The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Thursday, June 12, 2014, at 2:24 p.m., in the Golden Eagles room at Northeastern Illinois University, 5500 N. St. Louis Ave. Dr. Carlos Azcoitia, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order.

Roll was called and the following trustees answered present:

Carlos Azcoitia, Chair; Bob Biggins, Barbara Fumo, Marvin Garcia, Jin Lee, Vice Chair; Darlene Ruscitti, Jonathan Stein, and Franklin Ortega

The following trustees were absent: Omar Duque, Secretary

Also present were the following:

Sharon Hahs, President; Tom Arkell, Legal Counsel; Mimi Crespo, Assistant Secretary; Vice Presidents, and Staff

**Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from the February 27, 2014 Board Meeting have been revised and submitted to each Trustee. If there are no further additions or corrections the minutes stand as written. The minutes from the April 10, 2014 meeting were also submitted to the Trustees. If there are no additions or corrections the minutes stand as written.

**Chair’s Announcements**

- Chair Azcoitia announced that due to the large number of attendees, the Board meeting will be broadcast in the Student Union hallway.

- Chair Azcoitia and Trustee Stein attended Northeastern’s May Commencement Ceremony at the UIC Pavilion. It was a wonderful celebration with colorful balloons falling from the ceiling to culminate the event.

- Chair Azcoitia attended the Retiree Reception on June 2 in honor of those who have contributed many years of service to the University.

- Chair Azcoitia and Trustee Garcia attended a book reading with alumnus and Congressman Luis Gutierrez on Monday, April 28. Congressman Gutierrez read excerpts from his memoir *Still Dreaming: My Journey from the Barrio to Capitol Hill*.

- Chair Azcoitia read a resolution to honor and thank Student Trustee, Franklin Ortega, for his service to the Board. This is Franklin’s last meeting. Franklin is a senior with a double major in Justice Studies and Latino and Latin American Studies and plans to pursue a Master’s Degree in Higher Education and Management, followed by a Ph.D.
President’s Announcements

- President Hahs asked Provost Helldobler to introduce and congratulate the newly tenured faculty: Anthony Adams, Communication, Media and Theatre; Kathleen Brown, Special Education; Hua Bai, Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies; Emily Garcia, English; Gerardo Moreno, Special Education; Seung-Hwan Mun, Communication, Media and Theatre; Ana Nieves, Art; Isaura Pulido, Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies; Emina Stojkovic, Biology; Mary Thill, Ronald Williams Library; Stijepko Tokic, Accounting, Business Law and Finance; Michael Wenz, Economics; Judith Yturriago, Teacher Education. Tenure was approved by the Board at the April 10, 2014 Board Meeting.

- President Hahs announced that a copy of the NEIU Internal Audit Annual Report for FY 2013 was mailed to each Trustee in their Board packet. Ron Cierny, Chief Internal Auditor, is present today to answer any questions regarding the report.

- President Hahs asked Provost Helldobler to explain NEIU’s new International Baccalaureate Curriculum Acceptance program. The program is for students who are coming out of IB schools. Provost Helldobler is proud to say, through the great work of our faculty, Northeastern will now be accepting IB credit in fall 2014 in all of the subject areas. This is a big step forward in terms of NEIU’s recruitment efforts.

- President Hahs was pleased to attend the Latino Leaders Maestro Awards where Juan Gabriel Moreno was recognized for all his fine architectural work, but most especially for the Northeastern building. Mr. Moreno is the architect for the new El Centro campus.

President’s Report
The entire President’s Report is incorporated herein by reference.

Action Item I. A. APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY FISCAL YEAR 2015 UNIVERSITY OPERATING BUDGET
This report provides the information required by the IBHE for the fiscal year 2015 internal budget. The Northeastern Illinois University Board of Trustees is asked to approve the University operating budget that represents preliminary / estimated spending plans for the upcoming fiscal year beginning on July 1, 2014 and will be asked to approve the final fiscal year 2015 detailed budget at its September 2014 board meeting.

Dr. Ruscitti, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the APPROVAL OF PRELIMINARY FISCAL YEAR 2015 UNIVERSITY OPERATING BUDGET.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Action Item I. B. APPROVAL OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
Northeastern Illinois University is seeking approval by the Board of Trustees to offer a Bachelor of Science in Environmental Science. Following Board approval, the University will seek degree-granting authority for this program from the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

Chair Azcoitia explained that the Board discussed this action item extensively in committee.

