Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees

May 19, 2016
AGENDA

Special Meeting of the
BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
2:00 p.m. – Thursday – May 19, 2016

Board of Trustee Room
315 Altgeld Hall
DeKalb, Illinois

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Verification of Quorum and Appropriate Notification of Public Meeting
3. Meeting Agenda Approval
4. Chair’s Comments/Announcements
5. Public Comment
6. President’s Report No. 105
   a. Appointment of Dean, College of Law
   b. Rescind Honorary Degree
   c. Resolution to Retain 911 Center Public Safety Answering Points
7. Other Matters
8. Next Meeting Date
9. Closed Session
10. Adjournment

*Individuals wishing to make an appearance before the Board should consult the Bylaws of the Board of Trustees of Northern Illinois University, Article II, Section 4 – Appearances before the Board. Appearance request forms will be available in the Board Room the day of the meeting. For more information contact Kathleen Carey, (kjahns@niu.edu) Recording Secretary to the Board of Trustees, Altgeld Hall 300, DeKalb, IL 60115, 815-753-1273.

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.
Agenda Item 6.a.  
May 19, 2016

Action

APPOINTMENT OF DEAN, COLLEGE OF LAW

Following a national search, Dr. Eric Dannenmaier has accepted an offer to be the Dean of the NIU College of Law. He is recommended for the appointment at the rank of professor with tenure in that College.

Dr. Dannenmaier is currently a Professor at Indiana University Robert H. McKinney School of Law, where he teaches law classes in property, natural resources, water law and the Constitution, and also serves as director of J.D. Graduate Programs and the founding director of the Environmental, Energy and Natural Resources Law Program. He has published widely on legal and institutional frameworks for sustainable development, water security and energy policy, consistent with his research focus on environmental democracy. In 2015, as a visiting scholar at the Washington University School of Law in St. Louis, Dr. Dannenmaier examined institutional mechanisms for governing the Mississippi River basin and offered courses on energy law, river law and international environmental law.

Beyond his career in higher education, Dr. Dannenmaier’s professional experience includes private practice as an environmental attorney and a litigator in the Boston office of Chicago-based law firm McDermott, Will & Emery and in the Washington, D.C. office of St. Louis-based law firm Bryan Cave. In addition, Dr. Dannenmaier has served as the Director of the Environmental Law Program at the United States Agency for International Development.

Dr. Dannenmaier earned doctoral (J.S.D.) and master’s (LL.M.) degrees in law from Columbia University. He also holds a master’s degree in law (M.St.) from Oxford University, a Juris Doctor (J.D.) from Boston University and a bachelor’s (A.B.) degree in biology and political science from Drury University.

Recommendation: The President recommends that Dr. Eric Dannenmaier be appointed Dean of the College of Law, with the rank of professor with tenure in the College of Law, effective June 1, 2016.
Agenda Item 6.b.
May 19, 2016

Action

REVOCATION OF HONORARY DEGREE

Background: J. Dennis Hastert’s recent felony conviction for fraudulent banking transactions, as well as the testimony about his participation in the sexual abuse of children offered during sentencing proceedings, constitute incontrovertible evidence that he has acted in ways that do not reflect the values of Northern Illinois University. Consequently, although unprecedented, the Graduate Council’s Honorary Degree Committee has submitted a recommendation to the President seeking revocation of the honorary Doctor of Laws degree awarded to J. Dennis Hastert in 1999. The University Council has also endorsed this recommendation.

Recommendation: The President recommends, upon the unanimous vote of the Graduate Council’s Honorary Degree Committee, that the Board of Trustees revoke the honorary Doctor of Laws degree awarded to J. Dennis Hastert in 1999.
RESOLUTION

Whereas, with the State of Illinois requiring receipt of a consolidation plan of 911 Center Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) by June 1, 2016, reducing the number of 911 PSAPs in DeKalb County from four to two;

Whereas, with the four DeKalb County 911 PSAPs including DeKalb County, Northern Illinois University, the City of DeKalb, and the City of Sandwich;

Whereas, with the DeKalb County 911 Emergency Telephone System Board (ETSB) having authority over the facilitation of the required consolidation;

Whereas, with the possibility of an exemption to the PSAP consolidation provided by the State of Illinois through a consolidation waiver request filed by the ETSB having authority;

Whereas, with the DeKalb County ETSB electing to proceed with the consolidation exemption request to retain all four PSAPs in DeKalb County;

Whereas, be it resolved that the Northern Illinois University Board of Trustees stands in support of the DeKalb County ETSB in the PSAP consolidation exemption request in order to retain local servicing of 911 calls at each of DeKalb County’s four PSAPs, including Northern Illinois University.

Resolved and signed May 19, 2016.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

____________________________________
Marc Strauss
Board Chair

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Notary Signature and Seal