



Board of Trustees

Academic Affairs, Student Affairs,
and Personnel Committee

November 9, 2023

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee
10:15 a.m. – Thursday – November 9, 2023
Board of Trustees Room
Altgeld Hall 315

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 August 24, 2023](#) *Action*.....1
5. Chair's Comments/Announcements
6. Public Comment*
7. University Reports
 - a. [Oversight of Academic Programs](#)..... *Information*.....3
 - b. [BASICS Presentation](#).....*Information*.....6
8. Other Matters
9. Next Meeting Date
10. 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 or will be available in the Board Room the day of the meeting. For more information contact Crystal Doyle, ccoppel@niu.edu, Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Altgeld Hall 300, DeKalb, IL 60115, 815-753-1273.

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
Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel
Committee Meeting
August 24, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:29 a.m. by Committee Chair Montel Gayles. This committee meeting was conducted in person.

Recording Secretary Mia Hannon conducted a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Absent

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Present

Trustee Tim Moore: Present

Committee Vice Chair John Butler: Present

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Present

Committee Chair Montel Gayles: Present

Also present were President Lisa Freeman; Vice President and General Counsel and Board Parliamentarian Bryan Perry; Interim Executive Vice President and Provost Laurie Elish-Piper; Board Liaison and Chief Strategy Officer Matt Streb; Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer George Middlemist; Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Yvonne Harris; Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications Sol Jensen; Vice President for Student Affairs Clint-Michael Reneau; Vice President for Outreach, Engagement and Regional Development and Chief Engagement Officer Rena Cotsones; Chief Human Resources Officer John Acardo; Associate Vice President and Chief Information Officer Matt Parks; University Advisory Council Representative Katy Jaekel.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

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

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2023

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve the minutes of May 11, 2023. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Moore seconded. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Chair Gayles welcomed those in attendance and provided a brief overview of the agenda. He also recognized the members of the University Advisory Committee.

UAC Representative Katy Jaekel echoed how wonderful it was to see the true huskie spirit demonstrated by the volunteers at move in and are grateful to faculty, staff and students who participated in Week of Welcome illustrating that NIU is an inclusive and welcoming place.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Committee Chair Gayles inquired to General Counsel Perry if any members of the public registered a request to address the board in accordance with state law and Board of Trustees bylaws. General Counsel Perry advised that no requests for public comment had been received.

UNIVERSITY REPORTS

Committee Chair Gayles asked Interim Executive Vice President and Provost Laurie Elish-Piper to present the following informational items.

Agenda Item 7.a. Dean of the College of Business Search Update

Interim EVPP Elish-Piper presented Agenda Item 7.a. Dean of the College of Business Search Update.

Agenda Item 7.b. Annual Listing of Changes Fiscal Year 2023

Interim EVPP Elish-Piper presented Agenda Item 7.b. Annual Listing of Changes Fiscal Year 2023.

Agenda Item 7.c. 2022-2023 Faculty Emeritus Recognition

Interim EVPP Elish-Piper presented Agenda Item 7.c. 2022-2023 Faculty Emeritus Recognition.

Agenda Item 7.d. Innovation and Impact: The Work of Student Affairs

Vice President for Student Affairs Clint-Michael Reneu presented Agenda Item 7.d. Innovation and Impact: The Work of Student Affairs.

Trustee Herrero arrived at 8:47 a.m.

OTHER MATTERS

Committee Chair Gayles asked if there were other matters. There were none.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee will be Thursday, November 9, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to adjourn. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded.

Committee Chair Gayles asked Ms. Hannon to conduct a roll call vote.

Trustee Rita Athas: Absent

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Trustee Tim Moore: Yes

Committee Vice Chair John Butler: Yes

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Committee Chair Montel Gayles: Yes

The motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mia Hannon

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.

OVERSIGHT OF ACADEMIC PROGRAMS

Northern Illinois University engages in numerous processes to monitor the quality of its academic degree programs and to inform planning and decision making about the programs. Processes internal to the university include program review and the assessment of learning outcomes, which are required of all programs by our regional accreditor the Higher Learning Commission and by the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Processes that include external constituencies or external indicators include external reviews of dissertations, accreditation, licensure and certification examinations, and advisory committees.

Internal Processes

Program Review: NIU has a long-standing history of conducting thorough reviews of its academic programs and research and public service centers through the program review process. The review schedule for programs that do not have disciplinary and/or college accreditation is eight years; programs with disciplinary and/or college accreditation have reviews scheduled to align with accreditation cycles (cycle lengths vary between five and ten years). Departments scheduled for review prepare in-depth self-study documents, which may incorporate data collected by the program, data provided by other university offices, and information from external indicators or constituencies. Program review documents are reviewed at the college level (or division level when the program or center is not housed within a college). Results from the reviews are reported annually to the Executive Vice President and Provost (EVPP) and provided by the EVPP to the Academic Planning Council and the Board of Trustees as an information item. For programs with external disciplinary accreditation, this external accreditation may be substituted for the program review process along with the completion of the findings reported in the standardized IBHE format and submitted to the EVPP.

