

Minutes of the
Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University
Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel
Committee Meeting
May 11, 2023

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Committee Chair Montel Gayles. This committee meeting was conducted in person and through videoconferencing.

Recording Secretary Mia Hannon conducted a roll call.

Trustee Rita Athas: Present

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; Board Liaison and Chief of Staff Matt Streb; Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer George Middlemist; Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships Jerry Blazey; Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications Sol Jensen; Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Vernese Edghill-Walden; Vice President for Student Affairs Clint-Michael Reneau; Dean, College of Engineering and Engineering Technology David Grewell; Vice President, Research and Innovation Partnerships Yvonne Harris; Acting Dean, College of Education William Pitney; Chair, Department of Management and Quantitative Methods at Illinois State University Tina Williams; Director, Asian American Resource Center Michelle Bringas; Associate Director, Asian American Resource Center Christina Carpio; NIU Student Mitraya Williams; NIU Student Romeo Bell; ISU Student Jaelyn Logan; University Advisory Council Representatives Katy Jaekel and Holly Nicholson.

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.

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to allow Trustee Athas to participate in the meeting remotely due to illness. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 16, 2023

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve the minutes of February 16, 2023. Trustee Barsema 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.

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 Stephen Lush registered a request to address the board but was not in attendance.

UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee Chair Gayles asked President Lisa Freeman to present the following university recommendations.

Agenda Item 7.a. Appointment of Dean of the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.a. Trustee Barsema so moved, and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.b. Appointment of Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.b. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.c. Appointment of Acting Dean of the College of Education

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.c. Trustee Butler so moved, and Trustee Moore seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.d. Appointment of Interim Dean of the College of Business

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.d. Trustee Barsema so moved, and Board Chair Wasowicz seconded. The motion was approved.

Trustee Herrero arrived at 9:00 a.m.

Agenda Item 7.e. Recommendations for Faculty Tenure and/or Promotion Effective 2023-2024

Committee Chair Gayles asked for motion to approve item 7.e. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Butler seconded.

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

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Trustee Tim Moore: Abstain

Committee Vice Chair John Butler: Yes

Board Chair Eric Wasowicz: Yes

Committee Chair Montel Gayles: Yes

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.f. Request for the Deletion of the Bachelor of Arts in Geography

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.f. Trustee Barsema so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.g. Request for the Deletion of the Bachelor of Science in Geography

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.g. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Butler seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.h. Request for the Deletion of the Master of Science in Geography

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.h. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.i. Request for the Deletion of the Doctor of Philosophy in Geography

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.i. Trustee Butler so moved, and Board Chair Wasowicz seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.j. Request to Change Name of Bachelor of Science in Geology and Environmental Geosciences

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.j. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Barsema seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.k. Request to Change Name of Master of Science in Geology

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.k. Trustee Butler so moved, and Board Chair Wasowicz seconded. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.l. Request to Change Name of Doctor of Philosophy in Geology

Committee Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.l. Board Chair Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Herrero seconded. The motion was approved.

UNIVERSITY REPORTS

President Lisa Freeman presented the following informational item.

Agenda Item 8.a. Transformative Experiences Promoting Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

President Freeman introduced item 8.a. Presenters were Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Vernese Edghill-Walden; Chair, Department of Management and Quantitative Methods at Illinois State University Tina Williams; Director, Asian American Resource Center Michelle Bringas; Associate Director, Asian American Resource Center Christina Carpio; NIU Student Mitraya Williams; NIU Student Romeo Bell; and ISU Student Jaelyn Logan.

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, August 24, 2023.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

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 10:01 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.