

Minutes of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
May 13, 2010

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Marc Strauss at 9:03 a.m. in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall. Recording Secretary Sharon Banks-Wilkins conducted a roll call of Trustees. Members present were Trustees Robert Boey, John Butler, Cherilyn Murer, Manuel Sanchez, Barbara Giorgi Vella, Student Trustee Matthew Venaas and Chair Strauss. Not present was Trustee Myron Siegel. Also present were Board Parliamentarian Kenneth Davidson and President John Peters. With a quorum present, the meeting proceeded.

VERIFICATION OF APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Confirmation of Open Meetings Act public notice compliance was provided by Board Parliamentarian Kenneth Davidson.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

After discussion with President Peters and review of the printed agenda before us, Chair Strauss said, I propose creation of a Consent Agenda that would immediately precede the beginning of the President's Report for today's meeting, and move President's Report Number 69, Action Items 10.a.(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11) and (17); and our receipt of Information Items 10.b.(1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) and 10.c.(9) to that Consent Agenda. The Chair asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda as now proposed. Trustee Sanchez made a motion to approve the meeting agenda as amended. Trustee Vella seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chair Strauss asked for a motion to close the public meeting to conduct an executive session to discuss the following subjects authorized by the Illinois Open Meetings Act: personnel matters as generally described under §2(c)(1) and (3) of the Open Meetings Act, property matters as generally described under §2(c)(5) and (6) of the Open Meetings Act, and Executive Session Minutes Matters as generally described under §2(c)(21) of the Open Meetings Act. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Murer. A roll call vote of the Trustees to recess to Executive Session was unanimous.

A roll call vote of the Trustees to recess to Executive Session was as follows:

Trustee Boey	Yes	Trustee Butler	Yes
Trustee Murer	Yes	Trustee Sanchez	Yes
Trustee Vella	Yes	Student Trustee Venaas	Yes
Chair Strauss	Yes		

The roll call vote of the Trustees to recess to Executive Session was unanimous.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING RECONVENED

Chair Strauss reconvened the public meeting of the Board of Trustees at approximately 10:53 a.m.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

It was moved by Student Trustee Venaas and seconded by Trustee Vella to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2010 Board meeting. The motion was approved.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair recognized the University Advisory Committee representatives: Dr. Alan Rosenbaum, Dr. Ferald Bryan, Dr. Gregory Waas, Dr. Joseph Buck Stephen, Dr. Bobbie Cesarek and Mr. Jay Monteiro. On behalf of the faculty and staff of the university, Dr. Rosenbaum said, I want to thank both the Board and President Peters for your efforts to maintain both the quality of life and education at NIU in the face of fiscal irresponsibility on the part of the State of Illinois and their failure to live up to their obligations to the university and the state.

Since our Board meetings in May and June every year contain the longest agendas by far, Chair Strauss said, I intend to keep my remarks this morning as brief as I can. I had the privilege of participating in and speaking at our commencement ceremonies last week. It is truly an honor and one of the highlights of serving as a member of this Board of Trustees. So often, we are mired in the minutiae of budgets, contracts and daily operations of the university that we do not stop to remember the incredible achievement of thousands of NIU students, baccalaureate and graduate, who cross that platform on graduation day with a diploma from this great university. The diploma represents sacrifice, hard work, dedication, and the care and mentoring of many by our terrific NIU faculty and staff. What a joy and privilege it was to be a part of such a momentous day in thousands of lives, transformed by their NIU experience.

Unfortunately, the responsibility to these students and their families to maintain this university seems to escape many of our policymakers in Springfield, as evidenced by the "budget" that they crafted for Fiscal Year 2011 that leaves more unanswered questions than funds to operate the state's educational and human service institutions. I am deeply disappointed by the inaction of the General Assembly towards permanently resolving what is now the country's second largest state fiscal crisis, just behind California.

So many questions remain unanswered in the FY11 budget that speculation about how NIU is going to weather the new fiscal year is premature. We will take it as it comes. What we do have going for us here is the undeniably strong combined expertise of our president, John Peters and Executive Vice President & Chief of Operations Eddie Williams. Between the two of them, they have over 80 years of first-hand budget expertise at the university level, with over 50 of those years combined here at NIU. No other public university in Illinois can claim this depth of leadership, wisdom and understanding to meet the State's fiscal challenges and lack of decision-making head-on. NIU will not only continue operating in FY11, but it will flourish and grow, as it must, as a vibrant university with new opportunities for residence halls and campus renovations to meet the future needs of our students in the years to come.

We will hear more about these exciting new plans later this morning. Suffice it to say, NIU will not stand still while Springfield figures out a solution to the state's fiscal crisis. We will continue to move forward, together.

ELECTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OFFICERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2011

This is the time of year when our Board looks to the future with its annual elections, the Chair said. I would like to call on Trustee Sanchez to nominate the slate of elected officers for the Board for Fiscal Year 2011.

At this time, Trustee Sanchez said, it is my privilege to place into nomination the following slate of officers to be elected for Fiscal Year 2011:3

Chair – Trustee Marc Strauss
Vice Chair – Trustee John Butler
Secretary – Trustee Bob Boey
Fourth Member of the Executive Committee – Trustee Cherilyn Murer
Civil Service Merit Board Representative – Trustee Barbara Giorgi Vella

As the movant, Trustee Sanchez said, it truly is a privilege for me in these very challenging times, with all the other things that we have to manage, to ask all of you to again be willing to assume these positions,

continue fighting the fight and leading the way on behalf of NIU. I say that with a great deal of pleasure, and also recognizing the responsibilities that you are going to assume for another calendar year.

Student Trustee Venaas seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

In accordance with Board *Bylaws*, the Chair said, we are going to proceed with the distribution of secret ballots containing this slate for the election of the Board members in order to assure compliance with State statute. After the ballots were distributed, Chair Strauss asked that the Board members mark the ballots and return them to Mr. Davidson, who would then tally and announce the results at the conclusion of the Chair's Report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

The Chair asked Parliamentarian Ken Davidson if any members of the public had registered a written request to address the Board in accordance with state law and Board of Trustees Bylaws. Mr. Davidson noted that he had received no timely requests to address this meeting.

REPORTS OF BOARD COMMITTEES AND BOARD LIAISONS

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee did not meet.

Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee

Committee Chair John Butler reported that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee met on Thursday, April 29. At that meeting the committee considered and endorsed the following action items: Recommendations for Faculty Promotions, Tenure, and Promotions with Tenure for the 2010-3022 Academic Year; new degree programs in Athletic Training, Community Leadership and Civic Engagement, and Environmental Studies; a request for degree authority at a regional site; and a request for a new Minor in Sustainable Engineering.

Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee

Committee Chair Manny Sanchez reported that the Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee met on Thursday, April 29. At that meeting, the committee considered and approved the following recommendations; contracts and purchase authorizations for Fiscal Year 2011 Gasoline 10 Percent Ethanol Blend Purchase, Fiscal Year 2011 NIU Foundation Professional Services Contract, Fiscal Year 2011 Cellular Service Open Order, Fiscal Year 2011 Telephone Hardware Maintenance Contract Renewal, Fiscal Year 2011 NIU Naperville Catering Service Contract Renewal, Fiscal Year 2011 Radiation Oncology Physician Services Contract Renewal, Fiscal Year 2011 Waste Removal and Recycling Contract Renewal, Fiscal Year 2011 NIU Fermilab Neutron Center Therapy Agreement Extension, the Phase X Performance Contract Amendment, the Central Stores Contract Amendment, and the Biological Services Research Project Amendment. The committee also received reports regarding procurement reform legislation, the Quarterly Summary Report of Transactions in excess of \$100,000, the Periodic Report on Investments and the Semi-Annual Progress Report on Active Capital Projects in Excess of \$100,000. Many of these items are included in the President's Report for Board approval at today's meeting.

Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee

Committee Chair Murer reported that the Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee met on Thursday, April 29 in DeKalb. Although we had a shortened meeting, I am pleased to report that our committee accomplished a great deal and is sending two matters to the full Board for consideration today. Kathy Buettner began our meeting with a brief report on pertinent legislation before the General Assembly and gave an overview of the State budget situation. At the time of our meeting, the General Assembly had not decided upon the Fiscal Year 2011 budget. The legislators will return to Springfield next week to again attempt to agree on a budget. Bob Albanese and Keith Jackson gave the committee a review of the Fiscal Year 2009 Financial Audit findings. And Mr. Davidson addressed the committee with a request

to consider an amendment to the Board of Trustees current *Regulations* pertaining to the processing of Freedom of Information Act requests. This item was approved by the LAEA Committee and is presented today for consideration. The Committee also approved the Internal Audit Department Charter with a small modification, and that also is being presented to the full Board today for consideration. Finally, Steve Cunningham gave thorough presentations on changes to the Illinois Pension Code with regard to the State Universities Retirement System and the recently passed Procurement Reform Legislation and what measures the university will need to take to comply with these mandates.

Illinois Board of Higher Education

There was no report from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Universities Civil Service Merit Board

Board Liaison Barbara Giorgi Vella reported that the Universities Civil Service Merit Board held a special meeting on Thursday, March 18, which she attended telephonically. The major focus of that meeting was the furlough policy. Those aspects of the policy that were voted on at the meeting were forwarded to the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

NIU Foundation

Trustee Boey deferred to Mallory Simpson, President of the NIU Foundation, for this report. On June 30, Ms. Simpson said, we will be completing our TrueNorth Campaign, the university's first-ever comprehensive fundraising campaign. We have surpassed our \$150 million goal by \$9.4 million and anticipate concluding at between \$160 and \$165 million, so we are now enjoying the task of planning suitable celebrations through the summer and early fall for our different levels of donors. This is the first time we have ever done a concerted faculty/staff effort, and I am delighted to report that we have had very good success this year. Our main emphasis was participation rate, not dollar size, and that participation rate is currently at 28 percent, which is really quite remarkable. There was a little friendly competition among some of the colleges and units, with the College of Business at the top right now with participation at 84 percent. I want to commend Dean Schoenbachler and her team for their concerted effort in the college. Economic climate has slowed overall giving to date in some areas, but cash giving this year is a million dollars ahead of where it was last year, due largely to the receipt of some estate distributions. Our Plan Giving Program, which had a goal of \$4 million in new bequest intentions, has exceeded its goal this year with \$5 million in new bequest intentions, and we are very pleased with John Sentovich's leadership in that area.

We have had two wonderful new commitments I would like to share with you. In the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology recently, Dean Promod Vohra hosted a celebration to dedicate the Dean's suite. It is called the Arthur and Florence Graffam Dean's Suite in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology. Arthur has made a \$250,000 bequest intention. He is a longstanding activist and supporter of the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology, has long distinguished service as a teacher, and was one of the cofounders of the Alumni Society and served in that capacity.

Someone who has given generously through the years is Lester Smith, and he has made a new gift of \$110,000 to Visual and Performing Arts for music and art students. He was planning to leave most of his additional giving through his bequest. But when he heard a musical performance at Oak Crest recently, he was so impressed with the caliber of the music students that he decided he wanted to do more while he could enjoy it personally. There are now two new endowed scholarships thanks to Lester Smith's generosity. The economy is gloomy, but alumni and friends are still finding ways to do great things at NIU.

Northern Illinois Research Foundation

Board Liaison Barbara Giorgi Vella reported that, the NIRF Board met on December 3 and discussions included the following: a brief update of NIPTRC from Dr. Alden and Dr. Williams; a brief summary of the intellectual property activities for the year 2009 from Rita Yusko; NIRF President Jerry Zielinski tendered his resignation to the board effective December 31, 2009; Dr. Jim Erman resigned as secretary; Dr. Kaplan was elected secretary of the NIRF Board and Patti Miller was elected assistant secretary. All of these actions were approved by the NIRF Board. Dr. Erman was appointed President of the board by

President Peters in January 2010. Mr. Zielinski and Dr. Erman created a survey for all faculty at NIU on their interest in commercialization, and that survey was expected to be released to the faculty in the early part of the spring semester. Dr. Alden suggested focusing on a study for best practices and how to safeguard intellectual property for the protection of the students as well as the university. In Mr. Zielinski's parting remarks, he advised the NIRF Board that they should focus on finding experienced entrepreneurs who have commercialized research and encouraging them to share their experiences with the NIRF Board.

The NIRF Board met again on December 22, 2009 via a conference call. NIPTRC, through Northern Illinois Proton Treatment Lending, entered into an agreement with JPMorgan Chase on September 30, 2008, to provide interim financing for the proton facility. The original loan provided for a maturity of June 15, 2009. On December 22, a second amendment was added further extending the JPMorgan Chase loan to June 30, 2010.

CONSENT AGENDA APPROVAL

Before beginning the President's Report, Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the items earlier placed on the consent agenda that include President's Report No. 69, Action Items 10.a.(1), (2), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), (9), (10), (11) and (17); and our receipt of Information Items 10.b.(1), (2), (3), (4) and (5) and 10.c.(9). Trustee Murer so moved, seconded by Student Trustee Venaas. The motion was approved.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT NO. 69

We are live streaming today, President Peters said, so I would like to say welcome Mr. Chair, Board members, and everyone in the audience, including those out there in cyberspace, and I hope this message comes through loud and clear. Because of the numerous items on the agenda today, I will keep my opening remarks brief. I do want to offer, however, my personal appreciation to Dr. Jim Erman, Acting Vice President for Research and a member of the President's Cabinet, for putting his retirement on hold for the last two years to serve NIU in that capacity. He's done an outstanding job and has provided wise counsel in the research and graduate areas. Today is his last Board meeting as a sitting vice president, and next month, NIU welcomes Dr. Lisa Freeman to this critical position. Thank you, Jim, for your service to me and NIU; we wish you the best. I want to recognize Dr. Harold Kafer, long-time Dean of Visual and Performing Arts and Deputy Provost. He is retiring and this is his last meeting as well. I want to thank you and your lovely wife for all the contributions you have made to the NIU community and particularly the arts scene.

I wish I had better news to share related to our state operating budget for 2011 other than the fact that as of today we are still owed \$43 million plus with five and a half weeks left to go in the fiscal year. If someone last year had told me that a year from now that NIU would have a 40 percent rescission in its state General Revenue and were still required to keep students educated, take care of our physical plant, meet payroll, buy necessary supplies, "I would have said you're crazy, and I don't know how we could do that." Well, I am not crazy and we did it, and thanks to all of you, the staff and administration, and Board of Trustees for helping us get through. If we receive no further payments, the legislature has granted authority to the Governor to extend the fiscal year through December at which point that money must be paid to us.

