BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, STUDENT AFFAIRS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

February 26, 2015
AGENDA

NIU Board of Trustees
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS, STUDENT AFFAIRS AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
11 a.m. – Thursday – February 26, 2015
Board of Trustees Room
315 Altgeld Hall

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Verification of Quorum and Appropriate Notification of Public Meeting
3. Meeting Agenda Approval .......................................................................................... Action........i
4. Review and Approval of Minutes of November 6, 2014 ........................................ Action........1
5. Chair’s Comments/Announcements
6. Public Comment*
7. University Recommendations
   a. Nankai-Northern Illinois University International College .................................. Action........10
   b. Request for New Degree Program for B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism Management. Action........11
   c. Request for New Degree Programs Responding to ISBE Changes in Middle School Level Educator Licensure ................................................................................ Action........13
   d. Recommendations for Faculty and Supportive Professional Staff Sabbatical Leaves for the 2015-2016 Academic Year ................................................................. Action........14
8. University Report
   a. Faculty Presentation on Sabbatical Leave ............................................................... Information........16
   b. Sixth Annual Report on the Outcomes of Sabbatical Leaves ............................... Information........17
   c. Curricular Diversity ............................................................................................... Information........19
9. Closed Session
10. Other Matters
11. Next Meeting Date
12. Adjournment
*The Board and its committees comply with P.A. 91-0715 through its Bylaws, Article II, Section 5.B:

1. Consistent with Public Act 91-0715 and reasonable constraints determined by these Bylaws and the Chair, at each regular or special meeting of the Board or its committees that is open to the public, members of the public may request a brief time on the approved agenda of the meeting to address the Board on relevant matters within its jurisdiction.

2. Committees of the Board review University proposals for action and make adjustments and endorsements as appropriate for further consideration by the full Board. Public comments are generally most useful at meetings of Board committees, where proposals are first considered and the time for interaction most feasible.

3. To facilitate an orderly process, appearance requests must be registered on a Board-provided form and submitted to the Board’s Parliamentarian at least 45 minutes before the meeting is scheduled to be called to order. To be recognized, the appearance request will include the name, address and position of the individual wishing to speak, the name of the organization or group represented, a concise summary of the presentation, and whether the requestor has appeared earlier on the topic before any other meeting of the Board. The Parliamentarian may confer with registered speakers to cooperatively assist the Chair of the meeting in assuring coordinated issue presentation and an efficient use of allocated time. The Parliamentarian will acquaint requestors with the generally acceptable rules of decorum for their presentations. In lieu of oral presentations, individuals may present brief written materials not to exceed five (5) pages to the Parliamentarian for distribution and consideration by the Board in advance of the meeting.

4. The Chair of the meeting will recognize duly registered individuals at the appropriate point during the meeting. Unduly repetitive comments may be discouraged and restricted by the Chair. To assure an orderly and timely meeting the Chair may limit time allotments to five minutes or less, may delay or defer appearances when appropriate, and defer or refer questions received from presenters for answers if available.

Anyone needing special accommodations to participate in the NIU Board of Trustees meetings should contact Ellen Andersen, Director of Special Events, at (815)753-1999, as soon as possible, normally at least a week before the scheduled Board meeting.
CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robert Marshall at 9 a.m. in the Board of Trustees Room, 315 Altgeld Hall. Recording Secretary Liz Wright conducted a roll call of Trustees. Members present were Trustees Robert Boey, Wheeler Coleman, Cherilyn Murer, Marc Strauss, Student Trustee Paul Julion, Committee Chair Robert Marshall, and BOT Chair John Butler. Also present were President Douglas Baker, Committee Liaison Lisa Freeman, Board Liaison Mike Mann, General Counsel Gregory Brady, and UAC Representative Bill Pitney. With a quorum present, the meeting proceeded.

VERIFICATION OF QUORUM AND APPROPRIATE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Chair Marshall asked Mr. Brady to verify that there is a quorum and that the appropriate notice of this meeting has been posted.

Board Parliamentarian Brady confirmed that a quorum was reached and appropriate notices were provided by the university.

MEETING AGENDA APPROVAL

Chair Marshall asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Board Chair Butler made a motion to approve the agenda, seconded by Trustee Murer. The motion was approved.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chair Marshall asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the AASAP meeting of August 28, 2014. It was moved by Trustee Strauss and seconded by Trustee Boey to approve the minutes. The motion was approved.

CHAIR’S COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chair Marshall welcomed everyone to the meeting and said that the agenda today consists of two items for approval and one information item. The first approval item is a request for a change in degree designation in order to change the Doctorate of Education in Counselor Education and Supervision (EdD) to a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD). The second item for approval is a request for a new program, the Doctor of Nursing Practice, further known as the DNP. He noted the presence of representatives for both items and suggested that Provost Freeman identify them as needed during the discussion for questions and clarifications. The final informational item related to the oversight of academic programs, which is what we normally refer to as our program review. Vice Provost Douglass submitted a summary of the report for the committee book but also shared the full report with us. Before asking Dr. Freeman to deliver the university report, Chair Marshall recognized the representatives of the university advisory committee, noting Professor Dan Gebo was unable to attend and asking Professor Pitney to confirm his presence.
Pitney replied in the affirmative.

