



Board of Trustees

Academic Affairs, Student Affairs,
and Personnel Committee

May 9, 2024

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee
8:30 a.m. – Thursday – May 9, 2024
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 February 15, 2024](#)Action.....1
5. Chair's Comments/Announcements
6. Public Comment*
7. University Recommendations
 - a. [Recommendations for Faculty Tenure and/or Promotion Effective 2024-2025](#)Action.....4
 - b. [Appointment of Dean of the College of Business](#).....Action.....6
 - c. [Appointment of Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships](#) ...Action.....7
 - d. [Reappointment of Acting Dean of the College of Education](#).....Action.....8
8. University Reports
 - a. [University Goal Enrollment Updates](#).....Information.....9
 - b. [Supporting AI Use for Teaching and Learning](#).....Information..10
9. Other Matters
10. Next Meeting Date
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 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
February 15, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by Board Chair Montel Gayles. This committee meeting was conducted in person.

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

Trustee Leland Strom: Present

Board Chair Montel Gayles: Present

Trustee Eric Wasowicz: 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 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Carol Sumner; 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; Professor Natalie Churyk, Department of Accountancy; Chair and Professor Jeanne Isabel, School of Health Studies; University Advisory Council Representatives Karen Whedbee and Larissa Garcia.

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

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

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 9, 2023

Board Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve the minutes of November 9, 2023. Trustee Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Moore seconded. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board Chair Gayles welcomed those in attendance and provided a brief overview of the agenda. He also recognized the members of the University Advisory Committee who did not have a comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Board 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 RECOMMENDATIONS

Board Chair Gayles asked Interim Executive Vice President and Provost Laurie Elish-Piper to present the following university recommendations.

Agenda Item 7.a. Request for the Deletion of the Master of Science in Education in Educational Psychology

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

Agenda Item 7.b. Request for the Deletion of the Minor in Social Change Leadership

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

Agenda Item 7.c. Request for New Minor in Health Administration

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

Agenda Item 7.d. Recommendation for Faculty Tenure and/or Promotion Effective 2023-2024

Board Chair Gayles reminded Trustee Moore he has to abstain from voting on this item.

Board Chair Gayles asked for a motion to approve item 7.d. Trustee Wasowicz so moved, and Trustee Athas seconded.

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

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Trustee Rita Athas: Yes | Trustee Veronica Herrero: Absent |
| Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes | Trustee Leland Strom: Yes |
| Committee Vice Chair John Butler: Yes | Trustee Tim Moore: Abstain |
| Board Chair Montel Gayles: Yes | Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Yes |

The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 7.e. Recommendations for Faculty and Supportive Professional Staff Sabbatical Leaves for the 2024-2025 Academic Year

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

UNIVERSITY REPORTS

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

Agenda Item 8.a. Faculty Presentation on Sabbatical Leave

Interim EVPP Elish-Piper introduced item 8.a., Professor Natalie Churyk gave a faculty sabbatical presentation.

Trustee Herrero arrived at 9:01 a.m.

Agenda Item 8.b. Annual Report on the Outcomes of Sabbatical Leaves

Interim EVPP Elish-Piper introduced Agenda Item 8.b. Interim EVPP Elish-Piper presented an executive summary of the sabbatical report for the 2020-2021 Academic Year.

Agenda Item 8.c. Hispanic Serving Institution Presentation

Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and Chief Diversity Officer Carol Sumner and Vice President for Student Affairs Clint-Michael Reneau gave a presentation titled “(Emerging) Hispanic Serving Institution Designation; The Path, Process and Potential Benefits for NIU.”

OTHER MATTERS

Board Chair Gayles announced Trustee John Butler will be Committee Chair and Trustee Eric Wasowicz will be Committee Vice Chair of the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee effective at the May 9, 2024 meeting. Board Chair Gayles asked if there were any other matters. There were none.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee will be Thursday, May 9, 2024.

ADJOURNMENT

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

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

Trustee Rita Athas: Yes

Trustee Veronica Herrero: Yes

Trustee Dennis Barsema: Yes

Trustee Leland Strom: Yes

Committee Vice Chair John Butler: Yes

Trustee Tim Moore: Yes

Board Chair Montel Gayles: Yes

Trustee Eric Wasowicz: Yes

The motion was approved.

Meeting adjourned at 9:59 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.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FACULTY TENURE AND/OR
PROMOTION EFFECTIVE 2024-2025**

NAME COLLEGE/DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL

**Promotion from Clinical Assistant Professor to Clinical Associate Professor
(For Informational Purposes Only)**

Kimberly Hart Counseling and Higher Education

Promotion from Associate Professor to Professor

Jahred Adelman Physics
Hamid Bateni Allied Health and Communicative Disorders
Melissa Adams-Campbell English
April Clark Political Science
James Cohen Curriculum and Instruction
Abdoulaye Diallo Interdisciplinary Health Professions
Mary Lynn Morrissey-Doherty School of Music
Christopher Einolf Sociology
Amanda Ferguson Management
Joseph Flynn Curriculum and Instruction
Rosemary Feurer History
Lynn Herrmann Health Studies
Courtney Hughes Health Studies
Linda Matuszewski Accountancy
Daniel McConkie College of Law
Ismael Montana History
David Rosenfeld College of Law
Alicia Schatteman Public Administration