I also want to correct a public misperception that may be out there. On the Governor's desk right now is a piece of legislation referred to as "The University Borrowing Bill." Some think this is a panacea or a solution. It is not. It is a particularly bad piece of legislation, and yet it may be necessary. The Borrowing Bill gives us the authority to borrow up to 75 percent of the operating funds owed us. It is, of course, something we hope we will never have to use because it is a particularly bad piece of public policy. There is a simple solution to this and that is, the state should just pay us what was appropriated to us and owed us so we would not be in this situation, because it will just be a short-term fix with costs. Who will be paying the interest costs? That will probably have to come out of students' tuition, and that is not a good thing. So I just wanted to make sure that you all understood and especially that the public would

understand that this is not a solution. The State should pay us what they owe us and what was appropriated last year.

No news on the FY12 budget is not good news. As most of you know, the legislature temporarily recessed last week to provide leaders and the Governor with further time to develop a budget compromise that can pass the General Assembly. They have until May 31, 2010 to resolve the budget dilemma with a simple majority vote of the General Assembly. After that time, an extraordinary majority is required to pass the budget providing the minority party, in this case the Republicans, with further input into the budget decisions for next year, and what is still on the table: pension payments, healthcare premium costs for employees and annuitants, funds for the MAP Scholarships, operating funds for public universities. These are all critical and pressing issues that the General Assembly and the Governor must balance in order to develop a truly workable, functional operating budget for FY11. I urge you to follow the budget debate in Springfield over the coming weeks closely and monitor our budget web site which is updated continually.

UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED BY THE BOARD COMMITTEES

Agenda Item 10.a.(1) – Fiscal Year 2011 Gasoline 10 Percent Ethanol Blend

Agenda Item 10.a.(2) – Fiscal Year 2011 NIU Foundation Professional Services Contract

Agenda Item 10.a.(3) – Fiscal Year 2011 ITS Telecommunications Services Cellular Service Open Order

Agenda Item 10.a.(4) – Fiscal Year 2011 ITS Telecommunications Services Telephone Hardware Maintenance Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 10.a.(5) – Fiscal Year 2011 NIU Naperville Catering Services Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 10.a.(6) – Fiscal Year 2011 Radiation Oncology Physician Services Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 10.a.(7) – Fiscal Year 2011 Office of Waste Management and Utilities Solid Waste Removal and Recycling at NIU DeKalb Contract Renewal

Agenda Item 10.a.(8) – Fiscal Year 2011 NIU/Fermilab Neutron Cancer Therapy Agreement Extension

Agenda Item 10.a.(9) – Energy Infrastructure Improvements – Phase X Performance Contract Amendment

Agenda Item 10.a.(10) – Materials Management Central Stores Commodities Amendment

Agenda Item 10.a.(11) – Department of Biological Sciences Research Project Amendments

Consent Agenda Items.

Agenda Item 10.a.(12) – Recommendations for Faculty Promotions, Tenure, and Promotions with Tenure for the 2010-2011 Academic Year

It is always a privilege for me to annually bring forward the Recommendations for Faculty Promotions, Tenure, and Promotions with Tenure, President Peters said, and these recommendations are for the 2010-11 Academic Year. This year 54 faculty members from various colleges and departments across the university are included on the list. Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the Recommendations for Faculty Promotions, Tenure, and Promotions with Tenure for the 2010-2011 Academic Year. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Butler. The Chair called for a roll call vote on the motion which was as follows:

Trustee Boey	Yes	Trustee Butler	Yes
Trustee Murer	Yes	Trustee Sanchez	Yes
Trustee Vella	Yes	Student Trustee Venaas	Abstain
Chair Strauss	Yes		

The motion was approved with six voting yes and the Student Trustee abstaining in accordance with Illinois statutes which prohibit the student member voting on matters involving faculty promotion or tenure.

Agenda Item 10.a.(13) – Requests for New Degree Programs

The university is requesting three new degree programs, including (1) a B.S. in Athletic Training, (2) a B.A./B.S. in Community Leadership and Civic Engagement on Campus and in Regions 1 and 3, and

(3) a B.A./B.S. in Environmental Studies, the President said. These new program requests have received curricular approvals at the department, college and university levels as well as endorsement by the Board's Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee. Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve these three new degree program requests. Trustee Sanchez so moved, seconded by Trustee Murer. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.a.(14) – Request for Degree Authority at Regional Site

The President requested degree authority for NIU's M.B.A. program in Region 10, Chicago. Board approval is necessary for submission to the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Dean Schoenbachler stated that the program would use the NIU facility on LaSalle Street in downtown Chicago. If the program expands beyond that point, new space would be sought. Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the request for degree authority for NIU's M.B.A. program in Region 10, Chicago. Trustee Murer so moved, seconded by Student Trustee Venaas. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.a.(15) – Request for a New Minor

The new Minor in Sustainable Engineering within the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology will equip graduates with the tools they need to meet the challenges associated with delivering goods, energy and services through sustainable means, the President said. Support for the delivery of the minor will be allocated from a combination of existing resources and strategic planning funding. Several of the courses in the minor already exist and are delivered in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology on a regular basis. Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the request for a new Minor in Sustainable Engineering. Trustee Murer so moved, seconded by Trustee Boey. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.a.(16) – Amendment to Board of Trustees *Regulations* – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Laws

This amendment to the Board of Board *Regulations* implements a realignment of responsibilities for handling formal information requests under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act. This updated structure brings NIU in line with how other Illinois public universities handle FOIA requests, President Peters said. University Legal Services, which handles it now, will continue to be a source of legal advice for appropriate handling of formal FOIA requests to the university.

My position on this in the committee meeting was to oppose it, Trustee Butler said, but I am going to support it today. At the time that I opposed the move, it seemed that this was a serious burden on the university, and I was not clear as to how the change was going to lessen that burden or make the process smoother and more efficient. Since that time, I have talked to some people and am convinced that it may. I would like to ask that we remain diligent in our monitoring of this as we said we would in the committee.

Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the Freedom of Information Act Amendment to Board of Trustees *Regulations*. Trustee Sanchez so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.a.(17) – Internal Audit Department Charter

Consent Agenda Item.

UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARDED BY THE BOARD COMMITTEES

Agenda Item 10.b.(1) – Quarterly Summary Report of Transactions in Excess of \$100,000

Agenda Item 10.b.(2) – 96th General Assembly Report

Agenda Item 10.b.(3) – Congressional Report

Agenda Item 10.b.(4) – Public Act 96-0889 Illinois Pension Code Amendments applicable to State Universities Retirement System (SURS) Participants Employed as of January 1, 2011 and Thereafter

Consent Agenda Items.

ITEMS DIRECTLY FROM THE PRESIDENT

Agenda Item 10.c.(1) – Appointment of the Dean of the College of Education

The is requesting Board approval to grant Dr. La Vonne Neal tenure and the rank of professor in conjunction with her appointment as Dean of the College of Education effective July 1, 2010. President Peters stated that Dr. Neal earned a Ph.D. in Special Education with an Emphasis in Multicultural Education from the University of Texas at Austin. After five years as a social studies teacher in Texas, she joined the faculty at Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas and served as director of the university's Secondary Education Teaching Certification Program. For the past five years, Dr. Neal has served as professor and dean of the College of Education, the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs where she implemented programmatic changes in assessment; a new doctoral program in educational leadership, research and policy; and online master's degree programs in curriculum and instruction, special education, and counseling. With great pleasure, I ask your approval of this appointment, and I want to thank Provost Alden for the tremendous search he conducted to find this outstanding national individual to lead our College of Education forward.

