



Special Meeting
of the
Board of Trustees

February 18, 2021

**Special Meeting of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

1:00 p.m. – Thursday – February 18, 2021

This Special BOT meeting is being conducted through video conferencing communications and is being conducted pursuant to Section 6 of Executive Order 2020-7 (Suspending OMA requirements of in person attendance by members of a public body).

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Verification of Quorum and Appropriate Notification of Public Meeting
3. Meeting Agenda Approval.....Action..... i
4. [Review and Approval of Minutes of December 10, 2020](#)Action.....1
5. Chair's Comments/Announcements
6. Public Comment*
7. President's Report No. 148
 - a. [Fiscal Year 2021 Quarantine and Isolation Costs](#).....Action.....10
 - b. [Fiscal Year 2022 Undergraduate Tuition Pricing Recommendation](#)Action.....11
 - c. [Fiscal Year 2022 Graduate and Law Tuition Pricing Recommendation](#)Action.....13
 - d. [Appointment of Vice President and General Counsel](#)Action.....19
8. Other Matters
9. Next Meeting Date
10. Closed Session
11. Adjournment

*Individuals wishing to make an appearance before the Board should consult the [Bylaws of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University](#), Article II, Section 4 – *Appearances before the Board*. Appearance request forms can be completed [online](#) in advance of the meeting. For more information contact Crystal Doyle ccoppel@niu.edu.

Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in the NIU Board of Trustees meetings should contact Crystal Doyle, ccoppel@niu.edu or (815) 753-1273, as soon as possible.

Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
Regular Meeting
December 10, 2020

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Board Chair Dennis Barsema virtually. This regular meeting was conducted through video conferencing communications pursuant to Section 6 of Executive Order 2020-7 (Suspending Open Meetings Act requirements of in person attendance by members of a public body). Recording Secretary Crystal Doyle conducted a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Present	Trustee John Butler: Present
Trustee Montel Gayles: Present	Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent
Trustee Bob Pritchard: Present	Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent
Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present	Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Present

All members of the Board of Trustees were present.

Also present: President Lisa Freeman; General Counsel Bryan Perry; Chief of Staff and Board Liaison Matt Streb; Executive Vice President and Provost Beth Ingram; Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer Sarah Chinniah; Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications Sol Jensen; Dean of the College of Law Cassandra Hill; Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Jerry Blazey; Vice President for Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Interim Chief Human Resources Officer Vernese Edghill-Walden; Associate Vice President for Information Technology Matt Parks; Vice President for University Advancement Catherine Squires; Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students Kelly Wesener-Michael; and University Advisory Council (UAC) Representatives Cathy Doederlein, Katy Jaekel, Natasha Johnson, Sarah Marsh, and Kendall Thu.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

General Counsel Perry indicated that appropriate notification of the meeting has been provided pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act. Mr. Perry also advised that a quorum was present.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda. Vice Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Gayles seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes	Trustee John Butler: Yes
Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes	Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent
Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes	Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent
Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes	Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 12, 2020

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve the minutes of November 12, 2020. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Trustee Athas seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Barsema welcomed the members of the University Advisory Council who were present and asked for their comments.

UAC Representative Thu congratulated President Freeman on her appointment to the Strategic Advisory Board to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Thu thanked staff, faculty, and students for commenting on the Strategic Plan stating that all the comments were heard and made a difference. Thu acknowledged and congratulated all the recipients of the Professional Excellence Awards for Faculty and Staff and all the wonderful work they have done and continue to do for NIU.

UAC Representative Jaekel congratulated the staff, faculty, and students for all their hard work this semester and wished them all well with finals this week. Jaekel commented how proud she is to be a part of a University that is so thoughtful around affordability for our students.

UAC Representative Doederlein also thanked the staff, faculty, and students for all their hard work during this challenging semester. Doederlein also wanted to share her appreciation of the transparency the University has shown recently with sharing very robust information regarding the fees and affordability that will be discussed at today's Board of Trustees meeting.

UAC Representative Johnson mentioned that she is very grateful for how all the staff, faculty and students have worked together to get through this semester. Johnson mentioned that the Operating Staff Council is working to start an Emergency Fund for Civil Service Employees.

Chair Barsema congratulated this year's recipients of the Professional Excellence Awards for Faculty and Staff and mentioned that he is very proud of everyone at NIU. Chair Barsema wanted to thank all the staff, faculty, and students for getting through a very difficult year.