Chair Marshall asked Professor Pitney if he had any comments, questions, or information for the Board.

Pitney said he had one comment pertaining to both the requests for the new degree program and the oversight of academic programs, which are on the agenda for today, commenting that university faculty are enthusiastic about both the PhD in Counselor Education in terms of a change of degree designation and the Doctor of Nursing Practice. I think these are exciting changes on our campus.

Marshall noted his particular interest in one of the changes since the second degree that he earned was in guidance and counselling from Northern Illinois University.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Chair Marshall asked Mr. Brady, whether there were any public comment requests.

Parliamentarian Brady replied that no requests for public comment have been made.

UNIVERSITY RECOMMENDATIONS/REPORTS

Agenda Item 7.a. Request for a Change in Degree Designation

Chair Marshall introduced Dr. Freeman, Provost and Executive Vice President, to present the university report.

Provost Freeman thanked Chair Marshall and shared the following comments: We have, as Trustee Marshall noted, two university recommendations and one university report, so two action items and one information item. Our first action item is what Trustee Marshall just shared as his favorite item on the agenda today, the change in degree designation from Counselor Education and Supervision, changing from an Ed.D. to a Ph.D. degree within the department of Counselling, Adult and Higher Education in NIU’s College of Education. This is a change that reflects current market and academic higher education practices. Data that were collected in September 2013 indicated that 62 programs in the United States are accredited by the body that accredits our program. Of those 62 programs, only nine continue to offer the Ed.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision, the remaining 53 programs either offered the Ph.D. or were in the process of transitioning the Ph.D., thus the change that we are proposing today will make NIU graduates more competitive with those who graduate from other doctoral programs in Educational Counselling and Supervision and increase the likelihood that prospective students interested in this field would identify NIU as an institution of first choice. The Counselor in Education and Supervision faculty have been preparing for this transition for a number of years and have already implemented the necessary changes in course work and program requirements to move to the Ph.D. as the doctoral degree. Once the Ph.D. degree is implemented, all students will be admitted to this program and the Ed.D. degree will be phased out. Students who are currently enrolled in the program will be given the option of electing the Ed.D. degree or the Ph.D. degree if they complete the appropriate requirements. To summarize our recommendation, the university recommends that the Academic Affairs Student Affairs and Personnel Committee endorse this request and ask that the president forward it by means of the president’s report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its December 4, 2014 meeting.

Chair Marshall asked for a motion on the recommendation.

Trustee Strauss moved to approve and Trustee Boey seconded the motion. Chair Marshall asked for discussion or comments on the motion. Provost Freeman noted that Associate Dean Marc VanOverbeke and Department Chair Suzanne Degges-White were present if the Board had questions.
Trustee Strauss asked for a brief description as to what the differences in the curriculum are between the Ed.D. and the Ph.D. Associate Dean VanOverbeke said that the change from the Ed.D. to the Ph.D. will reflect heightened focus on research and research intensive practices within the program and also that it brings NIU in line with, as the Provost pointed out, our accrediting bodies and with the curriculum that is currently in place in the department. Chair Degges-White stated that in fall 2010 and fall 2011 new documentation and new catalog language were added to the catalog to reflect all the changes that were made for the Ed.D. to the Ph.D. The Ph.D. is a more robust, rigorous, research oriented degree versus the more clinician oriented Ed.D degree. A masters is a terminal degree for practice in this field.

Trustee Murer asked for clarification, was defending a dissertation required under the Ed.D.? Associate Dean VanOverbeke replied that yes, it was. Trustee Murer stated that this requirement remains the same. Associate Dean VanOverbeke agreed. Board Chair Butler noted Chair Degges-White’s comment that the master’s degree was the terminal degree for this profession. Chair Degges-White replied yes, in terms of practice, it is the practitioner’s degree. The Ph.D. is a degree for counselor educators, for those who want to go into counselor education, faculty, supervision, advanced supervision. The Ph.D. is the degree that is necessary to become a counselor educator and scholar practitioner. The master’s is a degree that opens the doors for you professionally to work as a professional counselor in school counseling and clinical mental health counselling. Board Chair Butler asked whether there will there be a demand for the Ed.D. Chair Degges-White noted that the Ed.D. has phased out-- as we mentioned 53 programs have transitioned from Ed.D. to Ph.D. NIU wants the Ph.D. because that is a much more contemporary and relevant degree for the amount of research that counselor educators are expected to do for the discipline. Board Chair Butler then confirmed that for professionals in the field, the masters is the industry standard terminal degree. Chair Degges-White replied, yes sir that continues. Associate Dean VanOverbeke added that students are asking for the Ph.D., including those who are already in the Ed.D. program.

Committee Chair Marshall asked whether there were other questions or comments. He thanked the Board for their discussion and questions. He called for the vote at this time. All in favor of the recommendation to move this forward to the regular board meeting, please signify with aye. The motion passed unanimously. Provost Freeman thanked the Board and said that NIU students in the program will appreciate the trustee's action which will allow them to maintain a competitive edge in their chosen careers.