I had a chance to meet Dr. Neal and have dinner with her, Trustee Vella said, and she really is an outstanding woman, very dynamic with a lot of pizzazz. I second that, Trustee Boey said. She is one of those rare persons that I have met who goes from the military to a very high position in private industry and then returns to an academic world. That speaks volumes as to her direction and what she feels is important. As you said, Trustee Butler added, Dr. Neal has found a way to find something that concerned her in her corporate life that led to a passionate pursuit of an academic area that led her, ultimately, to become a candidate for this position. She is an extraordinarily vibrant and interesting person. She has been in some really interesting places in history, which I hope we will all learn about, and she has had a major role in influencing the outcomes of those various situations. I did not have an opportunity to sit down and meet with her, Student Trustee Venaas said. But from everything I have read about her background and heard about her, I think she has a very exciting and dynamic background, and I am really excited to see the direction she takes the College of Education in the future.

Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the appointment of Dr. La Vonne Neal to the position of Dean of the College of Education with tenure and the rank of professor. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The Chair asked for a roll call on the motion, which was as follows:

Trustee Boey	Yes	Trustee Butler	Yes
Trustee Murer	Yes	Trustee Sanchez	Yes
Trustee Vella	Yes	Student Trustee Venaas	Abstain
Chair Strauss	Yes		

The motion was approved with six voting yes and the Student Trustee abstaining in accordance with Illinois statutes which prohibit the student member voting on matters involving faculty promotion or tenure.

Although he is not here today, President Peters said, we should thank the current Dean of the College of Education, Dr. Lemuel Watson, who is a tremendous individual and has done so much for the college and the university. Fortunately, he will be continuing with the university, but stepping out of this deanship, and I want the record to show how much we appreciate his leadership these past few years. Chair Strauss stated his hope that the record would reflect that on behalf of all the Trustees as well.

Agenda Item 10.c.(2) – Fiscal Year 2011 Tuition Recommendations

Each year the university carefully reviews and evaluates tuition charges in order to recommend tuition rates that will generate adequate resources necessary to support the quality of academic programs and services provided and yet remain consistent with the university's commitment to affordability and access. As a state institution, the President said, our tuition costs are directly correlated with state support for NIU's operating budget. Despite the fact that NIU was appropriated \$107 million from the state this year, over \$43 million of those funds have not been transferred to NIU, with only five and a half weeks left in the fiscal year. How are we meeting our payroll, keeping our doors open, our lights on and our students learning? Only through the creative budgeting and full engagement, cooperation and sacrifice of every division and unit in the university, including faculty and staff, and we have used extensive internal

reallocation and the use of every last tuition dollar where available. Gone are our meager reserves that we were able to set aside for a rainy day. It is no longer a rainy day. And like the weather last night, severe thunderstorms are predicted for Illinois and fiscal 2011. Due to the financial condition of the state, as Chair Strauss said, we now have the distinction of being second in the nation behind California in state fiscal crisis. We cannot possibly raise tuition to a level that offsets the state's delinquency in its support levels, nor should we ever contemplate that. NIU is a "state" university. We used to be state funded, and then we were state supported, and now we are state assisted. Our role and mission in the region is to provide high quality, first-rate, higher education at the baccalaureate, masters and doctoral levels for the people of Illinois. We will not fail them despite the state's problems.

Today's tuition recommendation represents a 9.5 percent increase for incoming students only. Most continuing NIU students will not see their tuition increase one penny. Currently, NIU guarantees tuition rates for up to nine consecutive semesters. This 9.5 percent under the current process is the equivalent of a 2.0 percent increase in tuition each year. We have to think nine semesters out what the inflationary costs might be for providing an adequate education for an incoming student. The Consumer Price Index is not enough, alone, for us to get at an accurate estimate, because the Higher Education Consumer Price Index is always higher due to the fact that we are so technology laden. Under legislation currently on the Governor's desk, the state's new Truth-in-Tuition program will be extended further to require public universities to guarantee tuition for most students up to 12 semesters or six years. That means a student coming in under this law, at a fixed tuition rate, is guaranteed that rate for six years. The Governor is expected to sign that legislation soon. With those new regulations, our recommended tuition increase is approximately 1.5 percent per year for that incoming student. This by no means even covers our annual increase and operating costs much less provides opportunities for NIU to enhance or invest in the kind of new initiatives that students are seeking. A 9.5 percent tuition increase for incoming students only will generate only approximately \$4.5 million in new revenue at NIU. Where will NIU allocate those revenues? If we were, for example, to allocate every cent of the new tuition revenue to relieving the burden of our major unfunded state mandates, these funds would not cover even one-half of the \$10.4 million cost we estimate for new and continuing mandates with which we are required to comply. So it gets eaten up right away on things that are passed down to us. Yet there are other funding challenges that also must be addressed, including the necessity to adequately cover state cash flow shortfalls and the need to address the annual increases in operating costs for goods, services, commodities and utilities where we spend millions annually to keep the lights on, the temperature comfortable and our operations functioning. By now, you see the challenge that NIU administrators have to stretch our precious dollars to cover critical operating expenses the university faces daily, and I have not even mentioned the need to give our award winning faculty and staff consideration for a much deserved salary increase, especially given the fact that due to the state budget we were unable to give increases this year. So I bring this recommendation for a 9.5 percent tuition increase today with a heavy heart, but also with a sense of determination.

I am going to vote yes for this, Student Venaas said, but I want to make sure that I am on the record, particularly as a student, to acknowledge the concerns I have about how much this is going to burden our incoming students. However, I know the financial reality is that we need to do this. At the end of the day, there is a distinction between us maintaining our affordability and being cheap, and we need to make sure that an NIU degree means something and that there is some value behind it. Ensuring that our academic programs are strong and ensuring that our students get a good education is our top priority.

I want to also go on record to say that fulfilling your fiduciary responsibility is sometimes a very difficult thing to do, Trustee Murer said. I know I speak for the Board in saying that this is something we have debated and we move forward with only because we are looking forward to future generations to be able to come to NIU and receive the same type of education.

Back in my days as a student regent, Trustee Butler said, if you had told me I would ever be voting for a 9.5 percent tuition increase, I would never have believed it, and this should be an indicator of how serious the situation is. I applaud Trustee Venaas's commitment to put this on the record and to state his concerns publicly, because I do not think this is easy for him either. I hope this lessens some of the pain, but as we know, it will not solve the problem. We are going to need a lot of support from the incoming students and the current students to make known the impact of these increases to the legislature.

Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2011 Tuition Recommendations. Trustee Sanchez so moved, seconded by Trustee Murer. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.c.(3) – Fiscal Year 2011 Internal Operating Budget Interim Approval

Statute requires Board approval for the Fiscal Year 2011 Internal Operating budget before we can expend any new funds beginning July 1, 2011, President Peters said. We are still uncertain how the budget issues will shake out for FY11, and even once we have a budget, how the state will manage its fund obligations to NIU and other universities. This item provides interim approval from the Board to allow continued operations after July 1 until we are able to gain a better sense of what the actual budget and revenues from the state will be in FY11. I anticipate bringing a formal internal operating budget to the Board at its September 2010 meeting. Chair Strauss asked for a motion for Fiscal Year 2011 Internal Operating Budget Interim Approval. Trustee Murer so moved, seconded by Student Trustee Venaas. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.c.(4) – Zeke Giorgi Law Clinic Lease Renewal

The Zeke Giorgi Legal Clinic, named after Trustee Vella’s distinguished father and located in downtown Rockford, provides legal services primarily to individuals who may not otherwise be able to secure legal advice, the President said. Third year law students from the college assist with legal representation under the provision of staff who are licensed attorneys. NIU’s current lease for this clinic expires June 30, 2010. The lease was rebid, and it was determined that it was in the best interest of the university law clinic to remain in its current location within walking distance of court houses, public transportation routes and it has adjacent parking available. Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the Zeke Giorgi Law Clinic Lease Renewal. Trustee Sanchez so moved, seconded by Student Trustee Venaas. The Chair then asked for a roll call vote, which was as follows:

Trustee Boey	Yes	Trustee Butler	Yes
Trustee Murer	Yes	Trustee Sanchez	Yes
Trustee Vella	Abstain	Student Trustee Venaas	Yes
Chair Strauss	Abstain		

The motion was approved with five voting yes and two abstentions.

