A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Thursday, September 17, 2015, at 2:27 p.m., in the Golden Eagles room at 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL. Mr. Jin Lee, Vice Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order.

Roll was called and the following trustees answered present:
Bob Biggins, Omar Duque, Secretary, Barbara Fumo, Marvin Garcia, Jin Lee, Vice Chair; Darlene Ruscitti, Jonathan Stein, and Pedro Nungaray

The following trustees were absent:
Carlos Azcoitia, Chair

Also present:
Sharon Hahs, President; Melissa Reardon Henry, Legal Counsel; Amy Rempas, Assistant Board Secretary; Vice Presidents, and staff

Approval of Minutes
The minutes from the June 18, 2015 board meeting were submitted to each Trustee prior to this meeting. No further additions or corrections were needed and the minutes stand as written.

Chair’s Announcements
- Vice Chair Lee introduced, Pedro Nungaray, the new Student Trustee.
- Vice Chair Lee announced the proposed board meeting dates for 2016. There were no objections, so the 2016 dates are as follows:
  o Thursday, February 4
  o Thursday, April 7 (held at the Carruther’s Center for Inner City Studies)
  o Thursday, June 23
  o Thursday, September 15
  o Thursday, November 17

President’s Preliminary Announcements
- President Hahs welcomed Liesl Downey, who is the Acting Vice President for Institutional Advancement.

- President Hahs introduced the members of the constituency table, including Wojciech Wloch representing the Administrative and Professional Employees Council (A&P Council), Erick Howenstein, Chair of the Faculty Senate, Jon Hageman, Chair of the University Planning and Budget Council (UPBC), Kate Hahn, Chair of the University Advisory Council (UAC), and the Civil Service Council whose representative was unable to attend today’s meeting. President Hahs thanked them for their service in the year ahead.

- President Hahs introduced Dr. Qiumei (Jane) Xu, Presidential Fellow. She holds a Ph. D. in Management from the University of California, Irvine and her Masters and B. A. are from Peking University in China. She has been with Northeastern since 2007 in the College of Business and Management. She brings her expertise in management to the President’s Office where she manages and leads various projects and she is welcomed as this year’s Presidential fellow.
- President Hahs asked Provost Richard Helldobler to introduce the new tenure-track faculty. A biography of each faculty member is included in the President’s Report to the Board. The Provost welcomed the faculty in attendance at the meeting; Dr. Lewis Gebhardt, Dr. David Kern, Dr. Sung Doo Kim, and Dr. Raja Roy.

Opportunity for Public Comment in Accordance with Public Act 91-0715
Vice Chair Lee announced the Opportunity for Public Comment. The purpose of Public Comment is for the Board to hear from the public regarding agenda items or issues that affect the University. It is not an occasion for general discussion or open debate on issues that might be raised. The Board has not received any requests from the public to speak at this meeting. However, the Trustees appreciate hearing from members of the Northeastern community and value their thoughts.

Convene in Executive Session
At 2:36 p.m., Ms. Fumo, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to convene in executive session.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

The motion carried.

Reconvene in Open Session
At 2:51 p.m., Ms. Fumo, seconded by Mr. Nungaray, moved to reconvene in open session.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

The motion carried.

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

Action Item I. A. Fiscal Year 2017 (FY2017) Operating and Capital Request Budgets

Mr. Duque, seconded by Mr. Biggins, moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2017 (FY2017) Operating and Capital Request Budgets

Discussion: Trustee Nungaray noted the reduction in funding for the UPBC initiatives and asked if they will be cut altogether. President Hahs replied that the decision would be made in late spring / early summer when it is clear how much money would be left to work with.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

The motion carried.
**Action Item I. B. Expenditure Recommendation for Purchases of $100,000 or More – South Campus Utility Infrastructure General Contractor**

Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the **South Campus Utility Infrastructure General Contractor**

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

*The motion carried.*

**Action Item I. C. Expenditure Recommendation for Purchases of $100,000 or More – Co-Generation Plant Catalytic Converters**

Mr. Duque, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the **Co-Generation Plant Catalytic Converters**

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

*The motion carried.*

**Action Item I. D. Expenditure Recommendation for Purchases of $100,000 or More – Detention Basin Expansion**

Mr. Stein, seconded by Ms. Fumo, moved to approve the **Detention Basin Expansion**

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

*The motion carried.*

**Action Item I. E. Expenditure Recommendation for Purchases of $100,000 or More – Snow Removal Service**

Mr. Biggins, seconded by Mr. Garcia, moved to approve the **Snow Removal Service**

Discussion: Trustee Nungaray asked where the unused funds from this item would go if not needed. President Hahs replied that the funds will come from the Parking Fee fund and special approval is needed to withdraw funds up to the amount approved. Only the amount needed will be withdrawn so the unused portion will stay in the fund.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

*The motion carried.*
Action Item I. F. Strategic Planning Development Fund

Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the Strategic Planning Development Fund.

Discussion: Trustee Lee asked if this money is for the benefit of the students. President Hahs noted that all money spent is for the students. She added that even making improvements to sidewalks, while it might not immediately seem like it, does in fact, benefit students’ educational experience at Northeastern. Trustee Stein asked for clarification on whether these funds could be used for things like painting, landscaping, or new signage. President Hahs replied that they could if the items make it to the top of the UPBC priorities list.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

The motion carried.

Action Item I. G. Annual Adjustments to the Reserve Limits for Non-Indentured Entities

Ms. Fumo, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the Annual Adjustments to the Reserve Limits for Non-Indentured Entities.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

The motion carried.

