

## MINUTES

University Council  
Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 3 p.m.  
Altgeld Hall 315  
Northern Illinois University  
DeKalb, Illinois

### [Full transcript](#)

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Birch, Bohanon, Elish-Piper, Falkoff, Freeman, Hensley, Howell, Johnson, Martin, Middlemist, Monteiro, Morris, Myung, Njue, O’Grady, Phares, Pitney, Richter, Stoker, Sutcliffe, Vaughn, Walther, Ziarati

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Acardo, Bryan, Creed, Mooberry, Ngassa, Reneau, Saborío, Sumner

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

NIU President **L. Freeman** called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

#### **II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was verified.

#### **III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**Z. Birch** moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **D. Phares**. Motion passed.

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF THE MAY 3, 2023, MINUTES**

**F. Bohanon** moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **W. Vaughn**. Motion passed.

#### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **VI. NIU PRESIDENT LISA FREEMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. Budget and Planning Update

#### **VII. ITEMS FOR UNIVERSITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION**

A. Welcome and Information Sharing  
Chief Human Resources Officer John Acardo

## VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approve the 2023-24 University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees membership roster, confirming Larissa Garcia for a three-year term and Katy Jaekel as Larissa Garcia's alternate for the fall 2023 semester per NIU Bylaws, Article 8.4.1.1
- B. Approve Department of Economics Professor George Slotsve and Assistant Vice President and HR Chief of Staff Liz Guess to serve as NIU's academic and non-academic representatives, respectively, to the State Universities Retirement System Members Advisory Committee (SURSMAC).
- C. Approve the University Council tenured/tenure-track faculty serving on the FS-UC Rules, Governance and Elections Committee, and approve the University Council Personnel Committee per NIU Bylaws, Article 2.1.1(A) and 2.2.1(A)

**B. Pitney** moved to approve the consent agenda, seconded by **S. Howell**. Motion passed.

## IX. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Proposed amendment to NIU Bylaws, Article 8, to remove Article 8.3, Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee  
FIRST READING  
Scott Mooberry, Director, Environmental Health and Safety

## X. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – Linda Saborío – report
- B. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – report  
Felicia Bohanon, Natasha Johnson, Ben Creed  
Larissa Garcia (Katy Jaekel alternate for fall 2023), Karen Whedbee, Brad Cripe
- C. Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – no report
- D. Student Government Association – report  
Olivia Newman, SGA President  
Cole Hensley, Speaker of the Senate
- E. Operating Staff Council – Natasha Johnson, President – report
- F. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Felicia Bohanon, President – report

## XI. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. [Policy Library](#) – Comment on Proposed Policies (right-hand column on web page)
- B. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council
- C. [Minutes](#), Athletic Board
- D. [Minutes](#), Baccalaureate Council

- E. [Minutes](#), Board of Trustees
- F. [Minutes](#), Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
- G. [Minutes](#), Comm. on the Improvement of the Undergraduate Academic Experience
- H. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee
- I. [Minutes](#), Graduate Council
- J. [Minutes](#), Honors Committee
- K. [Minutes](#), Operating Staff Council
- L. [Minutes](#), Supportive Professional Staff Council
- M. [Minutes](#), University Assessment Panel
- N. [Minutes](#), University Benefits Committee
- O. [Minutes](#), Univ. Comm. on Advanced and Nonteaching Educator License Programs
- P. [Minutes](#), University Committee on Initial Educator Licensure
- Q. 2023-24 UC schedule: Sep 13, Oct 11, Nov 8, Dec 6, Jan 31, Feb 28, Apr 3, May 1
- R. [2022-23 Annual Reports](#)
- S. Annual call for [honorary doctoral degree nominations](#); materials must be submitted by Friday, Oct. 27.

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

**Z. Birch** moved to adjourn, seconded by **N. Johnson**. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.