Agenda Item 10.c.(5) – Center for Governmental Studies Medicaid Fraud Project Amendments

In Fiscal Year 2008, the NIU Center for Governmental Studies entered into an agreement with the Department of Healthcare and Family Services for a review of historical data on Medicaid fraud cases in Illinois over the past 15 years, President Peters said. The contract language allowed for a possible time extension if needed. Additional tasks have been requested requiring Board approval for an amendment of \$32,000 for this contract. This is a pass-through from a grant. Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the Amendment to the Center for Governmental Studies Medicaid Fraud Project. Trustee Murer so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.c.(6) – Information Technology Services Expansion of NIUNet

Board approval is requested for expenditure authority related to an expansion and upgrade of NIUNet in support of the Rural HealthNet, the President said. Three years ago, NIU wrote a \$22 million grant on behalf of healthcare facilities throughout the state of Illinois to build a high speed network for healthcare. The grant was approved and NIU received funds to manage the project. The project has entered the building phase of the program and has selected NIUNet to deliver backbone services to the northern Illinois region. The upgrades for NIUNet are within the intended guidelines and goals of NIUNet to support research, education, healthcare and local government services. The expansion of NIUNet will extend the fiber optic network from NIU Hoffman Estates into Chicago using multivendor and multiyear leases on fiber optic cable and increased broadband capacities in the existing NIUNet infrastructure. Funding to support this request is from an award through the FCC to the Illinois Rural Health Network Grant.

This is NIU at its finest, Trustee Murer said, when we take leadership roles in the state of Illinois and especially as we move forward with technology. Of course, healthcare is a particular area of concern to me, so I am delighted that we are doing this.

Trustee Butler asked for clarification on what it meant that the vendor is contracted by the Chicago Transit Authority. Also, he said, it seems odd to me that we are approving an expenditure for an amount that is to be bid still. In reply to his questions, Wally Czerniak, Director of Information Technology Services stated, regarding the CTA bid, that intergovernmental agreements do not have to be bid out, so we are just leasing fiber they already have, and it is low cost. On the other items, Mr. Czerniak said, we have not bid them out as yet because there are some questions. However, we wanted to do this before the next Board meeting because part of the agreement with them is to provide this service before yearend. We were not able to get everything bid out and brought to the Board before this meeting, so we are only asking for authority to get the bid pieces on those items that we can. Dr. Williams stated that this approval is a little unusual, but the circumstances required it. Also, the Board item sets a not-to-exceed number for the bid, so that does put it in context. There are extraordinary circumstances that occur, especially when we have the gap between the May and June meetings and the next Board meeting, in September, he said. If we are to live up to the contract agreements, we need to have these approvals in place.

I just wanted to add, from a local community viewpoint, that the laser NIU fiber optic network certainly has influenced a lot of outsiders to relocate to the community, Trustee Boey commented. The fiber optic network was a definite plus in terms of being advantageous to the community. Congratulations for all the foresight you have put into it.

Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the Information Technology Services Expansion of NIUNet. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Butler. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.c.(7) – Bond Resolution for Existing Residence Halls and Other Infrastructure Improvements

As most of you know, NIU opened its last undergraduate residence hall more than 40 years ago. Our on-campus residential housing options are aging and in need of replacement or major renovation. The university is developing a comprehensive plan to flip most of our older residence halls to meet the changes in student residential housing and learning expectations. The resolution before the Board this afternoon requests approval to formally investigate the option of using revenue bonds to address much-needed repairs, deferred maintenance and improvements to existing residence hall facilities as well as to address other capital improvements necessary in, for instance, the campus parking system, campus recreation, the Holmes Student Center, and other infrastructure facility needs and improvements. The opportunity to pursue and use revenue bonds is greatly enhanced and attractive at this point in time because of the federal government's Build America Bond Program that allows universities to issue revenue bonds for improvements with a federal government commitment to pay up to 35 percent of the annual interest on the bonds through the life of the bonds. This new program at the federal level is part of the economic stimulus package Congress passed last year. The program, however, has limited shelf life and there is a narrow window. Thus, expediency indicates the need for the authorization resolution before you today, which allows the university, as a first step, to thoroughly investigate, explore and develop options. Once further information is developed in relation to bond issuance, the university will report back to the Board on its findings and recommendations. I want to clarify that as part of the university's comprehensive plan to replace and/or renovate our existing residence halls, we will continue to maintain our historic on-campus housing capacity at 6,000 beds. Dr. Hemphill, Dr. Williams, Provost Alden and I will continue to work diligently on both the public-private sector initiative for new residence halls and the renovation plan for existing residence halls.

As President Peters pointed out, Trustee Sanchez said, it has been almost 44 years ago that I had the privilege of moving into Grant Towers North when it was brand new. In the fall of 1966, I remember how important it was to me and my parents to see that I was moving into not just a habitable, but a beautiful, brand new state-of-the-art facility. Having passed that same facility last Saturday, I saw the dire needs for rehabilitation and repair work on that building. Frankly, I recall at that same time that the building we are sitting in today was a venerable old building, and had Altgeld Hall not been renovated in the last

decade, we would not be sharing the wonderful accommodations we have today. This is a commitment the Trustees take very seriously. We need it to grow this university and encourage the families and students that come here with nice accommodations, so that when people talk about the main campus in DeKalb they can say, not only do I get a great education there, but I have a great residence hall. My biggest concern at that time was that it was so far from the center of campus. Who would have thought we would continue to expand and grow as we have. It is with great delight that I support this motion. Because the university has grown the way it has, Trustee Boey noted, today Grant Towers is in a great location, almost in the center of campus.

I completely agree wholeheartedly with Trustee Sanchez's comments, Student Trustee Venaas said. Also, it is important to recognize that having quality residential facilities for students that supplement the academic facilities and give them the resources they need to succeed academically is important as well. As we go through and upgrade these facilities over time, it is going to complement the academic experiences by providing new facilities and new resources to insure student success, which is also critically important.

Because this is a very serious matter for all of us, Trustee Vella said, I would like to thank Dr. Williams for in taking advantage of creative financing and the federal dollars out there and for being proactive in this matter. We want the best quality living facilities for our students so that they want to come here, are comfortable and want to succeed. The Board thanks both Dr. Williams, President Peters and their teams for being so proactive and creative.

From my vantage point, the Chair has been very diligent in introducing the Board to the problems here and in directing and supporting necessary research and activity, Trustee Butler said, so I want to add Chair Strauss to that thanks. I also very much appreciate the work of Dr. Hemphill, Dr. Williams, the students and other Student Affairs professionals who have worked with them. This is an ambitious project and a very worthwhile one.

