

MINUTES

University Council
Wednesday, October 11, 2023, 3 p.m.
Altgeld Hall 315
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois

[Full transcript](#)

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

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Bohanon, O’Grady

OTHERS PRESENT: Arcado, Bryan, Creed, Mooberry, Olson, Paquette, Reneau, Saborío, Sumner, Whitelaw

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

W. Vaughn moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **Z. Birch**. Motion passed.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 13, 2023, MINUTES

S. Stoker moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **D. Phares**. Motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. NIU PRESIDENT LISA FREEMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Budget and Planning Update

VII. ITEMS FOR UNIVERSITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

- A. Technology Accessibility at NIU
Katy Whitelaw, Technology Accessibility Officer
- B. Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act – Update
Tim Paquette, Director of Counseling and Consultative Services
Kelly Olson, AVP Student Development and Dean of Students

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approve Professor Steven Howell to serve on the
2023-24 University Fee Advisory Group

M. Falkoff moved to approve Professor Steven Howell to serve on the 2023-24 University Fee Advisory Group, seconded by **W. Pitney**. Motion passed.

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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

W. Pitney moved to approve the proposed amendment, seconded by **M. Falkoff**. Motion passed.

Yes – 18 votes
No – 0 votes
Abstain – 2 votes

X. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – Linda Saborío – report
 - 1. What are some of NIU’s university-wide or college-specific requirements for graduation, other than general education and major courses? A few examples are the COB Business Passport program, a writing infused course and the human diversity requirement.
- 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 – Marc Falkoff, Chair – 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 – no 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.
- T. 2024 University Holiday Schedule

XII. ADJOURNMENT

N. Johnson moved to adjourn, seconded by **W. Pitney**. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:56 p.m.