Chair Barsema noted a press release that was put out by the Illinois Board of Higher Education about enrollment at public universities and colleges, as he was very pleased to see NIU highlighted in many areas regarding enrollment. Further, he congratulated the cross-country team for winning the MAC Championship for 2020 and congratulated the Educator Licensure Program for receiving very high marks from the Illinois State Board of Higher Education.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Barsema introduced the public comment portion of the meeting.

General Counsel Perry indicated that there was no request for public comment.

REPORTS OF THE BOARD COMMITTEES AND BOARD LIAISONS

Chair Barsema reminded everyone that the reports of the Board Committees and the Board Liaisons are information only.

Vice President for University Advancement Catherine Squires presented a report for the Northern Illinois University Foundation.

Chair Barsema and Trustee Gayles thanked Vice President Squires and her team for all their hard work and all that they do.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 147

Chair Barsema asked President Freeman to present the President's Report No. 147.

UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED BY THE BOARD COMMITTEES

Agenda Item 8.a.1. Sabbatical Postponements to FY22 Due to COVID-19

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.a.1. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.a.1. Trustee Pritchard so moved, and Vice Chair Wasowicz seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Abstain

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.2. FY22 Budget Request

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.a.2. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.a.2. Vice Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Gayles seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.a.3. FY22 IBHE Capital Budget Request

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.a.3. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.a.3. Vice Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Athas seconded.

Vice Chair Wasowicz asked if this is a request that NIU routinely needs to put forth to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. President Freeman responded that this is a request that NIU does put forth each year.

Chair Barsema asked President Freeman at a very high level to talk about the process that NIU goes through internally to prioritize this list. President Freeman responded there is a group that meets regularly that represents administration and finance, academic affairs, student affairs, research and innovation partnerships, and a few others, to discuss how the capital needs of the university align with our mission, vision and values. Each year the group evaluates what is happening on campus as they look at the existing lists, both our list and a list from the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Once recommendations are made, there is a larger discussion, and the list is shared broadly to make sure it meets all aspects of our mission.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

UNIVERSITY REPORTS FORWARDED BY THE BOARD COMMITTEES

President Freeman briefly revisited agenda item 8.b.1. President Freeman recognized and congratulated all the recipients who received the Professional Excellence Award for Faculty and Staff. Even though there have not been celebrations this year like in past years, it does not diminish their accomplishments.

Trustee Pritchard asked, once live events can be held again, will there be an event held for the faculty and staff who received the professional excellence award during the pandemic. President Freeman agreed that a recognition event will be held at a later date. NIU will be working to determine whether that is possible for many events that were unable to be held due to the pandemic.

President Freeman asked whether any Trustees wanted to revisit information items forwarded from the committees. Hearing none, she continued to the items directly from the President.

ITEMS DIRECTLY FROM THE PRESIDENT

Agenda Item 8.c.1. Appointment of Interim Dean of the College of Health and Human Sciences

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.1. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.1. Trustee Pritchard so moved, and Vice Chair Wasowicz seconded.

Chair Barsema thanked Dean Block for her service to NIU and the College of Health and Human Sciences.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.c.2. Authorization for Release of Reimbursable Funds for Participation in Mid-American Conference Football COVID-19 Testing Program

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.2. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.2. Vice Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Gayles seconded.

Board members shared their support of the agenda item and agreed it was a good idea to put forth.

Trustee Athas asked if with the loss of revenue from college football playoffs, was there any concern that the source of funding will be diminished. President Freeman responded that the loss of revenue should not jeopardize the ability to cover the testing for the athletes.

Chair Barsema asked if the plan to receive reimbursed funds in early 2021 is still on track, and if it is anticipated that the funds will be reimbursed in FY21. President Freeman confirmed that they are still on track to be reimbursed in FY21.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.c.3. COVID-19 Testing Costs for Remainder of FY21

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.3. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.3. Trustee Athas so moved, and Trustee Pritchard seconded.

Trustee Pritchard confirmed that the amount in the agenda item is through FY21 and up to \$1.2 million. President Freeman confirmed that this is a not to exceed the \$1.2 million amount, and it only extends through FY21 in hopes that with the vaccine being more widely available.

Trustee Gayles asked when test results can be expected. President Freeman responded that the SHIELD Illinois test turns results around within 24 hours.