I want to reiterate all the congratulations, Trustee Murer said, but also to say on the record that, although we deal with such difficult financial issues right now, this Board did not vacillate in any way in knowing that the new direction we are taking is to assure that the residence halls are a positive environment for learning. It is not just the classroom you are looking at 24 hours a day, because a great deal of that time is spent in the residence halls, and that has to be as conducive to the learning process as any other part of the campus. There was unanimity in opinion that although we face difficult financial times, moving forward means we need to look to renovations of our residence halls.

Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve the authorization resolution referenced in Agenda Item 10.c.(7)., Bond Resolution for Existing Residence Halls and Other Infrastructure Improvements. Trustee Sanchez so moved, seconded by Trustee Boey. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 10.c.(8) – Cole-Stevens Complex Presentation

One of the few commitments the state has honored this year has been the release of capital funds necessary to begin the Cole Hall renovation. We have asked Jeff Daurer to provide the Board with a brief summary of the actual project now that all general programmatic decisions have been made for the building, and the architects and the engineers are actively engaged in the planning.

In response to the greatest tragedy NIU has ever endured, Mr. Daurer said, our leadership came forward with direction and purpose for the future of Cole Hall. Dr. Peters addressed the campus on April 28, 2008, when he wrote, "First, I want to report that the majority opinion on key issues differed very little from group to group. In ratios ranging from 3:1 to 4:1, our campus community asked that Cole Hall remain standing, but that it not be used for instructional purposes in its current configuration. Many of you invoke the memories of those whom we lost and expressed the desire to honor them by giving new life to the building where they died." The planning team took Dr. Peters' words about Cole having new life very seriously. Upon the Governor's funding announcement this past January, we began our search for a strong architectural firm. Cordogan Clark & Associates out of Aurora is that firm. They have both the sensitivity and the expertise to bring this project in on time, on budget and on scope.

Further survey efforts by the university determined that Jameson Auditorium should be renovated and recommissioned as a modern auditorium. We are going to take an auditorium that was essentially an airplane hanger with about 500 seats and turn it into a state-of-the-art, beautiful learning auditorium. It will contain 350 seats with cutting edge technology, collaborative seating, and professional lighting and acoustical engineering that will make this a place that students can hear and see and understand what is going on. We will also come up to modern standards for life safety and ADA codes.

In a depiction of how Jameson Auditorium could look, it showed the seating set up in tiers for traditional lecture style presentations by professors. But at some point, every other row will swivel 180 degrees so that students can work together on a table. While Jameson Auditorium will remain an auditorium, the rest of the first floor of Cole will be altered beyond recognition, Mr. Daurer continued. Our forward commitment is as follows. The intent is to relocate, redesign, modernize and improve upon the Anthropology Museum and the Stephens Annex Computer Lab as these move into the space previously used as Collins Auditorium, which will be completely reconfigured. The space will be intended for two major purposes. The Student Centered Active Learning Emporium for Typically Undergraduate Programs, or SCALE-UP for short. There are six pods with nine work stations at each of the pods. Students will be able to come together collaboratively on a project with a technology at these stations such as a touch screen or an LCD projector displaying the images of the project they are working on. The other major component is the Anthropology Museum. The new Anthropology Museum will remind us where we have been as a developing human culture, where we might be going, and the importance of the human interaction and cooperation in problem solving as we move forward, together.

Other building improvements that we intend to address during the renovation include the building façade, so that in the future when students come to campus, they will see a different building front, the egress and the traffic patterns will be enhanced significantly so that students can move through the building easier. Also a major overhaul will be done of the mechanical systems, including special temperature and humidity controls for the collections and the museum. Not to be forgotten, a major portion of our project is the replacement of the auditorium that will be built into the Stephens Building as part of the Stephens renovation in Phase II.

The project schedule is aggressive. We will be in schematic design until the middle of June, going on to design development into the middle of August. We will be working on our construction documents into November, then comes bidding, contracts. We will begin the renovation in January with completion by August. It will not be easy to complete in this timeframe, Mr. Daurer concluded, but we have the right team with the right attitude, and the input and the support of the faculty and the Provost.

Agenda Item 10.c.(9) – Grant and Contract Awards

Consent Agenda Item.

Just before the Chair began his report, Trustee Boey asked everyone to recognize Mrs. Barbara Cole Peters, who was present in the audience.

CHAIR'S REPORT NO. 47

Agenda Item 11.a. – Tenured Faculty Appeal Matter

In accordance with Board of Trustees *Regulations*, Chair Strauss said, an attorney in the General Counsel's Office, Deputy General Counsel for Employment and Labor Law Vickie Gillio, has been asked to provide an independent procedural review for the Board of a faculty dismissal matter. Ms Gillio has concluded that review with a determination that all requisite procedures have been handled appropriately by the University. Accordingly, I now ask for a motion to conclude that due to no prejudicial procedural error having been found, the Board of Trustees declines further consideration of the appeal of Dr. Qingwei Yao and that the dismissal from employment is implemented. Trustee Vella so moved, seconded by Trustee Boey. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 11.b. – Executive Session Minutes Review and Release

The Chair stated that the Illinois Open Meetings Act requires public bodies to review the minutes of their executive sessions on a semiannual basis and determine what parts of the minutes they should make available to the public because they no longer require confidential treatment. Accordingly, this item is proposed for compliance with the legal requirement by taking action upon the duly approved Executive Session Minutes of January 1996 through December 2009 of either the full Board of Trustees or standing committees of the Board which have not been previously released from confidentiality. Upon review and advice of the Board's General Counsel and Parliamentarian, the following sections of executive session minutes for the relevant period are proffered for release from confidentiality: Portions of the Executive Session Minutes of the NIU Board of Trustees or its committees from the following dates: June 17, 2004; September 23, 2004; December 9, 2004; March 24, 2005; June 16, 2005; September 15, 2005; December 1, 2005; February 28, 2006; March 23, 2006; June 15, 2006; December 7, 2006; June 21, 2007; August 6, 2008; September 18, 2008; and December 3, 2009. Those sections which are still subject to confidentiality, together with sections from subsequent meetings, will be considered again in six months. Chair Strauss asked for a motion to approve this review and determination as stated in the action item. Trustee Murer so moved, seconded by Student Trustee Venaas. The motion was approved.

Agenda Item 11.c. – Resolution Honoring Student Trustee Matthew Venaas

I want to personally thank you again, Matt, for your leadership and service to this Board, Chair Strauss said. You have been a valued member and a good representative for the students. Their viewpoints have been heard because of your insight and perspective. On behalf of my colleagues, I request a motion to approve the Resolution before you today honoring Matt's contributions to the Board. Trustee Boey so moved, seconded by Trustee Murer. The motion was approved.

I just want to wish you the very best, Matt, as you move forward into your life, Trustee Murer said, you have been terrific. I have been so impressed with how articulate you have been and how willing to stand up for the positions of the students, while also understanding your responsibilities on this Board.

More so than when I was a student representative, Trustee Butler said, the student trustee in this day and age exercises a great deal of advocacy behind the scenes and in individual conversations with Board members as well as through the shared governance process on a number of university committees. There is no doubt in my mind that Matt Venaas has been an exceptional advocate for student interests. I have appreciated his friendship and his support. I wish you very good luck and Godspeed in your graduate pursuits.

I want to thank Matt too, Trustee Vella said, he is a great guy and a colleague. He really has been one of us, and we have learned from him as much as I am sure he has learned from us. I really appreciate this year with you and wish you well, Matt.

I have certainly been very impressed with Matt through these two years, Trustee Boey said. I have seen him in action both internally with the Board of Trustees as well as externally for presentations at the NIU Foundation Board. There is no question in my mind, Matt, as to your success in the future, and you have my very best wishes.

I want to echo all my fellow Trustees comments, Trustee Sanchez said, and add something that has not been mentioned. I have seen Matt perform as a Student Trustee at extracurricular activities whether it was in the stadium watching a football game or in Canada watching the bowl activities. You really exemplified a true NIU student and now, as an alum, since you received your degree on Saturday, and we all expect big things from you as an NIU alum. Thank you for allowing us to share our trusteeship with you this past year.

Chair Strauss asked Matt to join him at the podium, and presented him with the following resolution:

RESOLUTION

HONORING

STUDENT TRUSTEE MATTHEW VENAAS

WHEREAS, Matthew Venaas has faithfully served as a student member of the Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 and

WHEREAS, prior to his election as student trustee in 2009, Matthew Venaas served in many capacities at Northern Illinois University, including Speaker of the Senate for the Student Association, Student Association Senator, and President and Vice of the Douglas Hall Council; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Venaas is currently a member of the Pleiades Chapter of the Mortar Board National College Senior Honor Society, the Political Science Student Advisory Committee and the Northern Illinois University Honors Program; and

WHEREAS, Matthew has received the Student Involvement and Leadership Development Junior Leadership Award, the Peters Scholarship for Outstanding Public Service in Political Science, the Residence Hall Association Outstanding Service Award, and other awards and honors during his time at Northern Illinois University; and

WHEREAS, Matthew Venaas invested much time and energy in his studies at Northern Illinois University as an undergraduate student, as well as in service to students; and

WHEREAS, Matthew has contributed valuable insight and information to the Board of Trustees regarding the student perspective on the rising cost of tuition, and striving to maintain NIU's affordability despite major budget reductions from the state; and

WHEREAS, we, as his colleagues on the Board of Trustees, want to express our appreciation for his service to the NIU students and community; and

WHEREAS, we are proud of his graduation from Northern Illinois University with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science in May 2010 and his continued pursuit of a Master of Arts in Political Science with an Emphasis in American Government;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University in formal meeting herein assembled, extends its grateful appreciation to Matthew Venaas for his leadership and service to Northern Illinois University students and the Board of Trustees.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this **RESOLUTION** be presented to Matthew Venaas and a copy of this document be placed in the official files of the Board of Trustees as part of the permanent record of the university and the great State of Illinois and as a lasting tribute to the accomplishments of Matthew Venaas.

Adopted in a regular meeting assembled this **13th** day of **May, 2010**.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Marc J. Strauss
Chair

Robert T. Boey
Secretary



I am very humbled and truly touched by all the kind things that you, my colleagues, had to say about me, Matt said. This has just been an incredibly rewarding and valuable experience, and I treasure the memories and experiences we have had together. I want to thank you all for your insight and the help you have given me throughout the year. I also want to thank my colleagues in the Student Association, both our outgoing and incoming executive officers, specifically my successor, Rob Sorsby, who could not be here today. I am very confident with him taking my place on the Board, with the leadership of you all, including Dr. Peters and others in the administration, and I am very excited and very confident in the direction of this institution. Very serious challenges lie ahead with our state financial situation. We have

a very ambitious residence hall project we are about to begin in the near future. But I am incredibly confident in the direction that this university is going, and I look forward to staying in touch with all of you in the future.

Agenda Item 11.d. – Resolution Honoring President John Peters for Ten Years of Exemplary Leadership

It is my privilege to bring a resolution celebrating the tenth anniversary of John Peters' presidency of Northern Illinois University, Chair Strauss stated. NIU and its Board of Trustees have benefitted immeasurably from John's steady leadership and profound understanding of higher education and, specifically, the vast array of departments, budgetary and policy resources and obligations of NIU. This is a half-billion dollar corporation with over 30,000 people – faculty, staff and students.

We all live daily with the ramifications of the State's worst fiscal crisis since the Great Depression. Yet, John Peters and his executive team, have effectively led this university through these hard times, routinely working 15-hour days in order for NIU to emerge meeting its mission of providing quality programs and services to our students and region, yet minimizing the impact on our valued faculty and staff.

As Chair of the Board, I bring this resolution commending John Peters for ten years of excellence at the helm of NIU. Simply put, John, NIU needs your wisdom, expertise and counsel in the coming months and years. The Chair then asked for a second to his motion to honor the President for his exemplary leadership and distinguished service to NIU. Student Trustee Venaas seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

I still vividly recall when Trustee Boey and I had the privilege of serving on the selection committee when we had the final interviews with the finalists and leaving that site before Myron and others had gone down to talk to John about coming up, thinking how blessed we would be if he were to choose to come to NIU, Trustee Sanchez commented. I had big, positive, ambitious plans for this university with our new leader, and he has fulfilled every one of them, notwithstanding the very challenging times we are in. So, thank you John for everything you and Barb have brought to this campus and continued good health. We are blessed to have had your leadership.

Well, to continue a little where Manny left off, Trustee Boey said, we were interviewing the final eight candidates, and I think John Peters may have been the third one. At the end of his interview, I knew right then and there, that we had our president. The job remaining was to convince him that it was in his best interest to come here. To our great fortune, he did, and he has exceeded even our biggest expectations. No question about it. Denise Schoenbachler, Dean of our College of Business, also was part of that search committee, and she will verify exactly my feelings from that meeting. Thank you so much John and Barbara for being here with us through all the successes and the sorrows.

So many words can and will be said about John Peters, Trustee Murer said, but the most important thing to tell you is how beloved you are by this university. You are NIU and NIU is you. And we appreciate Barbara Peters, and all the work that you have always done side by side with John. This is ten years down, ten more to go, John.

To me, President Peters is a leader, Trustee Vella stated. He has a great vision for this university. Sometimes we can be in the depths of a very depressing discussion, and he can just lift us up with a good idea and turn things around so we see the positive side of it. That is leadership. Also, he is very hard working, and I thank Barbara for sharing him with us. It is a 24/7 job. It is not one of those jobs you can just walk away from. Another thing that really amazes me is how much finesse he has in knowing how to get people on board and working with him. I really appreciate all the hard work that the Peters' have done for this university.

At the Student Association inauguration on April 30, Trustee Butler said, I noticed that there was a quote from John Peters in the back of the program along with a photo of him. It caused me to realize just how admired you are by the students. So much so that you are the person they quote on that very important

and official day. From my perspective as a Trustee, I just met you recently, and I appreciate very much how welcoming you were and the time you have spent with me to see that the issues I was concerned about were talked about and received the due attention. But, just as a person whose area of interest and expertise is public argumentation, I wanted to add that it is probably the area where John has most impressed me. Few of you are privileged enough to see John in a sort of close interaction with the leaders in the state legislature. I have seen that before, and he is really quite an extraordinary advocate. I found myself in awe in some cases, not just with the arguments that he was making, but with the careful strategy that he works out ahead of time and the thoughtfulness that he uses in executing that very strategy. Congratulations, John, on ten years.

Being a student member of this Board, Student Trustee Venaas said, there are not a lot of things, such as having to vote on tuition and fees, that I can confidently stand up and say I speak for the entire student body on. But this is something that I know the students stand behind me on when I say that we greatly appreciate and value your service to the institution. Both as a student and a Trustee, I know that you are someone a lot of us look up to for your strong leadership traits and your outstanding morals and character. You really are a very strong advocate for the students on this campus, both publicly and privately. Thank you for all that you do for NIU.