**Agenda Item 7.b. Request for a New Degree Program**

Provost Freeman introduced the second action item, the request for a new degree program. The university is seeking approval for a Doctor of Nursing Practice, a DNP program in the School of Nursing and Health Studies within the College of Health and Human Sciences. The proposed degree program expands roles for nurses in the health care industry in response to a proposed requirement for the DNP as entry into advanced practice nursing. This will, in a similar way to the previous action, maintain the competitive advantage for NIU in attracting well qualified applicants to graduate nursing programs and will deliver the knowledge and skills for nurses to practice in an increasingly complex health care system with diverse clients. The DNP is a practice oriented professional degree similar to the emphasis that is placed on professional practice doctor in other health professions, including degrees that are already offered at NIU, such as the DPT, the Doctor of Physical Therapy, and the AUD, the Doctor of Audiology. The degree is a logical extension of the existing programs and builds upon the expertise and facilities already in place. The year 2015 is the proposed target for mandating the DNP as entry level educational preparation for advanced nursing roles by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) and while the final deadline and mandate for converting all educational programs to the DNP has not yet been announced, it is likely to occur within the next five years. If NIU’s graduate nursing programs are to remain viable it is important that the proposed DNP program be implemented prior to the date when DNP preparation will be mandated by the AACN for nurse practitioners and clinical nurse specialists. The university recommends specifically that the Academic Affairs Student Affairs and Personnel Committee
endorse this request and ask that the President forward it by means of the President’s report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its December 4, 2014 meeting. Again this is approval for a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree program in the School of Nursing and Health Studies within the College of Health and Human Sciences.

Chair Marshall asked for a motion on the recommendation.

Trustee Murer moved to approve and Trustee Coleman seconded the motion. Chair Marshall asked for discussion or comments on the motion. Provost Freeman noted that Dean Derryl Block and Associate Dean Beverly Henry were present if the Board had questions.

Trustee Murer asked the Provost if someone from the college could just give a brief overview of the nursing degrees currently being offered in the School of Nursing and Health Studies and whether there is a program being replaced by this one, and how the master’s level degree fit in this whole perspective. Provost Freeman asked Dean Block and Associate Dean Henry to speak. Dean Block replied that at this point there is a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, which is the undergraduate degree. There are a number of other tracks, including direct entry pre-licensure and a completion track for people that have an RN and an associate degree in order to complete their Bachelor of Science. There is also an MS in nursing with multiple tracks, including the nurse practitioner tracks, an educator track, and a number of other tracks in that Master of Science program. We will still be giving the BS and the MS. There is one track in the MS that is related to the nurse practitioner tracks; it’s our view that many people will be going from that into the DNP program. At this time the MS track will remain as you can still practice with that degree. It is likely that at some point, enrollment in the MS will shrink and we will evaluate the market demand and stop if that happens.

Trustee Murer asked where is the biggest demand within the next three years proportionately in nursing programs? Dean Block replied that the DNP is what people are wanting because they see all of the documentation, everything, all the articles are saying you are going to need a DNP if you are a nurse practitioner. Trustee Murer replied that she was speaking quantitatively. In the next three years as you look at your students, if you have 200 students or 500 students or a 1000 students, whatever that is, what is the proportional distribution of degrees? Is it still the bachelor’s degree in nursing? Dean Block replied yes, it is still the bachelor’s degree in nursing. Trustee Murer asked by 70-80 percent? Dean Block replied yes. The people that are looking to be nurse practitioners want to go into a DNP program. We will be left behind if we do not have a DNP program. Trustee Murer thanked her for her comments.

Board Chair Butler asked how many credit hours are required for the program and after course work, is there practicum work or clinical work? I am also curious in what specific types of careers the graduates with this degree go into. Dean Block replied that there will be two ways to enter the DNP program, post-bachelors and post-masters. Our first offering will be post-masters and that will be 35 credits, 6 semester hours and the students are already nurse practitioners but they want the DNP. It will be mainly course work with nine credits of a scholarly project. This is not a dissertation, this is a project where they are going to plan a project, implement the project, and evaluate it in a practice arena. The post-bachelors DNP is for those students that have a bachelor’s of science in nursing and would directly enter a DNP program. That would include 48 credits of advanced practice preparation, similar to what we have now in our nurse practitioner program, and 35 credits that are in the DNP program. The post-bachelor’s track will not be started initially because the current demand is post-masters. Graduates of either of these tracks will have a DNP and they will be working in a number of settings- giving direct service mainly in primary care kinds of settings, working as nurse practitioners. Graduates also often enter the industry in non-direct care kinds of careers including administration and evaluation; thus, significant portion of graduates do not end up in direct care. The other thing, even though our program really emphasizes primary care, we do see an emerging market in DNP’s, even DNP’s who have been educated in a primary care concentration, working in non-primary care settings; hospitals, clinics that are secondary care clinics.
Trustee Coleman noted that existing resources will be reallocated to support the DNP. He agrees that this program is necessary, and wondered whether resources have been reallocated to support the high demand for both the bachelor’s and master’s in nursing. Provost Freeman replied that NIU is embarking on program prioritization process. A formal program prioritization process for all of its programs academic and non-academic. The criteria have not been completely agreed upon and weighted by the university community, but they will very much include things like internal demand, external demand, history, revenue required to support the program, and revenue generated by enrollment in the program. A formal process will compare our programs to each other and make resource allocation decisions based on the kinds of things that the Trustees just raised. Provost Freeman noted as an example that it could be envisioned that within the College of Health and Human Sciences over time and different prioritization cycles, the prioritization of the DNP would be greater than that of the masters as the market demands and then requires the DNP and the masters becomes a more obsolete degree. The data that would be submitted as part of the prioritization process by the college would address the specific questions about the tiers of training and education within nursing. The resources will come from reallocation according to strategic priorities in a way that allows our budget to align with our planning priorities as a university. This must honor market demand in areas like health professions. Differential tuition is another opportunity because this is a program that will be extremely attractive to people who are currently at the master’s level in the nursing profession and over time, as the Dean has indicated, to people who are bachelor nurses.