Mr. Biggins, seconded by Mr. Lee, moved to approve the APPROVAL OF THE BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Fumo    Yes  Lee    Yes  Stein   Yes
Biggins  Yes   Garcia   Yes  Ruscitti   Yes   Ortega   Yes

The motion carried.

Action Item I. C. APPROVAL OF MASTER’S OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW)
Northeastern Illinois University is seeking approval by the Board of Trustees to offer a Master’s of Social Work (MSW) degree. Following Board approval, the University will seek degree-granting authority for this program from the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The University will also seek accreditation for the Master of Social Work degree from the Council on Social Work Education.

The Board discussed this action item extensively in committee. Chair Azcoitia highlighted the fact that Northeastern has an undergraduate program in Social Work which positions the University very well to launch the graduate program.

Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Ortega, moved to approve the APPROVAL OF MASTER’S OF SOCIAL WORK (MSW).

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Fumo    Yes  Lee    Yes  Stein   Yes
Biggins  Yes   Garcia   Yes  Ruscitti   Yes   Ortega   Yes

The motion carried.
Action Item I. D. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULATIONS – ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT TO UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE POLICY
At its April 10, 2014 meeting, the Board of Trustees received a report that proposed an amendment to the Board of Trustees Regulations regarding shared participation in University governance. The change entails substituting the word “University” for “campus,” in acknowledgment that Northeastern comprises four sites. Additionally, the amendment removes the qualifiers “academic” and “faculty government” from the duly constituted committees that may participate in the decision-making of the University generally. Finally, the amendment reserves, for the appropriate and duly constituted committees of faculty government, participation in decision-making over curriculum and academic affairs. Having been presented to the Board at its April 10, 2014 meeting, the following amendment is presented to the Board at the June 12, 2014 meeting for approval.

Ms. Fumo, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULATIONS – ADOPTION OF AMENDMENT TO UNIVERSITY GOVERNANCE POLICY.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Fumo  Yes  Lee  Yes  Stein  Yes  
Biggins  Yes  Garcia  Yes  Ruscitti  Yes  Ortega  Yes

The motion carried.

Action Item I. E. GRANT CONSULTING SERVICES
Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University, in order to facilitate the timely hiring of a grant consulting firm, delegates to the University President the authority to approve such expenditure and contract directly related to the hiring of a grant consulting firm without prior Board approval and that the President will report to the Board on all such approved expenditures and contracts normally requiring Board approval at the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Trustees. This does not relieve the University of compliance with the Illinois Procurement Code and all other applicable State of Illinois statutes and administering rules which will be adhered to in all phases of the administration of these expenditures and contracts.

Dr. Ruscitti, seconded by Ms. Fumo, moved to approve the GRANT CONSULTING SERVICES.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Fumo  Yes  Lee  Yes  Stein  Yes  
Biggins  Yes  Garcia  Yes  Ruscitti  Yes  Ortega  Yes

The motion carried.
Action Item I. F. APPROVAL FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE RESERVE LIMITS FOR NON-INDENTURED ENTITIES

The Guidelines and the Northeastern Illinois University Board of Trustees Regulations require approval by the Board of Trustees for adjustment to those reserve limits and each June the Board is requested to adjust those limits based on the formulaic calculations.

Dr. Ruscitti, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the APPROVAL FOR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE RESERVE LIMITS FOR NON-INDENTURED ENTITIES.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Fumo    Yes  Lee    Yes    Stein   Yes
Biggins  Yes   Garcia   Yes  Ruscitti   Yes   Ortega   Yes

The motion carried.

Board Committee Reports

Executive – Chair Azcoitia represented the executive committee and explained that the one action item regarding the approval of amendment to Board of Trustees Regulations has been discussed.

Academic and Student Affairs – Trustee Garcia represented the committee and announced that there was an update on recruitment and a presentation on retention. Trustee Stein asked about enrollment at our El Centro campus. President Hahs explained that the El Centro campus has special authority to admit students in addition to those admitted through the main campus. Maria Luna-Duarte, interim director for El Centro, explained that a goal of 100 students was set for El Centro. As of today, there are 109 students admitted, 30 are scheduled for placement and 26 scheduled for orientation. Chair Azcoitia asked for the list of academic programs that will be available at El Centro. Provost Helldobler announced the following programs will be offered: Computer Science, Special Education, Justice Studies, and Social Work. In the next year, other niche programs will be offered.

Buildings and Grounds – Trustee Fumo represented the committee and explained that the Construction Update was read during committee.

Finance - Trustee Stein represented the committee and explained that all issues have been discussed during committee.

Legal Counsel Report

Mr. Arkell explained to the Board that the Legal Counsel Report was distributed and he would answer any questions in executive session.

