIU Voluntary Supplemental Retirement Plan**
- Agenda Item 8.b.(2) – Quarterly Summary Report of Transactions in Excess of \$100,000**
- Agenda Item 8.b.(3) – Periodic Report on Investments**
- Agenda Item 8.b.(4) – Illinois Board of Higher Education Public Agenda Update**
- Agenda Item 8.b.(5) – Carnegie Foundation Classification on Engagement**
- Agenda Item 8.b.(6) – Update on External Reviews for Doctoral Departments**

Consent Agenda Items.

Agenda Item 8.b.(7) – Update on Degree-Completion Initiative for Community College Students

You all know how committed we are to good relations, careful articulation and cooperative programmatic ventures with the community colleges in our region, President Peters said. Within a 50-mile radius of DeKalb, we have some of the best community colleges in the country, and they produce many students. Around 40 percent of those students, traditionally, eventually make their way to NIU to complete their baccalaureate programs. The pressures on community colleges today are immense. Given the costs, more and more students are starting their careers at community colleges. Because of price point and because they are close, students can live at home and save money. Ultimately they want to get that four-year degree at an institution like NIU. Over the past ten years or so, we have tried to reach out to community colleges and to those individuals who are place-bound or whose credentialing might be different than the four-year student who comes to a university campus. A chart of the baccalaureate completion partnerships is included in your reports on ten of the community colleges with whom we have partnered. I am going to ask Anne Kaplan to speak to you briefly about a cooperative venture that NIU is involved in and also our faculty's consideration of ways of using the existing A.A.S. degrees to help students complete their baccalaureate.

The partnership the President is referring to is a project we have joined in the last couple of months called PASCAL, Dr. Kaplan said. PASCAL is an international network of about 80 government officials, researchers and academic administrators growing out of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Those of you who remember Senator Dirksen may remember the OECD was part of the Marshall Plan. The PASCAL network has embarked on a subproject called PURE (Pascal Universities Regional Engagement), which is a comparative investigation of the ways in which two- and four-year higher education institutions do or do not work together for the economic development of the regions they serve. The PASCAL Project has been administered over the past several years by the University of Glasgow and the Technical Institute in Melbourne. They did not have a North American partner until Northern Illinois University joined them. We have pulled together approximately 12 community colleges in the region with whom we work most closely to be part of this international project. A review team of four people from elsewhere in the world soon will spend three days with us talking about how these issues are working in northern Illinois. Some of our staff will be looking at other regions around the world. This is a two-year project, and in the end we all hope to have learned

something new and useful. It stands to put our efforts in this region in a very good light both nationally and internationally.

In cooperation with the two-year institutions in our region, we have a new degree proposal making its way through the curriculum, which has involved the development of a core of business courses that will be delivered by the College of Business, and a core of additional courses in the areas of public safety and computer science that has been done by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. Together, they will make a baccalaureate completion program that will cap the applied science degrees in those two fields. That curriculum proposal is at the university level, Dr. Kaplan concluded, and we hope it will be available soon. In reply to a query from Trustee Boey, Dr. Kaplan stated that Kishwaukee College did not appear on the list because NIU does so much with them in an informal way that we have never cemented it as a partnership, but we easily could. However, Kishwaukee Community College is part of the PASCAL project and, along with NIU, cosponsored the first meeting, which was held at Kishwaukee.

That first meeting included a partnership of about nine community college presidents and myself, President Peters said. It was not just NIU. A couple of things came out of that and one was how much can be done when presidents sit down together and talk about what could be done. The other thing was that these issues of needs are not contained to a community college district. They cut across community college districts and, therefore, one community college cannot solve it alone. That is why baccalaureate degree completion programs led by the public university in a region make much more sense than individual community colleges being given four-year degree authority, which will have huge financial and other consequences for a demand that has to be specific to a community college district rather than a region. That is what PASCAL is all about.

I participated in a review team a couple of weeks ago in London looking at the Thames estuary region on these same issues, Dr. Kaplan said. One of the things that was particularly encouraging to me was discovering that this really is an international problem, not just us. Everybody around the world is trying to figure out how to bring two-year and four-year education together in a meaningful way to provide the kind of workforce that everybody needs for the 21st Century.

The President and I have talked about this many times before, Trustee Boey commented. How can a two-year community college think in terms of a four-year degree when the funding alone is so different? The funding of two year colleges includes local taxes. It would be interesting to see how local residents react to a four-year funding program.

In reply to a question from Chair Murer, Dr. Kaplan stated that not only is Northern Illinois University the only American participant, but it is becoming the third manager of this whole project. One of the things we are being asked to do is to find other U.S. regions, other institutions around the country, that might like to participate, she said. I commend modesty and humility, the Chair said, that is huge. It is very remarkable that NIU is taking a world leadership right now as the representative of the United States. We should say it with a little bit more vim and vigor, and I hope our Public Relations and marketing departments put an emphasis on that.