Trustee Coleman asked Provost Freeman, when do we expect the assessment to be completed in terms of prioritization of degrees and allocations of resources? When do we anticipate that to be done? Provost Freeman replied, as you know from reviewing the detailed information that Nancy Suttenfield, our Chief Financial Officer, and I submitted previously in the Board of Trustees committees, last spring and going into this fall, we have been using prioritization of vacancies that need to be refilled as our first step in aligning budget and strategic priorities. We have now begun the process of looking at program prioritization. To date we have sent a team of ten NIU faculty, staff and administrators including Bill Pitney, the president of the Faculty Senate and Chair of the University Council; representatives from our shared governance committees; representatives from the provosts office; one of the deans; and some data specialists to a conference that looked at how these programs have been implemented at universities across the nation and we came back with the idea that that the conference attendees would be the coordinating team. Vice Provost Douglass, who we will hear from in a minute, is actually going to be the primary facilitator. We are in the process of educating the campus community about the process and setting the timeline for adopting our priorities and weighting them. We believe that this spring’s budget process will be some distance from pure vacancy control, but probably shy of pure program prioritization. We believe that by the next year’s budget cycle we will be in full program prioritization mode. Does that answer your question?

Trustee Coleman answered that it does answer his question. Regarding the DNP program, how much reallocation of funds is necessary? Is there a business plan moving forward. Dean Block said that it is not fully formulated yet. We are increasing our credit hours for the DNP versus the MS and we would need some additional staff that would be prepared in a way that would meet our accreditor’s standards. We have prepared the present program to be as efficient as it can be. And I am going to let Associate Dean Beverly Henry talk about that. Associate Dean Henry thanked Dean Block and continued to describe the work done by the nursing program. The faculty have updated the curriculum in order to ensure it meets the accreditation standards for the terminal practice degree and along the way they brought up changes to the master’s program. It will actually dovetail very nicely and will cause us to have increased expenses for those course offerings and for the faculty to provide the DNP programs of seminars and workshops, but at least the master’s program will be stronger and have overlap. The work focused on the DNP also brought along the master’s program to the current accreditation standards.

Provost Freeman complimented the college and the School of Nursing and Health Studies for always
being among, if not “the most cost effective” provider of nursing education in the state of Illinois. She added that in preparing to allocate resources to this degree, we would also complete a study of differential tuition possibilities by looking at what the cost of competitor programs would be and what the market would bear. Dean Block replied absolutely and hopes that that will be a possibility for us to do.

Trustee Coleman noted that he has heard from students who have attempted to transfer into Northern or attempted to major in the nursing program that it is really competitive and we do not have enough scale in this space and, in light of the fact that we are trying to expand our enrollment population, we also need to take into consideration as we are creating these programs, how do we get scale, right? How do we get scalability so we can bring in more students within the program itself? Trustee Boey stated that he has a niece who graduated from the nursing program at NIU about two or three years ago with a bachelor’s degree. Given her situation and having worked for two or three years, what is the process for her to get into the DNP process? Dean Block said that once it is approved there will be an application process. We will not initially start with a BS to DNP program. The first few years of the program there will not be entry from the bachelor’s level to our DNP program. But eventually there will be a pathway established for nurses with a bachelor’s to apply. Trustee Boey said okay, great. I cannot say enough about the quality and how proud we are of the nursing program. It’s a great program. Thank you for keeping it that way.

Board Chair Butler continued working off of Trustee Coleman’s questions related to resource reallocation, what is your answer to the sort of logical question, will this take resources from the your bachelor’s program? Dean Block replied that the DNP will not take resources from our bachelor’s program. Our bachelor's program is about as thin as it could possibly be.

Committee Chair Marshall asked whether there were additional comments or discussion. He asked that looking into the future do you see a rapidly developing waiting list, the demand being high? Associate Dean Henry stated that students who call with questions for the master’s program are now asking about whether there will be a DNP. There are a lot of people in the community that are debating about whether to start the master’s program here or elsewhere because of the availability of DNP degrees at other institutions. There are even high school students or undergraduates at career fairs asking whether NIU has a DNP. Our goal is not to compromise any one of the nursing programs, but rather to strengthen them so there can be a seamless progression up to the terminal practice degree.