Vice Chair Wasowicz asked whether the new test under development at NIU had the possibility of being offered at a lower cost and whether NIU plans to offer it. President Freeman responded that once that test is ready and available for us, NIU plans to incorporate it into our testing.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.c.4. Draft FY22 Undergraduate, Graduate, and Law Fee Pricing Recommendation

President Freeman pointed out that the word “draft” incorrectly appears in the item title and the associated recommendation. This is not a draft, but a final version of the agenda item.

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.4. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.4. Vice Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Pritchard seconded.

Trustee Pritchard questioned whether the move of some of the student fees to other expenses is anticipated in this fee structure. Further, he asked if services that may not have been provided recently were taken into consideration in the pricing formula. President Freeman responded that at this point NIU is working under the assumption that this coming fall, AY21 and FY22, we will more closely resemble the fall of AY19 rather than AY20. When creating the FY22 Fee Pricing Recommendation, the need to divert student fees to pay for extensive COVID mitigations was not anticipated.

Trustee Gayles asked whether students were engaged in the development of the new fee for cultural diversity. President Freeman responded that students have been made aware of the fees and have been a part of the process along the way. At this point, students have been very receptive to the programs that the fees will be supporting. Vice President Edghill-Walden and Associate Vice President Wesener-Michael both agreed that the programs supported are needed for students and it is very exciting that NIU will be able to offer these resources for our students.

Chair Barsema asked that based on the \$0.80 per credit hour, approximately how many dollars will go to this programing and what is expected to be done with those dollars. President Freeman responded that a variety of programs may be offered including high impact speakers, and cultural heritage celebrations which could be of interest to many of the students on campus. President Freeman added it is anticipated that with the \$0.80 per credit hour fee, about \$280,000 per year will be budgeted.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.c.5. FY22 Room and Board Fee Recommendation

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.5. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.5. Trustee Athas so moved, and Trustee Pritchard seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 8.c.6. Authorization to Retain Executive Search Firms for the Appointment of Specific Dean and Executive Level Positions

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.6. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 8.c.6. Trustee Gayles so moved, and Vice Chair Wasowicz seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

Break at 10:41 a.m./Resume at 10:51 a.m.

Agenda Item 8.c.7. College of Law Overview

President Freeman presented agenda item 8.c.7. Dean Cassandra Hill presented on the College of Law.

The trustees and President Freeman congratulated Dean Hill on a wonderful presentation. Many of the trustees had questions about the bar exam passage rate for the College of Law. Dean Hill commented that given the delays and switch of the format of the exam, the College of Law is very happy with an 81% passage rate from the exam in fall of 2020. The state passage rate was 84%. The students that did not pass the bar exam, are contacted, and provided support to help with taking and passing the exam when it is offered again.

The trustees wondered, generally, after graduation, where College of Law graduates tend to move to. Assistant Dean Greg Anderson responded that many do stay in the Chicago area or the greater Midwest, including Iowa and Wisconsin, as well as states out west.

Trustee Athas asked about the 3+3 programs and was wondering if the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology was a part of the accelerated law degree program. Dean Hill responded that there are 13 accelerated law degree programs and one of them is with the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology. Assistant Dean Kellie Martial added that each year there are about one to two students that come from the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology to participate in the accelerated law degree program.

Chair Barsema asked for a few examples on what type of jobs fall under the category “public interest” when you are referring to job placement. Assistant Dean Anderson responded that public defenders fall under the “public interest” category as well as graduates who go and work for a non-profit organization.

CHAIR’S REPORT NO. 96

Chair Barsema presented the Chair’s report.

Agenda Item 9.a. 2020 Annual Performance Review of President Freeman

Board Chair Barsema presented agenda item 9.a.

The trustees congratulated and thanked President Freeman for all she has done and for her dedication to NIU. The trustees acknowledged President Freeman and her leadership team and how they led NIU to be very successful despite having a tough year with the pandemic. The trustees all agreed that they are excited and look forward to working with President Freeman in the future.

President Freeman thanked the trustees for all their comments and appreciate all the confidence and gratitude. President Freeman also thanked the trustees for acknowledging and thanking the leadership team and everyone at NIU that makes the university successful.

Agenda Item 9.b. Closed Session Minutes Review and Release

Board Chair Barsema presented agenda item 9.b. for approval.

