

# Media Buying Services



**Northern Illinois University**  
*Your Future. Our Focus.*

**June 13, 2019**  
**Board of Trustees Meeting**



# Strategic Enrollment Management Plan

- **Objective**

“Increase the financial investment in university marketing and advertising by fiscal year 2020 to stand out in the competitive market”

- **Tactic**

“Increase funds in advertising to increase our reach and impact, and commit to advertising budgets one year in advance”



# NIU Advertising Strategy

## Centralize and leverage buying power of one media-buying agency to:

- Promote specific recruitment events
- Generate greater awareness for NIU's brand and its academic offerings
- Provide recommendations based on data analytics
- Achieve cost savings through the vendor's purchasing ability
  - Hambrick estimates more than \$72K in bonus exposure in FY19 through negotiations with its vendors
- Enable the department to respond more rapidly



# Context/History

- **March 2017**  
BOT approved expenditure authority
  - FY18-23; one-year, initial term with 5 one-year renewals for total of \$2,400,000
- **FY18**  
General market, new online program marketing
- **FY19**  
General market, new online program marketing
- **FY20 and Beyond**  
SEM plan execution





# FY20 and Beyond

- Approval of BOT expenditure authority for media buying services for FY20 (Wiley to manage online programs)
  - Not to exceed \$3,000,000
- Begin new RFP process this summer
- After RFP process, return to BOT with new contract for approval of future years
- Analytics, measurement and accountability



# Final Considerations

## To meet the SEM objectives, advertising efforts will:

- Further strengthen NIU brand presence in a crowded and expensive marketplace for greater repetition and reach
- Remain present in the market throughout the entire year
- Introduce additional campaigns to engage new markets
- Provide flexibility to respond to new needs as they are identified during the fiscal year (i.e. change in out-of-state tuition, AIM HIGH)
- Align with multi-year planning and budget goals



# Questions/Comments?