Agenda Item 8.b.(8) – 96th General Assembly Report

Consent Agenda Item.

Agenda Item 8.b.(9) – Fiscal Year 2010 Budget Update

Agenda Item 8.b.(10) – H.R. 1 – American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (AARA)

President Peters asked Kathy Buettner, Vice President for External Affairs, to brief the Board on the Fiscal Year 2010 update, and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The FY10 Budget is an issue that we have spent quite a bit of time on at the administrative level since President Obama started advocating for the stimulus package, which passed about February 13, Ms. Buettner reported. Lori Clark from my office is working most closely with the academic side led by Jim Erman and David Stone of Sponsored Projects. The stimulus act is so mindbogglingly comprehensive in where it puts money, both at the federal and the state levels, that it is a monumental task to determine where the funds have been placed, to try to follow the federal agency regulations that are literally being created as we speak, and to oversee the distribution of these funds, all which should happen in the next 90 days. Sponsored Projects

plans to hold a forum the first week of April to help faculty with this. Right now, the university either has things already in the pipeline or is putting together projects that would qualify. Again, we have to compete for most of these funds, and we will be competing for the Department of Energy's portion of the stimulus. The broadband area will have several proposals. This is an area of excellence that is growing rapidly and our reputation is growing along with it. We will have several proposals before the National Institutes of Health as well as the National Center for Research Resources. Something will likely come out of Geology or Geography for the NASA area. The NSF has indicated in their early guidance that they are taking a look at several projects that were in the pipeline and unable to be funded for lack of resources. Jim Erman and David Stone have gone through our lists and alerted faculty currently operating on NSF grants to ask their program officers for additional funds for the grants they have, which is one of the acceptable uses of the funds. We are also encouraging and working with faculty who were highly rated but not funded over the last three years to get those projects funded, as well, during the stimulus funding. Every agency is handling the distribution of their funds in a different manner. We assume something will be available through National Institute of Standards and Technology and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. We will also have something coming out of Outreach and Engineering for the workforce training and Department of Labor areas. External Affairs, Dr. Williams' office and Dr. Alden are working closely with the President on the universitywide state fiscal stabilization funds, which is mostly the bricks and mortar and the operating funds President Peters talked about earlier in the meeting. Almost a trillion dollars is available, half of which was basically in tax relief, making around \$450 billion in the stimulus actually spendable. We met with the Transportation Department a couple of weeks ago and will be putting in requests for roadway construction on the West Campus roadways as well as in other campus areas. A massive effort has been underway here at the university, Ms. Buettner concluded, and I want the Board to know that this effort is being taken very seriously with everyone working together to maximize the amount of money that comes out of the stimulus for Northern Illinois University faculty, staff and students.

I would like to thank Kathy on behalf of the Board, Chair Murer said. Vice President Buettner's job is not about effort, it is about results, and she gets the results. I have personally observed her tireless efforts. She and I often e-mail from opposite ends of the country when she is in D.C. until quite late at night. So I want to make sure that everyone knows publicly of her tireless efforts, especially at this particular time, where monies are available and we are fighting tooth and nail for any funds that can be appropriately garnered by this university.

Agenda Item 8.b.(11) – 2008 Veteran Education Benefits Higher Education Opportunity Act – Provisions for Veterans Education
Agenda Item 8.b.(12) – NIUNet Update

Consent Agenda Items.

ITEMS DIRECTLY FROM THE PRESIDENT

Agenda Item 8.c.(1) – Grant and Contract Awards

Consent Agenda Item.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Chair Murer announced that the next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Thursday, June 25, 2009 on the main campus in DeKalb.

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: property matters as generally described under §2(c)(5) and (6) of the Open Meetings Act and Executive Session Minute Matters as generally described under §2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act. Trustee Vella so moved, seconded by Trustee Strauss. A roll call vote of the Trustees to recess to Executive Session was as follows:

Trustee Boey	Yes	Trustee Butler	Yes
Trustee Strauss	Yes	Trustee Vella	Yes
Student Trustee Smith	Yes	Chair Murer	Yes

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

The meeting is now closed and will be reopened immediately following Executive Session, Chair Murer announced. The Board will not be conducting any votes or business after the Executive Session. We will reconvene briefly in order to officially adjourn the meeting.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECONVENED

Chair Murer reconvened the public meeting of the Board of Trustees at approximately 2:24 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no Other Matters, Vice Chair Murer asked for a motion to adjourn. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Student Trustee Smith. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon M. Banks-Wilkins
Recording Secretary