Old Business

Trustee Lee would like to have the university banner displays replaced on Bryn Mawr and Foster Avenues. It appears that the banners have become tattered over time.
New Business/Announcements – no report at this time.

Upcoming Events

Chair Azcoitia announced the following upcoming events:

1. **Board Development Session** – We are planning to have another Board Development session this summer. Trustees, please forward to Mimi all the dates that you are available to attend if you haven’t already done so. Thank you.

2. **Next Board Meeting** - Thursday, September 18 at the main campus in the Golden Eagles room.

Opportunity for Public Comment in Accordance with Public Act 91-0715
Chair Azcoitia announced, we now come to the Opportunity for Public Comment section of the Agenda. The purpose of Public Comment is for the Board to hear from the public regarding matters of interest or concern. We will not enter into general discussion or open debate on issues that might be raised. So, while the Board welcomes Public Comments, we will not respond to them at the present time.

Today we have 8 individuals scheduled to speak; the requests were placed in advance. Time is limited to 2 minutes. To assist us, our Board Secretary, Mimi Crespo, will announce when 30 seconds remain and when time is up and the Chair will alert the speaker to please conclude.

Please begin…

**Public Comment Speakers:**

1. **Mr. Garrick Beil**, son of the owners of the property at 5600 N. Kimball (TCF Bank and 7-11 locations). Topic of Discussion – Student housing on Bryn Mawr and its impact to his family, tenants, and community. Mr. Beil feels that the proposed student housing project destroys the livelihood of lifelong community residents and financially and emotionally devastates families. Mr. Beil suggested that the University first develop the property that it already owns on campus.

2. **Mrs. Rosemary Beil**, 80-year old co-owner of the property at 5600 N. Kimball (TCF Bank and 7-11 locations). Topic of Discussion – Student housing on Bryn Mawr and its impact on the economy and community. NEIU’s legal and moral authority. Mrs. Beil, a retired school teacher, asked the Board to please give attention to the consequences for the residents who will lose their property. Mrs. Beil uses the income from her property to supplement her pension from the state of Illinois.

3. **Mr. David Simon**, community member
   Topic of Discussion – Student housing on Bryn Mawr should be built on campus athletic field at Foster. Mr. Simon explained that students who live on campus tend
to participate in more campus activities and earn better grades. Mr. Simon feels that since the proposed campus housing on Bryn Mawr Avenue is off campus; it would be a mistake and would attract corrupting outside influences which may result in arguments, fights, and noise, concealed weapons and drugs.

4. Dr. Marcos Feldman – assistant professor of Sociology  
Topic of Discussion – Student housing on Bryn Mawr, housing market research conducted by the Danter company, conceptual proposals, and NEIU mission. Dr. Feldman read a statement on behalf of Mr. Bill Tong, co-owner of 3411 W. Bryn Mawr Ave which has operated as the Hunan Wok restaurant for over 30 years. Mr. Tong feels the demolition of his property would result in the physical, emotional and financial destruction of his family’s legacy representing three generations.

5. Dr. Brett Stockdill – chair and professor of Sociology  
Topic of Discussion – Student housing on Bryn Mawr and NEIU mission. Dr. Stockdill feels that the NEIU administration has proposed changes that threaten our historical mission to provide accessible and excellent education to under-represented groups. Dr. Stockdill claims that research from NEIU’s consultant, the Danter Group, reveals that only 3% of surveyed students could actually afford the most desired housing option.

6. Ms. Gina Fong – resident of North Park area  
Topic of Discussion – Student housing and its effect on neighborhood. Ms. Fong is concerned that NEIU student housing on Bryn Mawr Ave will deprive her and her neighbors of the quiet enjoyment of their neighborhood and may lead to an increase in crime, decrease in property values, increase in property taxes, parking and traffic congestion and noise. Ms. Fong asked the Board to build its first student housing development on its own campus.

7. Ms. Victoria Grigelaitus – resident at 5501 N. Bernard St.  
Topic of Discussion – Student housing on Bryn Mawr should be built on NEIU property first. Ms. Grigelaitus listed several costs to the neighborhood which include resident’s will be forced from their businesses and homes; disruption to Peterson school access and environment; and increased street parking and congestion. Ms. Grigelaitus feels the only benefit proposed to the neighborhood would be the chance that the Bryn Mawr business area east of Kimball will be energized.

8. Dr. Shelley Bannister – professor of Justice Studies  
Topic of Discussion – Lech Walesa Hall and how we build community at NEIU. Dr. Bannister reminded the Board of her group’s public comments at the April 10, 2014 Board Meeting regarding the oppression of gays and lesbians. The group explained that the continued name of Lech Walesa on the building is offensive and hurtful. Dr. Bannister asked the Board again to reconsider removing the name from the LWH building.