Board Committee Reports

Academic and Student Affairs – Committee Chair Garcia apologized for arriving late due to his attendance the Civil Service Merit Board meeting as the Northeastern’s representative. The Civil Service Merit Board approved the appointment of their new Executive Director, Jeff Burnfield, who will be working with Northeastern in the future. Trustee Fumo added that Provost Helldobler introduced the newly hired faculty members who attended today’s meeting and also provided an enrollment update.

Trustee Lee added the remarks he shared earlier during the Academic and Student Affairs committee meeting regarding college matriculation data from north-suburban high schools in relation to Northeastern’s marketing budgets from the last two years. He urged the administration to increase its marketing and recruitment of students at these high schools.

Trustee Lee added that outreach to international students needs to be improved. While the International Mobility Fair did well this year, attendance needs to be increased. He noticed that the sessions were not well attended. He asked that next year, the President personally extend an invitation to, or hold a greeting event for, representatives from international schools.

Buildings and Grounds – Trustee Fumo represented the building and grounds committee and reviewed the Construction Update.
In relation to campus security, Trustee Lee said that since the President mentioned that the University has 1.7 million dollars left over and there is possibly more money in the Parking Fee fund, he thinks it is critically important to install security cameras all over campus for the safety of students.

Trustee Nungaray asked if the delays to the PE roofing repairs are cause for concern for the structure of the building. President Hahs replied that most of repairs needed are for leaks and while there is not a structural risk, the problems are assessed all the time. The University is still waiting for the state appropriations to come through to replace the entire roof.

Finance – Trustee Duque represented the committee and noted that the items discussed during the committee meeting were approved.

Legal Counsel Report
Vice Chair Lee explained that the Legal Counsel Report was distributed to the Trustees and Vice President for Legal Affairs and General Counsel, Melissa Reardon Henry answered the trustee’s questions in executive session.

Old Business - none at this time

New Business
Trustee Duque proposed that the trustees issue a statement, whether in the form of a resolution or other format the trustees feel most appropriate, regarding their concern about Illinois lawmaker’s lack of movement on a budget or a hint of what the appropriations will be for Northeastern and other Illinois Public Higher Education institutions. This statement should also express the frustration and uncertainty under which Northeastern now has to operate.

A draft resolution was prepared and the board discussed edits.

Trustee Stein asked where the resolution would be sent. President Hahs replied that it would be sent to the office of the Governor, the legislative leaders including Speaker Madigan and President Cullerton, the chairs of the appropriations committees, the House Higher Education Appropriation Committee, the Senate Higher Education Appropriation Committee, as well as the minority leaders. This resolution would be a preface to what the presidents and chancellors of Illinois Public Higher Education institutions are looking to do together. Another possibility would be to have each of the trustees send an individual letter or also a follow up letter from each Board chair.

President Hahs added that this message will be included in the Northeastern Independent newspaper and that the administration will work with Student Government as to what activities are most useful for the students to do to raise awareness. Trustee Stein added that it would be great to get students involved as well as parents and alumni.

Trustee Fumo asked Trustee Nungaray how aware the students are of the situation in Springfield. Trustee Nungaray replied that he did not think the students were very aware of what was going on. President Hahs added that she will provide the students and the University community with an update at her State of the University address next week. Trustee Fumo added that she noticed on Facebook a real groundswell of advocacy around funding for programs that support children with special needs.
Mr. Duque seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the **Board Resolution to the State of Illinois Concerning the Budget Crisis** as follows:

**Whereas**, the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University expresses its concern that the State of Illinois has not appropriated a fiscal year 2016 budget; and

**Whereas**, the Board wishes to express its deep concern for our students and for the future of the state;

**Now therefore be it resolved** that the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University encourages an adequate and timely solution to the budget crisis that reflects an appropriation to support a quality education for the students of Northeastern Illinois University.

*Approved and adopted* by the President and Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University this 17th day of September, 2015.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

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The motion carried.

**Upcoming Events**

Vice Chair Lee announced the following events:

- As the co-founder of the Chicago Music and Dance International, Vice Chair Lee announced its upcoming annual event, the Chicago International Dance Forum in Northeastern’s Auditorium on October 11, 2015. He invited all Northeastern faculty, staff, and students to attend free of charge when they present their Northeastern IDs. He noted that these events are great for sharing cultural experiences and expressed his thanks to Northeastern for the use of the Auditorium, for which the organization is paying.
- The State of the University Address will be held on September 24, 2015 at 3:05 p.m. in Alumni Hall
- The Finance Committee will meet on Thursday, October 15 from 12:30 to 2:30 pm in the Golden Eagles room to discuss tuition and fee recommendations. A light lunch will be available to the trustees and VPs at noon.
- The next Board meeting will be Thursday, November 19 at the main campus in the Golden Eagles room
- A Trustee is needed to bring greetings to the Academic Honors Ceremony on Thursday, December 3 at 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. in the Auditorium and Commencement on Sunday, December 13 at 2:00 p.m. at the UIC Pavilion

Mr. Garcia, seconded by Mr. Biggins, moved that the confidential written minutes of the executive session dated **June 12, 2014** remain confidential.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

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*The motion carried.*
Mr. Garcia, seconded by Ms. Fumo, moved that the confidential written minutes of the executive session dated September 18, 2014 no longer require confidential treatment, and are available for public inspection.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

The motion carried.

Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the destruction of verbatim records for the meeting held on November 14, 2013 pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

The motion carried.

Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the destruction of verbatim records for the meeting held on February 27, 2014 pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Biggins — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Stein — Yes
Garcia — Yes  Duque — Yes  Nungaray — Yes

The motion carried.

Adjourn
At 3:30 p.m., the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn.

Jin Lee, Vice Chair
Amy Rempas, Assistant Board Secretary
Approved November 19, 2015