Committee Chair Marshall complemented them on the planning process utilized. He said- I think I see a bright future ahead and with that if there are no other comments, I will ask for the approval to send this forward to the regular board meeting. He called for the vote at this time. All in favor of the recommendation to move this forward to the regular board meeting, please signify with aye. The motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item 8.a. Overview of Academic Programs – Information Item

Provost Freeman noted that there is one remaining information item as part of the university report. As just described, the university will be embarking on a program prioritization process. Program prioritization, as I mentioned, is truly about comparing NIU programs to one another with the idea that we need to make strategic investment that may result in resource reallocation. Program prioritization is related to, but distinct from, program review. Program review is something that NIU has been doing for a long time to ensure the quality of the academic programs by looking at how our programs compare to programs around the state, around the nation, and around the world in terms of benchmarks for program quality. Provost Freeman asked Vice Provost Douglass, who has overseen this process, to talk today about the oversight of academic programs and to comment, not only on the report that has been delivered to the trustees, but on our overall commitment to this process and emphasis on continuous process improvement.
Vice Provost Douglass thanked Provost Freeman and said Good Morning. As Provost Freeman mentioned, NIU does a lot to ensure the quality of our academic programs and centers, both internally and externally. Some of the internal processes include program review and our assessment of learning outcomes which are both required by the Higher Learning Commission and the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The external processes include external review of our doctoral departments and external reviews of dissertations. Of course, we also have disciplinary accreditation and licensure and certification examinations as well as advisory committees. You were sent a copy of the most recent program review report. It includes the academic programs and the centers that were reviewed in academic year 2013-2014 and you can see a number of them were from the College of Business. Additionally, there were some from the College of Health and Human Sciences and the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. We also had five centers that were associated with those programs that we reviewed in this past year. There is a very robust system of program review to oversee this quality of the programs and centers. Currently, we are in the process of modifying that as method of continuous improvement.

We are working to do a number of things to create more efficiency and to create a more streamlined process so that people have information in a timely manner rather than waiting for the full eight year cycle for the information. We are also aligning our timelines with those imposed by our accrediting bodies. One thing that happened by happenstance last year was the AACSBS, the Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business, happened to come in January 2014 at the same time we were reviewing a number of the college business programs. That turned out to be a good happenstance in that we had some very good external review at the same time we were doing the internal review. We have now gone to the IBHE and asked for and received approval to align our accreditation cycles with our state program review cycle. In the past it’s been eight years for every program, now it is going to be aligned with our accreditation cycle so if they are on a seven year accreditation cycle it will be aligned with that, if they’re on an eight or nine year cycle it will be aligned with that so that we’ll have more opportunity to really take advantage of the external review processes that are in place. And just as a side note, the College of Business did very, very well in that AACSBS external visit that they had last January.

Trustee Strauss asked whether the form of the larger report is dictated by an IBHE requirement or did we get the opportunity to create whatever format we’d like? Vice Provost Douglass said that this is the information that the IBHE requires us to report. That does not mean that you couldn’t see a different report if you so wished, but that is what I submit to the IBHE.

Trustee Strauss noted that this report, as opposed to ones that the Board has received in the past, omits some information- and it could be that the IBHE requirement has changed- but what used to be imbedded in here were some measures that would align with President Baker’s objective to achieve student career success. He noted that previously the report had measures that evaluated outcomes as well as information that drew a comparison between similar programs at other institutions and our programs. Did that reporting change? Vice Provost Douglass replied that they still have that and you still can have access to that. What you received is a summary report that we sent to the IBHE but we are happy to make those detailed internal reports available.

Trustee Strauss said he would like to review that information. I think that information is important and if we have some way to be able to generally release that information assuming that it is favorable, that would also help us with recruitment and retention. And then as a follow up to that, you talked about the external review for the Ph.D. programs. I think we have had some discussion in the past about whether external reviews are periodically appropriate for other programs. Could you share with me what the thoughts are regarding when external reviews might otherwise be appropriate? Vice Provost Douglass said that a program review process task force formed and met about a year ago to discuss items related to the program review process including external review. The external review was a part that many of the representatives from that task force thought was very important. There was a wide constituency on that task force from various disciplines. What they said is that in many cases the external accrediting bodies are where they are getting a lot of the very important external review pieces. That is why, at this
point, we have only required doctoral programs to have external reviews. All of the external accrediting agencies also come in for visits so that adds another layer of external review. And when the external reviewers come for the doctoral programs they actually look at the entire department. So they are looking at the undergraduate and the master’s programs as well. But at this point we haven’t set aside resources or designed processes for extending external review to more programs.