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to approve item 9.b. Vice Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Pritchard seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

OTHER MATTERS

No other matters were discussed.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Chair Barsema announced that the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees will be held March 18, 2021.

CLOSED SESSION

Chair Barsema stated that the Board needed to go into closed session and would not take up new business following the closed session. He asked for a motion to close the public meeting to conduct closed session to discuss the following subjects as authorized by the Open Meetings Act: personnel matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(1)(2)(3) and (21) of the open meetings act; collective bargaining matters as generally described under section 2(c)(2) of the open meetings act; litigation and risk management matters as generally described under sections 2(c)(11) and (12) of the open meetings act; and closed session minutes matters as generally described under section 2(c)(21) of the open meetings act.

Trustee Athas so moved, and Vice Chair Wasowicz seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Ms. Doyle to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

The meeting closed at 11:57 a.m.

At 2:15 p.m. the Board returned from closed session.

Chair Barsema asked Dr. Streb to conduct a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Present

Trustee John Butler: Present

Trustee Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Present

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Present

The motion was approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Barsema asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Trustee Athas so moved, and Trustee Pritchard seconded.

Chair Barsema asked Dr. Streb to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee John Butler: Yes

Trustee Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Bob Pritchard: Yes

Trustee Aidan Shields: Absent

Vice Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Board Chair Dennis Barsema: Yes

The motion was approved.

The meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Crystal Doyle
Recording Secretary

In compliance with Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1, et seq, a verbatim record of all Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees meetings is maintained by the Board Recording Secretary and is available for review upon request. The minutes contained herein represent a true and accurate summary of the Board proceedings.

FISCAL YEAR 2021 QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION COSTS

Summary: To ensure the health and safety of students, faculty, and staff, the University requests authorization to purchase hotel rooms for quarantine and isolation purposes for FY21.

Background: In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the University has placed residence hall students who have tested positive for COVID-19, been exposed to COVID-19, or have had symptoms of COVID-19 in quarantine or isolation at local hotels. During the fall 2020 semester, the university spent approximately \$160,000 on the quarantine and isolation of students. The average cost per student stay during the fall semester was \$1,152. It is anticipated that these expenses will continue during the spring 2020 semester.

Funding: Institutional – funds

Hotel room purchases not to exceed: \$350,000

Recommendation: The Finance, Audit, Compliance, Facilities and Operations Committee recommends Board of Trustees approval for the request for Fiscal Year 2021 Quarantine and Isolation Costs.

FISCAL YEAR 2022 UNDERGRADUATE TUITION PRICING RECOMMENDATION

Summary: The following item presents the pricing recommendation that addresses Northern Illinois University's tuition rates for FY22. These recommendations were developed with the goals of addressing affordability concerns and maintaining fiscal responsibility by keeping the total cost of attendance for full-time students as low as possible. The recommendations request a 1.5% increase in base tuition, and no change in undergraduate differential tuition rates. Prior to this recommendation for FY22, NIU has held the base tuition flat from FY16 to FY21, five years in a row.

Background: NIU has developed a refined set of tuition rates to reflect the multiple student populations. To bring clarity to this array of rates, first described is the rate structure and then the rates for FY21 and the rates proposed for FY22.

NIU sets tuition on a per-credit-hour basis. However, undergraduate students who enroll in 12 or more semester credit hours are charged at a flat tuition rate. Rates are set subject to the following considerations:

- Illinois "Truth-in-Tuition" law for undergraduates
- Differential tuition for select programs
- Residency considerations (e.g., out-of-state and international students)

Truth in Tuition

Tuition rates for Illinois residents seeking an undergraduate degree are subject to Illinois' Truth-in-Tuition law. Under the law, entering degree-seeking undergraduate students are guaranteed the same base tuition rate for four continuous years. NIU policy adds one additional semester to this four-year guarantee. After nine continuous semesters of enrollment, the guaranteed undergraduate tuition rate adjusts to the tuition rate paid by students who entered the University one fiscal year after the date of original entry for an additional three semesters.

In the event of a decrease in undergraduate tuition, we anticipate that all continuing students will be charged the new rate if that rate is more favorable to them than the rate guaranteed to them by Truth-in-Tuition.

Hence, when NIU sets undergraduate tuition rates for FY22, those rates apply only to:

- incoming or re-entering students;
- non-degree-seeking students, including visiting students and post-baccalaureate students; and
- students whose continuous enrollment has exceeded the period outlined above.