Tenure and Promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor

Xinyan Cao Operations Management and Information Systems
Shondra Clay Interdisciplinary Health Professions
Bethany Cockburn Management
Katherine Coulter Nursing
Wenlian Gao Finance
Jaehee Jong Public Administration
Xueying Lu Physics
Eric Michel Management
Beth Moxley Nursing
Gudrun Nyunt Counseling and Higher Education
Julie Patterson Health Studies
Charles Pudrith Allied Health and Communicative Disorders
Mona Rahimi Computer Science
Pallavi Singh Biological Sciences
Jifu Tan Mechanical Engineering
Laura Vilardell World Languages and Cultures

Promotion from Assistant Professor to Associate Professor

Evan Bernick College of Law

Tenure Only

Sarah Fox
Shaine Henert

College of Law
Kinesiology and Physical Education

Hired at the Rank of Professor with Tenure

Stephen Miller
Richard MocarSKI
Chang Soo (CS) Nam
Joan Phillips-Hernandez

College of Law
Communication
Industrial and Systems Engineering
Marketing

Recommendation: The University recommends that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee endorse this request and that the President forward it by means of the President's Report to the Board of Trustees at its special meeting on May 9, 2024.

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

Summary: Following a national search and pending Board of Trustees approval, Dr. Joan M. Phillips-Hernandez has accepted an offer to be the Dean of the College of Business.

Background: Dr. Phillips-Hernandez was a Professor of Marketing in the College of Business Administration at the University of Missouri-St. Louis where she served as dean and professor. As dean she advanced Cybersecurity, Entrepreneurship, FinTech, Supply Chain Analytics, and degree (DBA, MBA Online) and non-degree Executive Programs as strategic priorities. In addition, she integrated the Center of Excellence for Financial Counseling and Planning into the College of Business and led the launch of the M.B.A. Online, M.S. FinTech, and Ph.D. in Supply Chain Analytics degrees and customized non-degree executive programs. In addition, she increased the diversity of the College's faculty and staff while creating an inclusive culture committed to advancing impactful research and student success.

Prior to her appointment at UMSL, Joan served as Dean and Professor at Barry University's Andreas School of Business. While at Barry she led the successful launch of online MBA programs, received AACSB re-accreditation, established entrepreneurship, and analytics labs, and transitioned the Bachelor of Public Administration and Master of Public Administration programs targeted at adult learners into the Business School. Dr. Phillips-Hernandez also held administrative positions at Loyola University Chicago including Special Assistant for Academic Innovation and Strategic Financial Planning, Associate Dean of Business, Department Chair, Graduate Program Director, and Professor of Marketing.

Dr. Phillips-Hernandez earned her B.A. in Political Science from State University of New York at Albany, an M.B.A. from the Darden Graduate School of Business at The University of Virginia, and a Ph.D. in Business Administration (in marketing and statistics) from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Recommendation: The University recommends that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee approve the appointment for Dr. Philips-Hernandez as Dean of the College of Business effective July 1, 2024, and ask that the President forward it by means of the President's report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its special meeting on May 9, 2024.

APPOINTMENT OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PARTNERSHIPS

Summary: Dr. Richard Mocarski has been selected to serve as the Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships.

Background: Dr. Mocarski currently serves San José State University as the Associate Vice President of Research with responsibility as the Institutional Official for Research Compliance, Authorized Official for Sponsored Projects, and Vice President of the Board of Directors for the San Jose State University Research Foundation.

Dr. Mocarski has two decades of progressive experience in research administration, including experience collaborating and working across disciplines to solve problems and to advance research, scholarship and artistry. Over the course of his career, Dr. Mocarski has played a leadership role in securing and administrating more than \$700 million in external funding.

During our 2023 national search, NIU stakeholders were highly impressed by his significant experience as a federally funded principal investigator, his deep appreciation for evolving forms of scholarship, and his commitment to facilitating the success of faculty, staff and students. They recognized his documented success at developing strategy, building relationships and using data to inform decisions.

Dr. Mocarski holds bachelor's degrees in English and psychology from the University of Michigan and a master's degree in communication studies and Ph.D. in communication and information sciences from the University of Alabama.

Recommendation: The University recommends that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee approve the appointment for Dr. Richard Mocarski as the Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships effective July 1, 2024, and ask that the President forward it by means of the President's Report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its special meeting on May 9, 2024.

REAPPOINTMENT OF ACTING DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Summary: Pending Board of Trustees approval, Dr. William Pitney will be reappointed as Acting Dean of the College of Education effective July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Background: Due to the search for the Executive Vice President and Provost position in Spring 2024, a national search for the next Dean of College of Education could not be started.

Dr. Pitney has done an excellent job the last year as Acting Dean and his reappointment will give the Executive Vice President and Provost sufficient time to launch a national search.

Executive Vice President and Provost Elish-Piper consulted with the College of Education senate and college council, who support Dr. Pitney's reappointment for another year.

Recommendation: The University recommends that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee approve the reappointment for Dr. William Pitney as Acting Dean of the College of Education effective July 1, 2024, and ask that the President forward it by means of the President's Report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its special meeting on May 9, 2024.

UNIVERSITY GOAL ENROLLMENT UPDATES

Vice President for Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications Sol Jensen will present on University Goal Enrollment Updates.

SUPPORTING AI USE FOR TEACHING AND LEARNING

Associate Vice Provost for Teaching, Learning and Digital Education Jason Rhode will present on Supporting AI Use for Teaching and Learning.