Trustee Murer stated that after ten years of serving together, Trustee Strauss and I are synergistic in our thought process, at least this morning we are because I wrote down words including outcome and accountability. What strikes me on this is, I would like, if possible, in keeping with our strategic, multi-year strategic endeavors, to at some point have a matrix that is a comprehensive matrix that really allows us to see it in one big master plan, what are the programs and where are we in terms of varying levels of bachelors, masters, and Ph.D. The outcome that I looked at was related to what employment opportunities are in the field and outside of the field. Now one of the problems with that is how do you get the information and I appreciate that fact, but perhaps if we had that as one of our comprehensive objectives in our strategic endeavors, we could orient students that this question is really critical and we need that information back from each college. The reason why I would look at not just employment in the field, I think some of the conversations that I have been having with the president and with the provost look to the future I think of higher education is educating people in critical thinking and judgment and knowledge base, but knowledge base that is transferrable to other sectors. Knowing whether someone goes into another sector with the same degree will help us know how to better package that degree and how to perhaps better teach that degree understanding it as less siloed and more horizontal in its diversification. The accountability is, and I felt the same ways as Trustee Strauss did, I wrote down outside validation and recognition. Not every program will have capacity for outside validation or recognition, but if we could have another column in this matrix I envision that would identify is there availability, and that could be popular validation such as US News or it can be more academic validation through various organizations or recognition in terms of any recognition we might have either from the field itself as our accountancy programs have, or outside of our field through federal recognition. If we could have a matrix that could at the same time identify what are we talking about in our key programs, and I know it would be a multi-page there are a lot of programs, but if we could narrow the matrix in terms of the outcome, the accountability, and the identification of perhaps even any trends, under the guise of doing all this work, not every year forever and a day, but I think strategically that is the best way in which we know where to take programs in the future. And I open it up for thoughts not only from our committee but thoughts from you or our provost or our president.

Provost Freeman said that she agrees with both of the trustees who have raised these issues that both outcomes and accountability are very important and in fact built into the program prioritization process is the need under each of the criteria for accepted metrics and data to support them reported in a way that easily visualized. We have a lot of opportunity to move towards tools that are going to be useful to our external audiences, to our Board of Trustees, and to our campus. Vice Provost Douglass added that she appreciates the comments that made by the Board. We are in a state of continuous improvement right now and that is exactly what we are working to do in the program review process and I just want to echo again what Provost Freeman said earlier, which is that program prioritization and program review are different processes, but in both of them we are looking for more annual information to be added. In one case more about continuous improvement and in another case about strategic resource allocation, but in both cases to have more information just exactly in a matrix or dashboard as you laid out.

Chair Marshall said from looking at some of the other institutions and programs, his understanding would be that this would constitute continual tweaking. Some people say annual, I say whenever it is needed. Provost Freeman concluded the university report.
OTHER MATTERS

Chair Marshall asked whether there any other matters that need to come before this committee? Hearing none, he continued.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Chair Marshall said that normally at this point he would announce the next meeting date. The dates are in the process of approval and the tentative next meeting date for the committee will be February 26, 2015.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Marshall asked for a motion to adjourn.

Trustee Strauss motioned and Board Chair Butler seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved.

Second:

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Liz Wright
Recording Secretary

In compliance with Illinois Open Meetings Act 5 ILCS 120/1, et seq, a verbatim record of all Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees meetings is maintained by the Board Recording Secretary and is available for review upon request. The minutes contained herein represent a true and accurate summary of the Board proceedings.
NANKAI-NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE

NIU has a unique opportunity to collaborate on a joint international college with Nankai University in Tianjin, China. Nankai University is a top ranked university in China, as well as in the world rankings. The Nankai-NIU International College (NNIC) will provide an opportunity to recruit top students throughout China into double degree programs resulting in degrees from Nankai and NIU. The initial degrees to be offered by the NNIC involve existing NIU degrees in in Political Science (2 emphasis areas, one in International Politics and the second in Public Administration and Service) and in Economics, but additional academic programs of common interest between the two universities may be added in the future. The application for the development of the NNIC must be submitted to the Chinese Ministry of Education for final approval. Thus, the university is requesting Board approval to enter into this collaboration with Nankai University.

Recommendation: The University recommends that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee endorse this request and ask that the president forward it by means of the President’s Report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its March 12, 2015 meeting.
REQUEST FOR NEW DEGREE PROGRAM

All new degree programs require the approval of the Board of Trustees and the approval of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. This new program request has received all of the required curricular approvals at the department, college, and university levels, and the concurrence of the provost.

B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism Management

Description: The university seeks approval for a B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism Management degree program on campus. This program will be housed in the School of Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences within the College of Health and Human Sciences.

Overview and Rationale: The proposed degree program in Hospitality and Tourism Management is designed to serve the community by providing a quality education for students and to support the industry by producing graduates with the foundation knowledge, demonstrated skills, and professional attitudes required in the field of Hospitality and Tourism Management.

Currently, students at Northern Illinois University who wish to pursue careers in hospitality do so as majors within the B.S. in Nutrition, Dietetics, and Hospitality Management (NDHM) degree program with an emphasis in Hospitality Management. Based upon input from industry partners and review of competitive programs in other universities, faculty in the School of Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences have completed a two year process of curriculum revision separating the Nutrition, Health, and Wellness and Hospitality Management (currently two emphases within NDHM) into two majors. Pending approval by the Board of Trustees and the Illinois Board of Higher Education of this proposal for a B.S. in Hospitality and Tourism Management, the existing B.S. program in NDHM will be renamed the B.S. in Nutrition, Dietetics and Wellness through a request to the IBHE of a reasonable and moderate extension (RME). This degree program will continue to deliver a curriculum designed to train students for employment as dietitians, food service personnel, or for work in health and/or wellness related vocations and will retain its ACEND accredited Didactic Program in Dietetics (DPD).