Out-of-State and International Rates

NIU currently sets tuition for domestic, out-of-state students at the same rate as Illinois residents. The rate for international students is set at twice the in-state rate. The University may enter into agreements with international partners for cohort or pipeline programs. For such programs, the University may agree to lower tuition to no less than 1.5 times the FY22 in-state rate.

Tuition Recommendation

The recommended 1.5% base tuition increase represents a \$5.23 increase in the per credit hour rate and a \$70.99 increase in the full-time rate. This modest increase is necessitated by NIU's imperative to support the academic success of its students. Experience over the past year has demonstrated a need to provide additional services to students, including enhanced academic

advising and financial counseling, to enable them to be retained and graduate. The sum represented by this increase will be directed to an expansion of those services.

FY21 Tuition

Base Domestic Tuition	Per Credit Hour Rate	Capped Tuition at
	1 – 11	12 or more Credit Hours
Undergraduate Tuition	\$348.84	\$4,732.80

FY22 Tuition Recommendations

Base Domestic Tuition	Per Credit Hour Rate	Capped Tuition at
	1 – 11	12 or more Credit Hours
Undergraduate Tuition	\$354.07	\$4,803.79

Differential Tuition

For select programs, NIU charges a differential tuition. These differentials reflect the added value and added costs associated with those programs. The differential rate is added to the base and becomes the tuition rate charged for that program, subject to the policies previously listed. Differential rates are stated on a per-credit-hour basis. The maximum differential rate is capped at 12 times the per-credit-hour rate. Differential rates are re-validated annually.

Undergraduate Differential Tuition per Credit Hour Rates

Program	FY21 Differential	FY22 Differential
College of Engineering & Engineering Technology		
All programs	\$50	\$50
College of Health & Human Sciences		
Nursing (pre-licensure, not including pre-majors nor RN to BSN)	\$15	\$15
College of Liberal Arts & Sciences		
Computer Science (including pre-majors)	\$40	\$40

The Rationale for Differential Tuition

Differential tuition rates are reviewed annually to ensure that the rates are competitive and are not adversely impacting enrollments. This year, College of Engineering & Engineering Technology, Nursing, and Computer Science are maintaining their existing rates.

Recommendation: The Finance, Audit, Compliance, Facilities and Operations Committee recommends Board of Trustees approval for the request for Fiscal Year 2022 Undergraduate Tuition Pricing Recommendation.

FISCAL YEAR 2022 GRADUATE AND LAW TUITION PRICING RECOMMENDATION

Summary: The following item presents the pricing recommendation that addresses Northern Illinois University's tuition rates for FY22. These recommendations were developed with the goals of addressing affordability concerns and maintaining fiscal responsibility by keeping the total cost of attendance for full-time students as low as possible. The recommendations request a 1.5% increase in base tuition (\$5.36 per credit hour) for graduate students and a 0.79% increase in the base tuition (\$5.36 per credit hour) for law students, while making downward adjustments to three differential tuition rates. Prior to this recommendation for FY22, NIU has held the base tuition flat from FY16 to FY21, five years in a row.

Background: NIU has developed a refined set of tuition rates to reflect the multiple student populations. To bring clarity to this array of rates, first described is the rate structure and then the rates for FY21 and the rates proposed for FY22.

NIU sets tuition on a per-credit-hour basis. For the Juris Doctorate program and most graduate programs, students who enroll in 12 or more semester credit hours are billed at a maximum rate that is 12 times the per-credit-hour rate. The FY22 rates indicated below apply to both new and returning graduate students and law students. Rates are set separately for graduate students and law students, subject to the following considerations:

- Bundling tuition and fees for graduate and law students
- Differential tuition for select programs
- Residency considerations (e.g., out-of-state and international students)

Graduate and Law Charge

The University presents graduate students with a single charge that includes an instructional charge and an institutional charge. The two components are analogous to undergraduate tuition and fees. These are presented as a single charge to assist graduate and law students with employer reimbursement.

Out-of-State and International Rates

NIU currently sets tuition for domestic, out-of-state students at the same rate as Illinois residents. The rate for international students is set at twice the in-state rate, subject to the following considerations:

- Within the integrated charge for graduate students, the instructional charge is doubled for international students, but the institutional charge is not.
- International students appointed as graduate assistants or fellows are billed at the domestic law or graduate student rate.
- The University may enter into agreements with international partners for cohort or pipeline programs. For such programs, the University may agree to lower tuition (for undergraduates) or the instructional component (for graduate students) to no less than 1.5 times the FY22 in-state rate.