Chair Azcoitia thanked the public for their comments and for sharing their matters of interest with the Board. These matters will be reviewed.
Convene in Executive Session
At 3:15 p.m., Mr. Lee, seconded by Ms. Fumo, moved to convene in executive session to consider: The employment, appointment, compensation and performance of employees as permitted by Section 2. (c) (1) of the Open Meetings Act; pending, probable or imminent litigation, as permitted by Section 2. (c) (11) of the Open Meetings Act; the purchase or lease of real property as permitted by Section 2. (c) (5) of the Open Meetings Act.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Fumo    Yes  Lee    Yes    Stein   Yes
Biggins  Yes   Garcia   Yes  Ruscitti   Yes   Ortega   Yes

The motion carried.

Reconvene in Open Session
At 5:30 p.m., Mr. Lee, seconded by Ms. Fumo, moved to reconvene in open session.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes   Fumo    Yes   Lee    Yes    Stein   Yes
Biggins  Yes    Garcia   Yes  Ruscitti   Yes   Ortega   Yes

The motion carried.

Mr. Biggins, seconded by Ms. Fumo, moved to accept the written recommendation of President Hahs to terminate employee Kimberly Bolanos for adequate cause effective June 12, 2014. This motion is based on documents provided to the Board of Trustees that Kimberly Bolanos, the employee, was afforded the process set forth in Board Regulations.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Fumo    Yes  Lee    Yes  Stein    Yes
Biggins  Yes   Garcia   Yes  Ruscitti   Yes   Ortega   Yes

The motion carried.

Ms. Fumo, seconded by Mr. Garcia, moved to authorize the representative of Northeastern Illinois University to the State University Risk Management Association to make the appropriate request to the State University Risk Management Association for the possible payment of settlement funds up to an amount recommended by the Office of the Illinois Attorney General in the matter of Pizzi v. Northeastern Illinois University.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Biggins, moved to increase the annual salary of President Hahs by $1,200 effective July 1, 2014.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  No   Fumo    Yes   Lee    No   Stein   Yes
Biggins  Yes    Garcia   Yes   Ruscitti   Yes   Ortega   No

The motion carried.

Ms. Biggins, seconded by Mr. Garcia moved that the confidential written minutes of the executive session dated June 6, 2013 no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes   Fumo    Yes   Lee    Yes   Stein   Yes
Biggins  Yes    Garcia   Yes   Ruscitti   Yes   Ortega   Yes

The motion carried.

Dr. Ruscitti, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the destruction of verbatim records for the meeting held on November 8, 2012 as follows:

Whereas, 5 ILCS 120/2.06(a) requires public bodies to keep verbatim records of all closed meetings in the form of a video or audio recording; and

Whereas, 5 ILCS 120/2.06(c) provides that these verbatim records may be destroyed after eighteen (18) months but only after: 1) the public body approves destruction of a particular recording; and 2) the public body approves Minutes of the closed meeting that meet the written requirements applicable to open meetings; and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees has reviewed written Minutes of the closed meetings held on November 8, 2012 and those written Minutes meet the written minutes requirements; and

Whereas, the Board of Trustees believes that the destruction of the verbatim records is appropriate:

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University approves 1) the written Minutes of the closed meetings held on November 8, 2012, 2) the destruction of the verbatim records of the closed meetings held on November 8, 2012 and, 3) directs the Assistant Secretary of the Board of Trustees to destroy said verbatim records.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Azcoitia  Yes   Fumo    Yes   Lee   Yes   Stein   Yes  
Biggins   Yes    Garcia  Yes   Ruscitti Yes   Ortega  Yes  

The motion carried.

**Election of Officers**
Mr. Arkell began the process for election of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. Arkell explained the term of each office is for two years. There will be a nomination for each individual, a second, a motion to close nominations, and Mr. Arkell will collect the secret ballots.

**For Chair:** Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Garcia, nominated Dr. Azcoitia. Mr. Biggins, seconded by Ms. Fumo, nominated Jonathan Stein. Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Lee, moved to close nominations.

Mr. Arkell announced that the Trustees would need to ballot again. The balloting was repeated twice more with no resolution. The trustees agreed to adjourn. Elections will continue during the September 18, 2014 Board Meeting.

**Adjourn**
At 6:01 p.m., the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn.

Carlos Azcoitia, Chair  
Mimi Crespo, Assistant Secretary