The new Hospitality and Tourism Management (HTM) major (as proposed) will deliver a curriculum responsive to industry hiring trends that require graduates to have basic knowledge of food service management along with technical knowledge and skills needed to be a successful manager in the hospitality and tourism industry. Establishing Hospitality and Tourism Management as its own major will increase the marketability of the program for growth purposes, align the major to the needs of employers in the hospitality industry, and increase the likelihood of career success for hospitality students.

Increasing numbers of students seek formal education in hospitality and tourism management as the industry continues to grow and provides ample job opportunities. Projections of student demand for this program are expected to yield 79 program majors (40 annual FTE majors) in the first year of the program and 200 program majors (100 annual FTE majors) by year 5 of the program’s implementation. Upon approval, the proposed Hospitality and Tourism Management program at NIU will be the only program of its type at an Illinois public institution of higher education in the northern Illinois region. Our newly-developed curriculum, our degree completion program, and our close cooperation with the community colleges together will serve the educational needs in this geographic area. The proposed degree will also create joint research opportunities for students and faculty members in the study of family decision making, customer service, and tourism attitude and behavior. Through its collaboration with industry and its extensive use of experiential activity throughout the curriculum, the HTM program will support NIU’s priority goal of Student Career Success.
**Costs:** Support for the program will be supported by existing university resources. The department currently has the depth of faculty and instructors for the special areas of study that are encompassed by Hospitality and Tourism to support this change as a separate major.

**Recommendation:** The university recommends that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee endorse this request and asks that the president forward it by means of the President’s Report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its March 12, 2015 meeting.
REQUEST FOR NEW DEGREE PROGRAM

All new degree programs require the approval of the Board of Trustees and the approval of the Illinois Board of Higher Education. This new program request has received all of the required curricular approvals at the department, college, and university levels, and the concurrence of the provost.

B.S.Ed. in Middle Level Teaching and Learning

Description: The university seeks approval for a B.S.Ed. in Middle Level Teaching and Learning degree program on campus. This program will be housed in the Department of Literacy and Elementary Education within the College of Education.

Overview and Rationale: The proposed degree program is an interdisciplinary program designed to prepare future practitioners with the content knowledge and pedagogical approaches necessary to serve the needs of young adolescent learners in specific disciplines for teacher licensure in middle level education. As a condition for obtaining a middle level teaching license (grades 5-8) in Illinois, candidates prepare for teaching in one major content area endorsement: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, or Social Sciences. In addition, the program has been designed so that candidates will earn endorsement in an additional area.

This program is being proposed at this time to comply with the requirements of Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) which now require colleges and universities that offer teacher licensure programs to have a separate Middle Level Teaching and Learning program for grades 5-8. As this requirement will affect many of the colleges and universities within Illinois, the Illinois Board of Higher Education and ISBE are administering an expedited joint approval process that NIU will undertake with this proposal if approved by the Board of Trustees.

Costs: Support for the program will be supported by existing university resources.

Recommendation: The university recommends that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs, and Personnel Committee endorse this request and asks that the president forward it by means of the President’s Report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its March 12, 2015 meeting.
### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FACULTY AND SUPPORTIVE PROFESSIONAL STAFF SABBATICAL LEAVES FOR THE 2015-2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Faculty Member</th>
<th>Department/School</th>
<th>Time Period</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>COLLEGE OF BUSINESS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinton, Brian Douglas</td>
<td>Accountancy</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>McFadden, Kathleen</td>
<td>Operations Management and Information Systems</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Subramony, Mahesh</td>
<td>Management</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<td><strong>COLLEGE OF EDUCATION</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Flynn Jr, Joseph</td>
<td>Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<td>Hedin, Laura</td>
<td>Special and Early Education</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<td>Henning, Mary Beth</td>
<td>Literacy and Elementary Education</td>
<td>Fall 2015-Spring 2016</td>
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<td>Johnston-Rodriguez, Sarah</td>
<td>Special and Early Education</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Koss, Melanie</td>
<td>Literacy and Elementary Education</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<td>Vander Schee, Carolyn</td>
<td>Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<td><strong>COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING &amp; ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY</strong></td>
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<td>Azad, Abul</td>
<td>Engineering Technology</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guo, Liping</td>
<td>Engineering Technology</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COLLEGE OF HEALTH &amp; HUMAN SCIENCES</strong></td>
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<td>Bateni, Hamid</td>
<td>Allied Health and Communicative Disorders</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boutin, Daniel</td>
<td>Allied Health and Communicative Disorders</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myung, Eunha</td>
<td>Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<td>Njue, Jane Rose Muthoni</td>
<td>Family, Consumer and Nutrition Sciences</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>COLLEGE OF LAW</strong></td>
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<td>Rigertas, Laurel</td>
<td>College of Law</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<td><strong>COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS &amp; SCIENCES</strong></td>
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<td>Balcerzak, Scott</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<td>Blackstone, Neil</td>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
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<td>Britt, M. Anne</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Calvo, Ana</td>
<td>Biological Sciences</td>
<td>Spring 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clifton, Nicole</td>
<td>English</td>
<td>Fall 2015-Spring 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Recommendation: The university recommends that the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee endorse this request and ask that the President forward it by means of the President’s Report to the Board of Trustees for approval at its March 12, 2015 meeting.
The university awards sabbatical leaves for the purpose of supporting and encouraging scholarship, research and artistry that strengthen its academic programs. Proposals for sabbatical leaves prepared by tenured faculty and members of the supportive professional staff undergo a rigorous set of reviews at the department, college and university levels to determine if they meet the criteria that address the quality of the proposed scholarship, the capacity of the applicant to conduct the work and the likelihood of completion of the proposed project. In the sabbatical leave proposals, applicants include information about their program of scholarship, how that scholarship would be advanced by the leave and the proposed outcomes of the sabbatical.