Differential Tuition

For select programs, NIU charges a differential tuition. These differentials reflect the added value and added costs associated with those programs. The differential rate is added to the base and becomes the tuition rate charged for that program, subject to the policies previously listed.

Differential rates are stated on a per-credit-hour basis. The maximum differential rate is capped at 12 times the per-credit-hour rate. Differential rates are re-validated annually.

Tuition Recommendation

The recommended 1.5% base tuition increase for graduate students represents a \$5.36 increase in the per credit hour rate and a \$64.32 increase in the 12 or more-credit hour rate. The recommended 0.79% base tuition increase for law students represents a \$5.36 increase in the per credit hour rate and a \$64.32 increase in the maximum rate. This modest increase is necessitated by NIU's imperative to support the academic success of its students. Experience over the past year has demonstrated a need to provide additional services to students, including enhanced academic advising and financial counseling, to enable them to be retained and graduate. The sum represented by this increase will be directed to an expansion of those services.

FY22 Tuition Recommendations

Graduate Domestic Tuition per Semester	FY21		FY22	
	Per Credit Hour 1-11	12 or more Credit Hours	Per Credit Hour 1-11	12 or more Credit Hours
Instructional Charge (Base)	\$357.00	\$4,284.00	\$362.36	\$4,348.32
Institutional Charge	\$135.06	\$1,620.72	\$134.36	\$1,612.32
Total	\$492.06	\$5,904.72	\$496.72	\$5,960.64

College of Law Domestic Tuition per Semester	FY21		FY22	
	Per Credit Hour 1-11	12 or more Credit Hours	Per Credit Hour 1-11	12 or more Credit Hours
Instructional Charge (Base)	\$677.29	\$8,127.48	\$682.65	\$8,191.80
Institutional Charge	\$234.46	\$2,813.52	\$233.76	\$2,805.12
Total	\$911.75	\$10,941.00	\$916.41	\$10,996.92

Institutional Charge Components

The graduate and law institutional charges are the sum of component fees. The fees, approved by the Board of Trustees during the meeting on December 12, 2020, are very similar in structure to undergraduate fees, and many of the assessed values are identical to the rates for undergraduates. The components of the Institutional Charge are:

Student Support Services Fee is comprised of the following charges:

Student Activities and Services Charge supports the student government, student programming, campus wide programming initiatives (Welcome Days, Homecoming, Open Houses, etc.) and the activities of student recognized organizations. These charges are also allocated to departments to maintain and improve student services.

Grad – Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$2.60)

Law – Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$3.65)

Holmes Student Center Charge supports the operational costs of Holmes Student Center and student programs provided in the facility.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$11.80)

Health and Wellness Charge allows students to use Health Services with little to no direct cost to students and helps fund programming that promotes wellness and healthy lifestyle choices and related state and federally mandated education and awareness campaigns.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$7.90)

Grants-in-Aid Charge supports an institutional merit-based scholarship program, as well as supporting a needs-based Financial Aid fund for students, by which state institutions are eligible for matching funds from the State of Illinois per statutory requirements.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$1.40)

Campus Recreation Charge is used for financing, constructing, maintaining, and improving new and existing recreational sports facilities and programs, including the sport club operations.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$8.00)

Northern Star is the student-run newspaper and provides free access to the campus community.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$0.27)

Arts and Culture Fee enhances the University's arts culture and provides students with a means to enjoy the School of Music and School of Theater and Dance productions without direct cost to the student.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$0.80)

Cultural Diversity Programming Fee will be used to develop and support cultural programming resources for students by NIU's diversity resource centers. Programming will address the intersecting identities of students, including race, ethnicity, gender identity, class, nationality, sexual orientation, and others and may include high-impact speakers, films, lecture series, exhibits, Heritage Month Celebrations, and more.

