A regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Thursday, November 19, 2015, at 2:37 p.m., in the Golden Eagles room at 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL. Dr. Carlos Azcoitia, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order.

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

The following trustees were absent:
Bob Biggins and Darlene Ruscitti

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 September 17, 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
- Northeastern Illinois University has received its largest gift ever of $1 million, plus up to $1.5 million for an additional matching challenge over the next three years through a donation from Daniel L. Goodwin. Mr. Goodwin is a graduate of Northeastern and served as a member of the Board of Trustees for over 10 years. Chair Azcoitia extended his thanks to Mr. Goodwin for his generous donation.
- The residence hall is on schedule and applications are coming in.
- Chair Azcoitia mentioned attending the Chicago Festival of Dance, an event by Ensemble Espanol and an event in the Jewel Box Series.
- The annual internal audit report is available for the trustees to review.

President’s Preliminary Announcements
- President Hahs added to the announcement about the generous donation from Daniel L. Goodwin. She mentioned that in exchange for his gift, Northeastern will name the College of Education, the Daniel L. Goodwin College of Education.
- President Hahs highlighted other good things happening at Northeastern despite the hard financial times.
  o The American Institution for Architecture (AIA) awarded the El Centro building with its “Distinguished Building Award”. The El Centro building was featured on the cover of AIA’s magazine. El Centro’s architect, Juan Moreno also received his first ever honor award from the AIA for the El Centro building.
  o Several Illinois pubic university presidents were interviewed on WTTW’s news program Chicago Tonight about the impact of the budget impasse on public higher education.
  o On October 8, the National Society of Hispanic MBAs (NSHMBA) established its first-ever undergraduate chapter at Northeastern.
  o Among several grants, Northeastern received the Chicago Cancer Health Equity Collaborative (CHEC) grant. The grant, worth 17 million dollars, was given to Northeastern, Northwestern, and University of Illinois at Chicago.
Opportunity for Public Comment in Accordance with Public Act 91-0715
Chair Azcoitia 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 2:45 p.m., Vice Chair Lee, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to convene in executive session.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Azcoitia — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Nungaray — Yes
Duque — Yes  Garcia — Yes  Stein — Yes
The motion carried.

Reconvene in Open Session
At 2:58 p.m., Vice Chair Lee, seconded by Mr. Nungaray, moved to reconvene in open session.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Azcoitia — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Nungaray — Yes
Duque — Yes  Garcia — Yes  Stein — 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) Tuition and Fee Recommendations
Mr. Nungaray, seconded by Mr. Garcia, moved to take a vote on the tuition increase separate from the fee increase.

Discussion: Trustee Nungaray said that he made the motion in order to represent student’s concerns and interests regarding the matter. The students had very different views about the necessity of a tuition increase and the necessity of the fee increases. Students feel that a higher tuition increase is necessary but they are not in favor of the mandatory fee increases. Trustee Lee asked what the increase amount is for the fees and Trustee Nungaray replied that it is $8.55 per credit hour. Chair Azcoitia asked President Hahs for more information regarding fees. President Hahs asked legal counsel if there should be a separate discussion on each fee or if there is another way to proceed. Attorney Reardon Henry replied that the discussion should relate to the motion that was just made and it is the Chair’s and the movant’s prerogative to determine how far the discussion should go. Trustee Lee asked if the fees were discussed before and if they are up for a vote today. President Hahs replied that the fees are always combined for discussion and vote with the tuition and the Trustees were given the tuition and fee information at the September meeting. A vote on both items is necessary at today’s meeting. Trustee Garcia asked if the two items were ever voted on separately in the past. President Hahs replied that they have not and that historically, discussion about fees happened at meetings prior to the final meeting where voting is necessary. Trustee Fumo asked if the fee increases apply to both current and future students. President Hahs replied yes.
Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Azcoitia — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Nungaray — Yes
Duque — Yes  Garcia — Yes  Stein — Yes

The motion carried.

President Hahs provided a brief summary of the discussions in committee and made the recommendation to the board to approve tuition and fee rates as presented with a recalculation of page 9 of the President’s Report to the Board. Her recommendation is to approve Table 1 in the report with a value of 8.5 percent.

Mr. Duque, seconded by Ms. Fumo, moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2017 (FY2017) Tuition Recommendation of 8.5 percent

Discussion: Trustee Stein asked what the impact on quality would be if increases lower than the highest proposal is chosen. The Provost replied that the proposed increase of 8.5 percent is manageable without significantly affecting quality if the current assumptions around appropriations and enrollment hold true. The recommended increase would not sacrifice too much.

Trustee Lee shared his strong belief that in the current financial crisis, that it would be better if the burden did not fall on the students. He encourages the university to look into other paradigms to save money. He thanks the university for what has already been done to save money but he believes more can be done. He believes students will have to work more to pay off the rising costs of tuition and recommends an increase of 6.2 percent.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Azcoitia — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — No  Nungaray — Yes
Duque — Yes  Garcia — Yes  Stein — Yes

The motion carried.

President Hahs recommended that the board approve the fees as listed on page 9 of the President’s Report to the Board.