One tenured faculty member who was recently awarded a sabbatical will present a brief report on the scholarly work she completed during her leave.
In response to several questions on the outcomes of sabbaticals from the board, the university developed a time line and processes for collecting information from faculty who have been awarded sabbatical leaves within a specified time frame. The information presented below serves as the sixth annual report on the scholarly work, curriculum development and other outcomes achieved by faculty who were recently awarded sabbatical leaves; the reporting period for this report is the 2011-2012 academic year.

For the 2011-2012 academic year, a total of 40 faculty and one supportive professional staff (SPS) were awarded sabbatical leaves. Of the 41 who were offered, 40 accepted their awards. Eight faculty retired, and one faculty left the university prior to completing the sabbatical leave outcomes survey. Out of the remaining 31 faculty and staff, 100 percent participated in the survey conducted in the fall of 2014 to ascertain the outcomes of their sabbaticals. Faculty from six of the seven colleges accepted sabbatical leaves in 2011-2012: 52.5 percent of accepted sabbatical leaves were from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, 17.5 percent were from the College of Visual and Performing Arts, 12.5 percent were from the College of Education, another 5 percent each were from the Colleges of Engineering and Engineering Technology, Health and Human Sciences, and Law. In addition to the colleges, one SPS member from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Foreign Language Residence Program also had a sabbatical, representing 2.5 percent of total sabbatical leaves.

The faculty and staff were very productive in advancing their scholarly work. They reported that as a result of their sabbatical leaves, they published 15 books and book chapters, published 78 journal articles, and made 25 contributions to conference proceedings. In addition, they made seven music recordings and seven contributions to public media and eight reports. The results of sabbatical work were also presented at 180 international, national, and regional meetings. They produced 63 works of art, including national and international music performances, exhibitions, and illustrations. Faculty submitted 36 applications for grants and projects that produced funding for 25 initiatives in excess of $2.1 million. Faculty also reported that they revised or created a total of 36 graduate and undergraduate courses as a result of their sabbatical leaves, benefitting more than 860 students annually.

This report is presented in two sections: a narrative on the overall outcomes for those first awarded sabbatical leaves in academic year 2011-2012 and a report on specific outcomes, as reported by the faculty, for six of Northern Illinois University’s seven colleges, and SPS from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

Faculty viewed the synergy between their sabbatical work and the enrichment of students’ learning experiences as important outcomes of sabbaticals that are reflected in the following statements:

“I am sincerely grateful for the opportunity the sabbatical provided me to dedicate myself to my research, to improving my already existing courses, and to develop new ones. I believe that the time I was able to spend on writing, planning, and reflection was truly time well spent.”

“I am indebted to Northern Illinois University for granting me this personally, professionally, and pedagogically enriching leave.”

“The sabbatical leave gave me the time and opportunity to reflect on the progress of my research program as well as determine and focus on its more promising directions.”
"The sabbatical result has been a watershed. This has proved to be one of the most informative and productive periods of my career."

“This leave time is greatly responsible for new and contemporary expansions of our school, both in terms of pedagogy and marketing.”

“The sabbatical offered me a wide range of opportunities for growing and learning, both as a musician and as an educator.”

“My 2011 sabbatical played a key role in my personal development and professional success. It was a valuable experience that allowed me to grow as a musician, educator and most importantly as a human being.”
CURRICULAR DIVERSITY

Curricular diversity at Northern Illinois University (NIU) has a long and robust history with a focus on continuous improvement in providing more and better opportunities for students to engage in multicultural experiences both in and out of the classroom. This presentation to the Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee will concentrate on several key areas related to curricular diversity at NIU:

HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE as outlined through the Multicultural Curriculum Transformation Institute: presented by Kristen Meyers, Chair of the Committee on Multicultural Curriculum Transformation.

CURRENT AND EMERGING INITIATIVES including (1) Search for a Chief Diversity Officer and Senior Associate Vice President for Academic Diversity; (2) Relocation of the Association for Black Culture Centers; and (3) Collaboration in Promoting Existing and Emerging Curricular Diversity Opportunities for Students, including Pathways in NIU-PLUS; presented by Lisa Freeman, Executive Vice President and Provost, Ed Klonoski, Acting Associate Vice Provost, and Katrina Caldwell, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs.