The meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Thursday, September 18, 2014, at 2:10 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, Omar Duque, Secretary; Barbara Fumo, Marvin Garcia, Jin Lee, Vice Chair; Darlene Ruscitti, Jonathan Stein, and Amanda Slefo

The following trustees were absent: none

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 June 12, 2014 have been revised and submitted to each Trustee. If there are no further additions or corrections the minutes stand as revised. The minutes from the September 18, 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 asked President Hahs to make the following announcement. Today’s meeting is being recorded and it can viewed in two overflow locations, the lounge immediately outside the Golden Eagles room and a section of the cafeteria.

- Chair Azcoitia introduced the new Student Trustee, Amanda Slefo, a senior majoring in History and Secondary Education with a minor in Political Science Theory. Her many leadership roles include co-chair of the Student Government Academic Affairs Committee, president of the Assyrian Club, Student Government Senator, and member of the Green Fee and Student Grade Appeal Committees. After graduating from Northeastern, Ms. Slefo plans to teach at the high school level and earn a Master’s Degree in Educational Leadership and Administration.

- Chair Azcoitia announced that after five years of great service this will be the last Board Meeting for Mimi Crespo, assistant secretary to the Board of Trustees. Ms. Crespo plans to assume a new position as Coordinator of the Resource Center at our new El Centro.

- Board Meeting dates for 2015 will be held on the following Thursdays: February 5, April 9 (at our new El Centro), June 18, September 17, and November 19.
President’s Announcements

- President Hahs welcomed everyone and announced that Provost Helldobler is not with us today. The Provost is part of the American Council on Education core faculty where he presents workshops nationwide. He is currently at Duquesne University presenting a workshop on the roles and responsibilities of department chairs. Vice Provost Vicki Roman-Lagunas is with us today.

- President Hahs introduced Dr. Isaura Pulido, the new Presidential Fellow. Dr. Pulido is an associate professor in Educational Inquiry and Curriculum Studies in the College of Education. Her research interests include urban education policy; race, ethnicity, and education; and popular culture in education. The recipient of many fellowships and awards, Dr. Pulido has been an active advocate for transformative education. Every year in the President’s Office there is a new Presidential Fellow, a member of the tenured faculty who spends one year with President Hahs, partly shadowing and partly initiating and leading projects.

- Dr. Hahs introduced Dr. Elizabeth Ortiz, an American Council on Education fellow. Northeastern will be hosting Dr. Ortiz during the fall. Dr. Ortiz comes to us from DePaul University, where she has served since 2003 as Vice President, Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity. Prior to DePaul, Dr. Ortiz served in senior leadership positions in Hispanic education, affirmative action and diversity resources at Northern Illinois University and Chicago State University. Dr. Ortiz will participate in a variety of initiatives; her areas of focus will be planning and budgeting, assessment and institutional advancement.

- President Hahs asked Vice Provost Roman-Lagunas to introduce the new tenure-track faculty. Detailed biographies of each faculty member are included in the President’s Board Report. Elyse A. Bolterstein, Assistant Professor, Biology; Andrew W. Brake, Assistant Professor, Social Work; Nadja Insel, Assistant Professor, Earth Science; Jimin Kahng, Assistant Professor, Teaching English as a Second/Foreign Language; Richard Kilpatrick, Assistant Professor, Accounting, Business Law and Finance; Eun Hye Kwon, Assistant Professor, Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics; Ting Liu, Assistant Professor, Geography; Dilek Yunlu, Assistant Professor, Management and Marketing; and Kaija L. Zusevics, Assistant Professor, Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Athletics.
President’s Report
The entire President’s Report is incorporated herein by reference.

Action Item I. A. FISCAL YEAR 2015 UNIVERSITY OPERATING BUDGET
Each year, the Board of Trustees is asked to adopt the University’s operating budget for the coming fiscal year. In June, the Board was presented with and approved a preliminary operating budget that fulfilled the reporting requirements of the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). As noted in the June report, the preliminary budget was completed prior to final action on the fiscal year 2015 appropriation by the Illinois General Assembly, which is now approved and included in this report. It is requested that the Board of Trustees approve the fiscal year 2015 budget.

Mr. Biggins, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the FISCAL YEAR 2015 UNIVERSITY OPERATING BUDGET.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia    Yes  Duque    Yes  Garcia    Yes  Ruscitti  Yes  Slefo    Yes
Biggins     Yes  Fumo     Yes  Lee      Yes  Stein     Yes

The motion carried.

Action Item I. B. FISCAL YEAR 2016 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS
Each year, the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University is required to adopt an operating and capital budget request and submit that request to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE). This preliminary request was presented to the Board of Trustees in June as an information item for review and discussion. The final request is submitted to the Board at the September meeting for approval. After Board approval, the request will be submitted to the IBHE before its deadline of October 15.

Mr. Biggins, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the FISCAL YEAR 2016 OPERATING AND CAPITAL BUDGET REQUESTS.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia    Yes  Duque    Yes  Garcia    Yes  Ruscitti  Yes  Slefo    Yes
Biggins     Yes  Fumo     Yes  Lee      Yes  Stein     Yes

The motion carried.

Action Item I. C. MEDIA AGGREGATOR SERVICES
Approval is requested for the following resolution: Be it resolved that the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University delegates to the University President the authority to approve the selection of Carnegie Communications, who will manage the purchasing of advertising for
the University in an amount not to exceed $1,000,000 per fiscal year. The University will report to the Board the actual amounts spent on advertising by campaign with the aggregator within a fiscal year.

Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the **MEDIA AGGREGATOR SERVICES**.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

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The motion carried.

**Action Item I. D. EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PURCHASES OF $100,000 OR MORE – ROOFING PROJECTS BEING MANAGED BY THE ILLINOIS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD**

The University requested appropriations in 2010 from the State of Illinois Capital Development Board (CDB) for multiple roofing projects. A total of $1,726,500 was approved by the CDB in 2012. The Library, Building H, and Physical Education Complex are the buildings with the most urgent needs selected for this major maintenance. Not all the original request was approved, and the request could not account for price inflation and further deterioration of roofing and related masonry since. Board approval is requested for spending authority to supplement CDB funding for the general contractor(s) for these projects, in order that the work may begin (and possibly finish) prior to the November Board meeting.

Mr. Duque, seconded by Mr. Garcia, moved to approve the **EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PURCHASES OF $100,000 OR MORE – ROOFING PROJECTS BEING MANAGED BY THE ILLINOIS CAPITAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD**.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

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The motion carried.

**Action Item I. E. USE OF SEARCH FIRM TO FILL VACANT TECHNOLOGY SERVICES POSITIONS**

The Hiring of External Search Firm(s) policy adopted by the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University requires that the hiring of an external search firm be brought before the Board for approval, when the nature and scope of hiring requires a level of professional search experience exceeding that available internally within the University. This report provides background for the Board of Trustees and requests that the Board approve the hiring of an
external search firm to assist in employing qualified individuals for two specific positions that need to be filled. The first position is Senior Data Base Administrator (DBA). The Senior DBA acts as the Oracle database administrator for the Ellucian Banner ERP suite of applications, and all related integrated components. The second position is a Programmer/Analyst. The Programmer/Analyst works as a team member, supporting the University’s Ellucian Banner ERP suite of applications through implementation, enhancement, integration, and reporting activities.

Dr. Ruscitti, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the USE OF SEARCH FIRM TO FILL VACANT TECHNOLOGY SERVICES POSITIONS.

Trustee Lee asked about the cost for this search firm. President Hahs explained that the cost of using the firm will relate to the final salaries of the two individuals, a percentage of those salaries. The estimate at this point will be between $20,000 - $25,000.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Duque  Yes  Garcia  Yes  Ruscitti  Yes  Slefo  Yes
Biggins  Yes  Fumo  Yes  Lee  Yes  Stein  Yes

The motion carried.

Action Item I. F. EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PURCHASES OF $100,000 OR MORE – CONTRACT WITH JANITORIAL SERVICE STATE USE VENDOR

Northeastern Illinois University (“University”) has constructed a new El Centro Campus located at 3390 North Avondale (new three-story building) and is renovating an existing one-story building located at 3410 North Avondale in Chicago, Illinois. Both buildings will require janitorial services. The janitorial service provider's primary functions include, but are not limited to supervision, labor, tools, equipment, cleaning products and incidentals to keep designated areas in a clean and sanitary condition at all times. Board approval is requested for expenditures related to the El Centro janitorial services contractor.

Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PURCHASES OF $100,000 OR MORE – CONTRACT WITH JANITORIAL SERVICE STATE USE VENDOR

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Duque  Yes  Garcia  Yes  Ruscitti  Yes  Slefo  Yes
Biggins  Yes  Fumo  Yes  Lee  Yes  Stein  Yes

The motion carried.
Action Item I. G. EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PURCHASES OF $100,000 OR MORE – SNOW REMOVAL SERVICE

Northeastern Illinois University contracts with a firm to provide snow removal services for parking and drive areas during major snow accumulations. Last winter, our snow removal expense approached $200,000 for the first time, while in the previous few years it had not exceeded $100,000. This year, we will have the additional snow removal expense at the new El Centro campus. Anticipating that the contract could approach $200,000 due to a possible heavy snow season and the addition of the new El Centro site, approval is being requested to that level. Itemization of any further expenditure will be brought as a subsequent board item.

Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the EXPENDITURE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PURCHASES OF $100,000 OR MORE – SNOW REMOVAL SERVICE

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia    Yes  Duque    Yes  Garcia    Yes  Ruscitti    Yes  Slefo    Yes
Biggins    Yes  Fumo    Yes  Lee    Yes  Stein    Yes

The motion carried.

Board Committee Reports

Executive – Chair Azcoitia represented the executive committee and explained that all items have been discussed during committee.

Academic and Student Affairs – Trustee Garcia represented the committee and highlighted the following five points, 1) the doctoral program along with the new College of Education building will bring a lot of prestige to the University, 2) the doctoral program is aligned with the university’s mission and strategic plan, 3) there are only 3 other universities in the state of Illinois that offer a doctorate in Special Education, 4) there is a need and market for a doctorate in Special Education, and 5) Northeastern has a very strong Special Education department.

In regards to recruitment, Trustee Lee announced the 2014 high school graduation rates and the number of the high school graduates who plan to attend Northeastern. For example, Main Township which includes three different high schools graduated approximately 500 students but only 14 of these students plan to attend Northeastern. Northeastern should focus its recruitment efforts on these nearby suburban high schools.

Trustee Stein agreed with Trustee Lee’s points and added that Northeastern’s market includes Chicago and the six collar counties.

Buildings and Grounds – Trustee Duque represented the committee and explained that all items have been discussed during committee. Trustee Lee congratulated President Hahs
and the University for adding healthy options to our vending machines and for the beautiful university banners that are posted throughout the community.

Finance - Trustee Duque represented the committee and explained that all issues have been discussed during committee and announced that there will be a meeting of the Finance Committee on October 20, 2014 to discuss tuition and fee recommendations for the next year.

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 - no report at this time.

New Business/Announcements
Chair Azcoitia recognized the arts program at Northeastern, especially Ensemble Espanol. Many community members, including Chair Azcoitia, attend and enjoy the programs throughout the year.

Upcoming Events

Chair Azcoitia announced the following upcoming events:

1. **Next Board Meeting** - Thursday, November 13 at the main campus in the Golden Eagles room.

2. **State of the University Address** – Tuesday, September 23 at 3:05 p.m. in Alumni Hall.

3. **Finance Committee Meeting of the Board of Trustees** – Monday, October 20

4. **Academic Honors**, Thursday, December 4 at 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

5. **Commencement**, Sunday, December 14 at 2:00 p.m. at the UIC Pavilion.

**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 **12** 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. Bruce Van Inwegen**, community member  
   Topic of Discussion – Concerns/confusion about student housing on Bryn Mawr.  
   Mr. Van Inwegen is against Northeastern using eminent domain for the student housing project on Bryn Mawr Ave.

2. **Dr. Connie Speake** – professor emerita at NEIU, Music  
   Topic of Discussion – Supporter of student housing  
   Dr. Speake is in favor of student housing. It would benefit Northeastern to have housing available for national and international guests to visit and host academic workshops. The community needs a better understanding of the student body.

3. **Ms. Kim Moseid** – North Park resident  
   Topic of Discussion – Student housing and decision to invoke eminent domain.  
   Ms. Moseid is against student housing and the University invoking eminent domain. Moseid feels there has been no negotiation with the property owners and little outreach to the community.

4. **Ms. Gina Fong** – North Park resident  
   Topic of Discussion – Student housing  
   Ms. Fong is against student housing on Bryn Mawr Ave and eminent domain and asked Northeastern to build its first student dorms on its own campus to spare property owners from ruin.

5. **Mr. David Simon** – community member  
   Topic of Discussion – Student housing should be built on campus first.  
   Mr. Simon is against student housing on Bryn Mawr Ave and economic development displacing property owners. Simon suggested the University build its housing on its athletic field near Foster Ave.

6. **Dr. Christina Gomez** – professor of Sociology  
   Topic of Discussion – Vision of University with regards to building residence halls.  
   At first, Dr. Gomez was very excited to hear about the student housing project; it can be a very positive experience for students. However, Dr. Gomez reevaluated her position when she heard about the way in which the community would be affected. Forcing our neighbors to vacate their properties against their will is not what NEIU stands for.

7. **Dr. Shelley Bannister** – professor of Justice Studies  
   Topic of Discussion – Dr. Bannister asked the University to change the name of Lech Walesa hall. Her recent encounter with a student who was spit on while leafleting on campus is an indication that violence against gays exists throughout our lives. It’s time for the University to talk with Mr. Walesa, thank him for his service, and tell him that his statements condemning gays and lesbians to the back
of parliament are insulting and offensive. It’s time to end honoring Mr. Walesa and start honoring our LGBTQ students, staff and faculty whose hopes, dreams and vision mean something.

8. Dr. Marcos Feldman – assistant professor of Sociology
Topic of Discussion – University mission in relation to the budget and expansion planning. Dr. Feldman is against the displacement of community members along Bryn Mawr Ave. Research has revealed that only between 3% and 9% of NEIU students would be able to afford campus housing. The student housing project will not broadly serve the student body.

9. Mr. Garrick Beil – son of the owners of the property at 5600 N. Kimball (TCF location). Topic of Discussion – The impact of eminent domain on his family’s property. Mr. Beil distributed to the Board copies of a petition with 1,000 names of community members who are against the Bryn Mawr block student housing project.

10. Dr. Brett Stockdill – chair and professor of Sociology
Topic of Discussion – Impact of eminent domain on neighbors. Dr. Stockdill is against NEIU seizing property through eminent domain which would decimate the economic livelihood of many families.

11. Mr. Casey Smagala, director of development at Albany Park Community Center.
Topic of Discussion – Positive economic impact of Bryn Mawr block development. Mr. Smagala supports the student housing project because of the resources it will bring to the minority and immigrant groups in the community.

12. Dr. Sophia Mihic – NEIU/UPi chapter president, and professor of political science and philosophy. Topic of Discussion – Update on UPI meeting. Dr. Mihic reported on UPI’s first membership meeting this semester. Members are most interested in workload issues, the need for stability, and the timetable for negotiations. The UPI team supports the collaboration and ethical professionalism of both teams. Membership, however, is unhappy with the general mismanagement of the University. Too many classes are being canceled which undermines the University’s excellence and reputation, and the Bryn Mawr project has diverted tuition and taxpayer dollars away from the classroom.

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 3:30 p.m., Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to convene in executive session to consider: collective negotiating matters, as permitted by Section 2. (c) (2) of the Open Meetings Act; pending, probable or imminent litigation, as permitted by Section 2. (c) (11) of the Open Meetings Act; and the purchase or lease of real property as permitted by Section 2. (c) (5) of the Open Meetings Act.
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The motion carried.

**Reconvene in Open Session**

At 3:55 p.m., Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to reconvene in open session.

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The motion carried.

Mr. Biggins, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved that the **confidential written minutes of the executive session dated September 19, 2013 no longer require confidential treatment and are available for public inspection.**

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The motion carried.

Dr. Ruscitti, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the **destruction of verbatim records for the meeting held on February 21, 2013** 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 **February 21, 2013** 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 **February 21, 2013** 2) the destruction of the verbatim records of the closed meetings held on **February 21, 2013** 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  Duque  Yes  Garcia  Yes  Ruscitti  Yes  Slefo  Yes
Biggins  Yes  Fumo  Yes  Lee  Yes  Stein  Yes

The motion carried.

**Election of Officers**

Chair Azcoitia asked Mr. Arkell to conduct the elections for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. Mr. Arkell explained the elections will be handled by secret ballots. Arkell will provide and collect the secret ballots and announce the officers. First, there will be a nomination(s) for each office, a second, a motion to close nominations, and a vote by secret ballot.

**For Chair:** There were two nominations. First, Mr. Biggins, seconded by Ms. Fumo, nominated Mr. Stein; and Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Garcia, nominated Dr. Azcoitia.

Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to close nominations.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia  Yes  Duque  Yes  Garcia  Yes  Ruscitti  Yes  Slefo  Yes
Biggins  Yes  Fumo  Yes  Lee  Yes  Stein  Yes

Secret ballots were cast and Mr. Arkell announced that Dr. Azcoitia was elected as Chair.

**For Vice Chair:** Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Duque, nominated Mr. Lee. There were no other nominations. Mr. Arkell announced that Mr. Lee was elected as Vice Chair.

**For Secretary:** Mr. Lee, seconded by Mr. Garcia, nominated Mr. Duque. There were no other nominations. Mr. Arkell announced that Mr. Duque was elected as Secretary.

Before adjourning, Trustee Lee asked if, in reference to the advisory committee, Asian American, African American, Latino, committee members have been identified including the Asian American community for recruitment of Asian American according to the recruitment plan. President Hahs will look into this matter.

**Adjourn**

At 4:30 p.m., the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn.

Carlos Azcoitia, Chair
Mimi Crespo, Assistant Secretary