Ms. Fumo, seconded by Mr. Stein, moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2017 (FY2017) Fee Recommendation

Discussion: Trustee Lee asked Trustee Nungaray which fees the students were most concerned about. Trustee Nungaray replied that the fees related to the residential halls were the fees that the students felt should only have to be paid by students living in the residential halls. Chair Azcoitia asked President Hahs if the fees could be charged to students separately. President Hahs replied that they cannot and while it is true that resident students may participate more in the activities supported by the fees, the enhancements will be available to and appreciated by all students. Trustee Stein mentioned that the fees at the University of Illinois are at least double what they are here at Northeastern. President Hahs asked Trustee Nungaray if he had a fee proposal from the students. Trustee Nungaray said that the students do not want the fees to increase by any amount but he would like to consider reducing the library fee from $3 to $1. Trustee Lee responded that it does not make sense for the students to agree to an 8.5 percent tuition increase and at the same time disagree on a fee increase. Trustee Nungaray replied that the tuition increase does not affect current students but that the fees will. Chair Azcoitia recommended that the students meet again with University administration to clarify why the fees are necessary. Trustee Nungaray said that the students
would appreciate more information regarding the fees.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Azcoitia — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Nungaray — No
Duque — Yes  Garcia — Yes  Stein — Yes

The motion carried.

**Action Item I. B. Expenditure Recommendation for Purchases of $100,000 or More – Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Contract Renewal**

Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Garcia, moved to approve the **Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software Contract Renewal**

Discussion: Trustee Lee asked what the advantage of having a longer-term contract versus a shorter-term contract since technology changes so rapidly. President Hahs replied that all updates are included in the price of the contract along with the ability to add functionality to the existing system. Trustee Lee asked how long Northeastern has been with this company and President Hahs replied since 2006. Chair Azcoitia asked if this project did not go out to bid, how it is known that this is the best price. President Hahs replied that it has such a good rate and that the product is good. If this project were to go out to bid and another company is chosen, it would cause a multi-million dollar effort between conversion and implementation. It is not easy to switch one system off and turn another on.

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

The motion carried.

**Action Item I. C. Expenditure Recommendation for Purchases of $100,000 or More – People’s Gas for Student Residences, College of Education, and South Campus Utility Plant Projects**

Mr. Garcia, seconded by Ms. Fumo, moved to approve the **People’s Gas for Student Residences, College of Education, and South Campus Utility Plant Projects**

Discussion: Trustee Lee asked if this is a one-time charge and how soon would it need to be paid. President Hahs replied that it needs to be paid immediately and will come out of the reserves as this work is needed to complete the residence halls. Trustee Lee asked if there was an effort to have the gas company pay for the work. Attorney Reardon Henry replied that an effort was made but that the gas company unfortunately has the upper hand in the matter. Trustee Lee asked if future buildings can be connected to this new line or if additional work will be needed. President Hahs replied that this new line will accommodate all the new buildings in the Decade of Dreams plan.

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

The motion carried.
Action Item I. D. Honorary Degree for Evan Wolfson

Mr. Duque, seconded by Mr. Nungaray, moved to approve the Honorary Degree for Evan Wolfson

Discussion:

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

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

The motion carried.

Board Committee Reports

None at this time

Legal Counsel Report

Chair Azcoitia 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 Trustees’ questions in executive session.

Old Business / New Business

Trustee Lee thanked Vice President Pierick for providing to the Trustees, a campus safety report, which included the number and location of security cameras throughout the University. In his initial request for this information he referred to incidents that happened on campus in August. He thinks perhaps the existing 84 cameras are not enough to stop these types of incidents and the University should buy more cameras. President Hahs replied that she feels the University has a good number of cameras and that money is being spent on upgrading the analog cameras to digital.

Upcoming Events

Chair Azcoitia announced the following events:

- The next Board of Trustees meeting will be on Thursday, February 4, 2016 in the Golden Eagles Room
- There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony on November 30, 2015 at 1:30 pm to celebrate the expansion of the Angelina Pedroso Center. Trustee Fumo will join in the celebration.
- Commencement will be held December 13 at 2:00 pm at the UIC Pavillion. Chair Azcoitia, Trustee Lee and Trustee Stein will attend as well.

Mr. Stein, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved that the confidential written minutes of the executive session dated November 13, 2014 remain confidential.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Nungaray — Abstain
Duque — Yes  Garcia — Absent  Stein — Yes

The motion carried*

Ms. Fumo, seconded by Mr. Duque, moved to approve the destruction of verbatim records for the meeting held on April 10, 2014 pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2.06.
Roll was called and the vote was as follows:
Azcoitia — Yes  Fumo — Yes  Lee — Yes  Nungaray — Abstain
Duque — Yes  Garcia — Absent  Stein — Yes

*During the meeting, the Assistant Secretary to the Board stated that these motions did not carry. In accordance with Roberts Rules the motions in fact, carried as reflected by the minutes.

Adjourn
At 3:45 p.m., the Board unanimously agreed to adjourn.

Carlos Azcoitia, Chair
Amy Rempas, Assistant Board Secretary