New fee of \$0.80

University Advancement Fee is comprised of the following charges:

Capital Improvement Charge provides funding for educational and support facilities for students, faculty, and staff in a manner that maximizes the effectiveness of the capital investments, maximizes the use of existing facilities, and promotes orderly, planned campus development. Support for debt service of previously approved projects including west campus improvements, and the living and learning initiatives are also included in this charge.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$14.90)

Transportation Access Charge funds the Huskie Bus System, the Huskie Line, parking lot lights, security and maintenance, and the creation of additional parking and transportation services. This charge also supports the University's Huskie Line bus and Freedom Mobile paratransit services. All fee-paying students are eligible to utilize Huskie buses without being charged fares. A decrease in costs allows for a decrease in the fee.

Decrease of \$1.50 from FY21 (\$8.50) to FY22 (\$7.00)

Athletic Fee is comprised of the following charges:

Athletic Program Charge supplements the University's diverse athletic programs and provides students with a means to enjoy the athletic events without direct cost to the student.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$22.29)

Convocation Center Charge helps fund the operational costs of the Convocation Center and supports student events held in the athletic space utilized by students.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$8.20)

Huskie Stadium Charge helps fund the operational costs of Huskie Stadium and provides support for student activities and programs that are held in the stadium.

Fee remains constant at FY21 level (\$2.40)

Graduate Program Support contains the following charges:

Graduate Colloquium Charge supports the Graduate Colloquium program, which brings scholars, artists, professionals, and public figures to lecture or perform at NIU.

Remains flat at \$2.00

Career/Professional Development Charge supports career/professional development workshops, seminars, and coursework for graduate students.

Remains flat at \$4.00

Graduate Outreach Charge is assessed to support infrastructure provided by the Division of Outreach, Engagement & Regional Development that is needed to deliver regional courses (e.g., operations of NIU regional centers, rental of non-NIU facilities).

Remains flat at \$18.00

Law Program Support contains the following charges:

Law Student Bar Charge supports the Student Bar Association and student organization activities at the College of Law.

Remains flat at \$2.35

Law Excellence Charge provides enhancements to College of Law course offerings and experiential learning opportunities such as clinics, mock trials, and moot court.

Remains flat at \$120.00

Academic Program Enhancement and Instructional Surcharge is assessed in order to meet the ever-emerging demands for cutting edge academic programs and services for NIU students. Critical areas for funding include technology upgrades as well as support for identified academic strategic planning initiatives designed to strengthen, direct, and further improve academic programs, research, and the academic experience of students.

Remains flat at \$22.00 per credit hour

Graduate Differential Tuition

The per credit hour rates for FY21 and the proposed rates for FY22 are detailed below:

Program	FY21 Differential	FY22 Differential	Increase / (Decrease)
College of Business			
Graduate Certificate in Accountancy	\$325	\$325	\$0
Master of Accountancy	\$325	\$325	\$0
Master of Accounting Science	\$325	\$325	\$0
Master of Science in Taxation	\$325	\$325	\$0
Graduate Study in Enterprise Management Using SAP Analytics	\$200	\$200	\$0
Graduate Certificate in Data Analytics	\$200	\$200	\$0
Master of Science in Finance	\$400	\$400	\$0
Evening MBA	\$400	\$400	\$0
Global MBA	\$400	\$400	\$0
Graduate Certificate in Management Information Systems	\$200	\$200	\$0
Master of Management Information Systems	\$200	\$200	\$0
Master of Science in Digital Marketing	\$400	\$400	\$0
Foundations of Accountancy Certificate	\$325	\$325	\$0
Certificate of Graduate Study – Advanced Study in Accounting Analytics	\$325	\$325	\$0
Certificate of Graduate Study – Advanced Study in Accountancy	\$325	\$325	\$0
Master of Science in Data Analytics	\$400	\$400	\$0
Graduate Study in Data Science for Business	\$400	\$400	\$0
College of Education			
EdD in Curriculum & Instruction	\$65	\$65	\$0
EdD in Education Administration	\$65	\$65	\$0
PhD/EdD in Instructional Technology (face-to-face)	\$40	\$40	\$0
PhD/EdD in Instructional Technology (online)	\$40	\$40	\$0
MSED in Instructional Technology (face-to-face)	\$20	\$20	\$0
MSED in Instructional Technology (online)	\$25	\$25	\$0
Graduate Certificate in Trauma-Informed Counseling (online)	\$35	\$0	(\$35)
EdD in Community College Leadership	\$70	\$70	\$0
MSED in Kinesiology & Physical Education	\$35	\$35	\$0
Master of Science in Athletic Training ¹	\$35	\$35	\$0
Master of Science in Sports Management	\$35	\$35	\$0
Executive EdD in Adult & Higher Ed Weekend Cohort (online)	\$70	\$70	\$0
College of Engineering & Engineering Technology			
All programs	\$50	\$50	\$0
College of Health & Human Sciences			
Master of Speech-Language Pathology	\$160	\$160	\$0
Doctor of Audiology	\$185	\$185	\$0
Doctor of Physical Therapy	\$225	\$225	\$0
Doctor of Health Sciences (online)	\$553	\$553	\$0
Graduate Certificate in Eating Disorders (online)	\$180	\$180	\$0
Doctor of Nursing Practice	\$240	\$240	\$0
Master of Public Health (online)	\$200	\$200	\$0
Master of Family Nurse Practitioner (online)	\$240	\$240	\$0
Nursing Education (online)	\$180	\$0	(\$180)
Nursing Post-Masters Certificate (online)	\$180	\$0	(\$180)