Chair Strauss asked President Peters and Mrs. Barbara Peters to join him at the podium where he presented the President with the following resolution.

R E S O L U T I O N
HONORING
President John G. Peters
for EXEMPLARY LEADERSHIP and SERVICE
TO NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

WHEREAS, in June 2000, John G. Peters was unanimously appointed President of Northern Illinois University where he has effectively and faithfully served and is now celebrating ten years of exemplary leadership; and

WHEREAS, just as in his prior position as Provost and Senior Vice Chancellor of the University of Tennessee at Knoxville where he was known as the “student’s provost,” John Peters quickly developed a student-centered presidency at Northern Illinois University focused on and committed to the needs and welfare of students where he regularly engages students to seek opinions, answer questions and listen to concerns; and

WHEREAS, the National Association of Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education recently awarded John Peters its highest honor, the President’s Award, citing John’s “vision for and stewardship of Northern Illinois University over the past decade...” that continues to advance the quality of student life on campus; and

WHEREAS, having a decade of distinguished and exemplary service as president, John G. Peters stands as the senior and highly respected dean among the presidents of Illinois public universities sharing his experience and leadership as convener of the State Council of Presidents and Chancellors; and

WHEREAS, since John Peters assumed the helm of Northern Illinois University, NIU has been admitted to the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities, has been granted full membership in the prestigious Universities Research Association and has earned the selective Research Universities – High Research Activity designation of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching; and

WHEREAS, John G. Peters’ leadership as President has further resulted in the successful completion of the university’s first-ever comprehensive private fundraising campaign exceeding its \$150 million goal, thereby providing much needed funding to support more than twenty named professorships and distinguished faculty chairs, to further support quality teaching and research, and to provide over \$8.2 million in scholarship support for over 13,700 NIU students; and

WHEREAS, John G. Peters has led the effort for NIU to obtain tens of millions of dollars in federal funding in support of the academic programs, research, and student and public services of the university including the development of one of the finest university clinical care facilities at the Family Health, Wellness and Literacy Center, a state-of-the-art Community Cares primary care clinic in partnership with Kishwaukee Community Hospital, construction of a freestanding research facility that houses the university's premier Center for the Study of Family Violence and Sexual Assault, an entire roadway system for over 200 acres on the West Campus, university management of one of only two neutron cancer treatment and research facilities in the United States, funds to develop and construct a high-speed fiber optic network providing municipalities, schools, libraries, hospitals, research facilities and clinics in the university's service region with enhanced broadband capacity to fuel economic development and improved health care and enhanced faculty and student research in the Departments of Physics, Chemistry, Psychology, the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology, the College of Education, and the College of Health and Human Sciences; and

WHEREAS, despite having to serve during a period of unprecedented state budget reductions, limitations, and uncertainty, President Peters has provided exceptional and dynamic leadership and has forged ahead to preserve this great university, its quality academic programs and services, and yet has held as a priority the welfare of our faculty, staff, students and their families despite reduced and uncertain state support; and

WHEREAS, in spite of limited resources and state support for capital improvements, President Peters' leadership and perseverance has allowed the institution to address any identified health and safety concerns and also obtained funding for the completion of the renovations and reopening of NIU's signature building, Altgeld Hall; built an extensive new chiller system to efficiently regulate temperatures in campus facilities; developed the architectural plans and final engineering drawings to renovate Stevens Hall, home of the university's theatre and dance and anthropology programs; and procure funds to complete the renovation and re-opening of Cole Hall, site of the tragic shootings on February 14, 2008; and

WHEREAS, John G. Peters demonstrated compassion, dignity, strength and leadership during the immediate and continuing aftermath of the February 14, 2008 campus tragedy, including his service as the face and voice of Northern Illinois University to citizens and media representatives throughout the campus, city, region, state, country and world during those critical hours and days following the tragic shootings that claimed the lives of five students and injured 21 others; and

WHEREAS, John G. Peters, in a presidency in which he is credited with leading by example, has established the John G. and Barbara Cole Peters Scholarship for Outstanding Public Service, which was established for students who intend to pursue a public service career; and

WHEREAS, John Peters' presidency is critically vital and has served in the best interest of this university through superior, creative and courageous leadership, especially in these challenging times;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University in formal meeting herein assembled, extends its grateful appreciation to John and Barbara Peters for ten years of distinguished, dynamic, and exemplary service and leadership of Northern Illinois University and that the Board of Trustees fully supports, encourages and looks forward with great anticipation and confidence to President Peters' continued service and leadership of this great university.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this **RESOLUTION** be presented to John G. Peters and a copy of this document be placed in the official files of the Board of Trustees as part of the permanent record of the university and the state of Illinois and as a lasting tribute to the on-going accomplishments and contributions of John G. Peters as President of Northern Illinois University.

Adopted in a regular meeting assembled this **13th** day of **May, 2010**.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

Marc J. Strauss
Chair

Robert T. Boey
Secretary



Barb and I are very appreciative of this, President Peters said. It was more than ten years ago when we stepped on campus, and we immediately fell in love with it because of the students and because we thought it fit us. It was our backgrounds, working-class kids who wanted to work hard and get a good education. It does not seem like ten years, it happened so fast, and I have met so many wonderful students like Matthew, and the Trustees have been great. I cannot say it has been easy, but I would do it all over again – if I had another ten years.

Thank you so much Board members and others. We are touched and humbled by your resolution. It has truly been my honor and privilege to serve as NIU's President these past ten years. And, of course, Barbara joins me in that sentiment. All those accomplishments that you heard are the result of many things, and I am probably the least of them, the most important of which is NIU's ability to work together for the benefit of our students and this great institution. At NIU, shared governance is not merely a phrase, it is an operating principle. As President, I can personally attest to the academic excellence and talent of our faculty, the dedication and professionalism of our staff, the commitment and experience of our senior administration, and the cohesiveness and unwavering support of our Board of Trustees.

The next weeks, months and the next academic year are going to be challenging. But as reported in today's meeting, we are also embarking on many new and exciting enhancements to NIU. If we continue to work together in the spirit of shared governance, I am confident that we will meet, and in true NIU fashion, exceed the bold vision and goals we have set for the next ten years. Thank you again for this gratifying resolution and God bless Northern Illinois University.

Agenda Item 11.e. – Fiscal Year 2011 Board of Trustees Officer Election Results

Chair Strauss asked Ken Davidson to provide the results of the secret balloting regarding the FY11 slate of officers for the Board.

Mr. Davidson reported that he had collected and tallied the ballots, and had the count verified by Board Recording Secretary Sharon Banks-Wilkins. No absentee ballots were cast. Each nominated officer received at least a majority of the members of the Board eligible to vote, and that would be five of eight. Trustees duly elected by secret ballot for Fiscal Year 2011 are:

Board Chair	Trustee Marc Strauss
Board Vice Chair	Trustee John Butler
Board Secretary	Trustee Bob Boey
Fourth Trustee Member of the Executive Committee	Trustee Cheryl Murer
Delegate to the Universities Civil Service Merit Board	Trustee Barbara Giorgi Vella

NEXT MEETING DATE

The Chair announced that the next regular full Board of Trustees meeting is scheduled for September 16, 2010 on the DeKalb campus.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no Other Matters, Chair Strauss requested a motion to adjourn. Trustee Sanchez so moved, seconded by Trustee Vella. The motion was approved. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Banks-Wilkins
Recording Secretary