I. Call to Order – Felicia Bohanon called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

II. Roll Call - Lupe Flores called roll and verified a quorum.

III. Approval of Agenda - Bohanon called for a motion to approve the agenda. (Rogers/Costello); It has been properly motioned and seconded, today’s Agenda is approved.

IV. Approval of Minutes - Bohanon called for a motion to approve the January 13, 2022, Minutes. (Bernoudy/Duncan) It has been properly motioned and seconded, the January Minutes are approved.

V. Guest Speaker: Tamara Boston, Program Coordinator presenting a draft statement of an anti-racist policy being shared across campus on behalf of Vernese Edghill-Walden. Boston discussed the policy and asked for feedback until March 16 in preparation for presenting the policy to the Board of Trustees. Feedback may be submitted online at http://go.niu.edu/antiracism

VI. University Committee Reports

University Council: February 2 Meeting canceled due to snow. Peter Chomentowski reported Lisa Freeman will be making two informational presentations at the March 2 meeting.

Student Government Association: No report.

Operating Staff Council: No report.

Faculty Senate: Chomentowski reported last weeks meeting was information session with Bill Hodson introducing himself; first reading of the Personnel Advisor position, no discussion. It looks like the second reading next month will pass and then everyone will have new bylaws for the personnel advisors, including the faculty. Faculty Senate is meeting in person: February 23; March 20; April 27.

Board of Trustees Committees: ; May 12; August 18; November 10, 2022

Board of Trustees: Meeting today. Next meetings: March 24; June 16; September 15; December 8, 2022

VII. Vice-President’s Report: O’Grady reviewed the highlights of the report which is posted in our SharePoint groups: spse-vpreport-february-2022.pdf

Athletic Board:

Campus Parking Committee

Libraries Advisory Committee:

Parking Appeals Committee:

Student Conduct Advisory Board: SCAB

Student Conduct Board:

University Benefits Committee:

VIII. Unfinished Business:

a.) Committees Reports

Advocacy: Costello reported they are needed help getting the data in a way they can understand it in Qualtrics. They are working to find someone to help.

Awards: Woodruff reported they are meeting next week and moving forward to getting announcements out.
Communications & Technology: No report.

Constitution & Elections: O’Grady reported a very productive committee meeting. They are in the middle of election season. Joan is doing some publicity. The other piece, is our representative allotment appropriate for the number of employees in the divisions?
O’Grady shared a spreadsheet showing the need for some adjustment to the number of seats vs number of employees in the six divisions. After a brief discussion of the need to adjust proportionality, O’Grady asked the Council to approve the committee’s re-apportionment plan, that includes an annual evaluation the Council’s divisional membership. Bohanon asked for a motion to adopt the changes presented by O’Grady; (Myles/Mooberry); Having been discussed and properly moved and seconded, all in favor, none opposed and no abstentions, the motion carried.

Events: No report.

Professional Development: Bernoudy reporting. Focused on Supervisor Training and SPS Sabbaticals.
We need to reimagine what SPS sabbaticals look like since the current sabbatical scheme is not congruent with the needs of SPS employees. Bernoudy also looking for a financial commitment to SPS sabbaticals.

Regional Community Relations: O’Grady reported the committee did not meet. He is going to check with co-chair Rosalyn Snell.

SPS Dependent Scholarship Fund: Ronald Smith reported 14 applicants. They met to make sure everyone had access to MyScholarship and meeting this week to review applications and again next Monday, February 14 for final decisions.

IX. New Business: Bohanon noticed there are two search committees that have SPS reps on them so she will be following up with those reps for a report at next month’s meeting.

Policy Library changes forwarded to everyone.

Bohanon shared that she met with Dr. Freeman and discussed the declining number of SPS employees, the recent SPS survey, and SPS sabbaticals. We don’t know what our budget will be—there was some conversation in terms of the Sustainability Institute and moving HR to Neptune, leasing vacated HR and printing service space. Dr. Freeman will be attending the April council meeting.

Bohanon also informed the council that there is a Personnel Advisor ad out and once we receive nominations she will reach out to this Council for a vote, hoping to select someone by the end of February.

Good news from Springfield: Governor Pritzker presented his budget proposal for fiscal year 23 last week and included in his proposal was a 5% increase to our operating appropriation. That’s a little over 4.5 million.

X. Adjournment
Bohanon asked for a motion to Adjourn, O’Grady so moved, seconded by Smith, the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lupe Flores, Secretary.