¹ New program in Summer 2020.

College of Liberal Arts & Sciences			
Master of Science in Computer Science	\$60	\$60	\$0
Master of Public Administration (online)	\$90	\$90	\$0
Graduate Certificate in Public Management	\$90	\$90	\$0

Rationale for Differential Tuition Rate Changes

Differential tuition rates are reviewed annually to ensure that the rates are competitive and are not adversely affecting enrollments. This year, most programs are maintaining their existing rates. A few adjustments are being made, and a new program is introducing a differential:

- In the *College of Health and Human Sciences*, the differential for the online Nursing Education and online Nursing Post-Masters Certificate are being reduced from \$180 per credit hour to \$0 per credit hour. Over the past year, enrollment has declined and the market does not seem to support a differential charge for these two programs.
- In the *College of Education*, the differential for the online Graduate Certificate in Trauma-Informed Counseling is being reduced from \$35 to \$0. Upon review of the \$35/CH differential tuition for the Graduate Certificate in Trauma-Informed Counseling (online), it has been determined assessing a course fee for a limited number of targeted Certificate courses in lieu of assessing differential tuition for all Certificate courses will provide a better experience for our Certificate program students.

Recommendation: The Finance, Audit, Compliance, Facilities and Operations Committee recommends Board of Trustees approval for the request for Fiscal Year 2022 Graduate and Law Tuition Pricing Recommendation.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT AND GENERAL COUNSEL

Summary: Following a national search conducted by Northern Illinois University (NIU), Bryan Perry joined Northern Illinois University (NIU) as its General Counsel, starting on July 1, 2019. Since that time, Mr. Perry has admirably and dutifully led and managed the University's Office of General Counsel in its provision of quality legal services to the Board, the President, and the University's administration, faculty, and staff on the legal affairs of the University.

In addition, though, Mr. Perry has been asked to take on supervision of administrative functions of the University that, while not exclusively legal in nature, align with the functions performed by the Office of General Counsel. Specifically, Mr. Perry has been given supervision responsibility over Employee and Labor Relations for Civil Service/Non-Academic Unions and the University's Freedom of Information Office. In recognition of this permanent increase in management and strategy development responsibility, President Freeman is recommending Board of Trustees approval of the request to appoint Mr. Perry to the position of Vice President and General Counsel. This position does come with a title change for Mr. Perry, but would not come with any change in salary, term of employment, or other benefits beyond what Mr. Perry is already provided under his prior appointment as General Counsel.

Background: Section II of the Board *Regulations* provides, in relevant part:

2. Authority to Employ

a. Position Authorization

The Board of Trustees is designated by statute as the employing authority for all faculty and administrative employees of Northern Illinois University.

The president will seek Board concurrence for new positions at the vice presidential or dean's levels. Faculty and administrative positions shall be authorized by the president or designee.

b. Appointments

(1) Major Administrative Appointments

Board approval is required for the appointment of personnel to vice president or dean positions, including acting or interim appointments to such positions, and shall be requested by the president. The Board shall be advised in a timely manner of vacancies in such positions and the procedures and timetables for filling them.

Since this action is the establishment of this vice president position, as well as the appointment of Mr. Perry to this position, Board approval is being sought pursuant to these *Regulations*.

Recommendation: The University recommends that the Board of Trustees approve the request to appoint Mr. Bryan Perry as Vice President and General Counsel, effective immediately.