



**Northern Illinois  
University**

**NIU Student Health**

**Lisa Freeman, Acting President**

**Board of Trustees Meeting**  
June 14, 2018

# Background



- Health Services was one area identified in the university's Program Prioritization process as an opportunity for transformation.
- NIU has utilized varied approaches to health services for different student populations:
  - All students vs. student athletes
- Issued two RFPs in 2017 to identify new service provider; both were unsuccessful
- With support of Procurement, we sought a partnership with Northwestern Medicine.

# Benefits



- Northwestern Medicine (NWM) is one of the top integrated health systems in the nation. Their commitment, capacity, resources, expertise and provider network will enable our students' medical needs to be met with excellent care and superior patient satisfaction
  - NWM Mission and Values...*the patient comes first*
  - The healthcare industry is constantly changing; a provider partner like NWM is well-positioned to navigate the dynamic landscape and respond to changes
  - NWM ability to handle multiple insurance plans will simplify billing and make it easier for all students to use campus clinic services.

# The Approach



- Parties have signed a Letter of Intent
- Negotiations are underway with NWM to deliver health services to our students through the management of Student Health Services.
  - Transition to be effective early 2019
- NIU executed a contract with NWM to provide athletics medicine services beginning July 2018.
  - Student-athletes will continue to receive the highest level of healthcare, and will now be able to take advantage of a broad range of specialists offered through NWM.

# Key Considerations Moving Forward



A thoughtful and thorough work plan, timeline, and communications plan are needed to provide greater operational definition to key areas:

- Financial Model
- Clinical Services Model
- Infrastructure (including facilities and technology)
- Alumni, Donor and Community Relations

# Next Steps



- Confirm service delivery expectations with NWM
- Assess and validate assumptions
- Implement a governance process
- Continue proactive communications with the university community
- Finalize a contract