The programs in the College of Education scheduled for review in 2022-2023 were the:

- B.S.Ed. in Physical Education
- M.S. in Kinesiology and Physical Education
- Ph.D. in Kinesiology and Physical Education
- B.S. in Sport Management
- M.S. in Sport Management

The programs in the College of Health and Human Sciences scheduled for review in 2022-2023 were the:

- B.S. in Medical Laboratory Sciences
- B.S. in Nursing
- M.S. in Nursing
- Doctor of Nursing Practice (D.N.P.)
- B.S. in Public Health
- M.S. in Applied Human Development and Family Sciences
- M.S. in Health Sciences
- Ph.D. in Health Sciences

The programs in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences scheduled for review in 2022-2023 were the:

- Bachelor of General Studies
- B.S. in Statistics
- B.S. in Actuarial Science

B.A./B.S. in Women, Gender and Sexuality Studies
Specialist in School Psychology

The centers scheduled for review in 2022-2023 were the:

Center for Interdisciplinary Study of Language and Literacy
The Couple and Family Therapy Clinic at NIU
Northern Illinois Center for Accelerator and Detector Development
Psychological Services Center

The information submitted to the IBHE to meet its reporting requirement for 2022-2023 has also been forwarded to the Board of Trustees under separate cover.

Assessment of Learning Outcomes: All NIU degree programs engage in the systematic assessment of student learning. The overall assessment process is designed to be useful for program review. University Assessment Panel reviews all assessment plans which outline the methods, processes, and time frames for the implementation of the plans. Each year, every program prepares an Annual Assessment Update that provides a snapshot of the last 12 months assessment-related activities, the evidence gathered from the activities, and the actions taken on the evidence. The Annual Assessment Update process was put on hold during the pandemic period (i.e., 2020 and 2021) but resumed in 2022. The annual assessment updates are submitted to Accreditation, Assessment, and Evaluation Office. Accreditation, Assessment, and Evaluation staff review the updates using standardized rubrics, provide feedback to the individual programs, and prepare a consolidated report on the extent to which the criteria for the updates were met. Halfway through the program review cycle, programs submit a Mid-cycle Status Report on the assessment plan (including its use and evolution over this period) for review by the University Assessment Panel. The panel uses a standardized rubric and reporting form to provide feedback to the programs.

External Processes

Accreditation: Accreditation is a “process of external quality review created and used by higher education to scrutinize colleges, universities and programs for quality assurance and quality improvement” (Overview of U.S. Accreditation, CHEA, 2009), and more than 20 specialized agencies accredit NIU programs across seven academic colleges. Accreditation is earned through a comprehensive process that involves self-study, peer review, site visits and action from the accrediting agency’s commission affirming that threshold standards have been met. These programs were reviewed by disciplinary accreditors in 2022-2023. Of the nine degree programs and one certificate that had accreditation reviews in 2022-2023, eight received accreditation for one year to six years, and one program, the B.S. in Biomedical Engineering, has a scheduled revisit to finalize the accreditation review process.

College of Health and Human Sciences/Council on Education for Public Health (CEPH)

M.S. in Public Health

College of Engineering and Engineering Technology/ABET

B.S. in Electrical Engineering
B.S. in Industrial and Systems Engineering
B.S. in Mechanical Technology
B.S. in Mechatronics Engineering
B.S. in Biomedical Engineering

College of Visual and Performing Arts/National Association of Schools of Music (NASM)

B.A. in Music
Bachelor of Music
Performer's Certificate (Graduate)

Master of Music

Licensure and Certification Examinations: Graduates from NIU's accountancy, clinical and school psychology, counseling, law, teacher education and health sciences programs take licensure or certification examinations that permit them to practice in their discipline. The results of these examinations give programs the means to benchmark NIU graduates' performance against state and/or national performance rates.

Advisory Committees: Many programs and departments engage in periodic discussion with alumni, employers and/or professionals in the discipline who participated on advisory committees. These individuals provide feedback related to the performance and competencies of the program's alumni, curricular content and new trends in the discipline, which is used in numerous ways to ensure that programs are preparing students with contemporary knowledge and skills.

BASICS PRESENTATION

Christine Mooney, Associate Professor, Department of Management and Melissa Lenczewski, Professor, Department of Earth, Atmosphere and Environment will provide an overview on BASICS: Business and Science Integrated Curriculum for Sustainability.