

The Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University

**Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

January 20, 2022

A meeting of the Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Thursday, January 20, 2022 via video conference. Trustee Ann Kalayil, Chair of the Committee, called the meeting to order at 8:39 a.m.

**Roll was called and the following Trustee Committee Members were present:** Marvin Garcia; Javonti Mordican; and Ann Kalayil

**Other Trustees present:** Jonathan Stein

**Also present:** Gloria Gibson, President; G. A. Finch, University Counsel; Mary Pat Burns, Board Counsel; Karl Voigt, Assistant Secretary to the Board; vice presidents, staff, and University community members

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**Opportunity for Public Comment**

Trustee Kalayil announced the opportunity for public comment in accordance with P.A. 91-0715. There were no requests to speak.

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**Chair's and President's Remarks**

President Gibson welcomed everyone back for the Spring 2022 semester. Dr. Gibson thanked everyone who participated in the December 2021 commencement and congratulated graduates. Dr. Gibson introduced the new Vice President for Enrollment Management, Dr. Kimberley Buster-Williams, and the President's new Chief of Staff, Dr. Andrea Elzy. In response to the spike in the Omicron variant in Cook County, the University has pivoted to remote work January 11 through January 28. The 15 scholarships for Afghan students have been filled and today the University will request a recommendation from the committee to fund 2 additional scholarships for the Spring 2022 semester.

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**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Enrollment Management

Dr. Kimberley Buster-Williams reviewed the Spring 2022 goals for Enrollment Management. With additions to staff that are underway, the Fall 2022 goal is to enroll 400 first-time, full-time freshmen, 900 transfers, and 529 new graduate students. As of the Spring 2022 semester, 81% of first-time students admitted under the NEIU for You 1.0 initiative in Fall 2021 are registered for classes, and 88% of transfers admitted under the same initiative in Fall 2021 are registered for classes. The enrollment team is presently working on internal and external communications strategies and getting staff trained in the new CRM to ensure a successful Fall 2022 enrollment cycle.

Student Affairs

Dr. Terry Mena, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, reviewed the division's latest updates for re-organization. As reported at previous meetings, the division participated in

an external assessment by NASPA, the national organization for student affairs. The final report from the assessment will be released to the University community in January 2022. Several areas in the division are in the process of increasing staffing levels to meet student needs including the Angelina Pedroso Center for Intercultural Affairs. An interim director has been appointed and tasked with identifying a new coordinator for Gender Equity, LGBTQA+, and Indigenous/Native American students, and identify resources in support of Asian, Pacific Islander, and Desi students. Re-structuring of the Career Development Center will align with the IBHE Strategic Plan and the President's Strategic Priorities for Growth. The Director position is being revisited and a revised description is being coordinated in concert with Academic Affairs, college deans, and Institutional Advancement. Fall occupancy at the Nest was just under 57%. Between Fall 2021 and Spring 2022, 77 students have been admitted to one of the three Living and Learning Communities (LLCs) at the Nest. Students who have been admitted into an LLC do not pay rent. In Fall 2022 through Spring 2023, the University will continue the three current LLCs and establish two more: Honors Student Community, and STEMs Student Community. This provides for a potential of 86 LLC students next year. Of the 71 prospective students in the Afghan student transition program, 27 applied, 15 were admitted, and to date 4 students have enrolled. Of the 45 prospective Afghan students who expressed interest in the Nest housing, 9 were admitted, 5 have signed leases and 2 have moved in.

Trustee Garcia left the meeting at 9:49 a.m.

At this time, Trustee Kalayil thanked and acknowledged everyone involved with helping get the Afghan transition program off the ground. The success of everyone's efforts has yielded the need for two additional scholarships for qualified and admitted students for the Spring 2022 semester, which began this week.

Trustee Kalayil moved to recommend to the Executive Committee to take action at their meeting tomorrow to approve two additional scholarships for the Spring 2022. The motion was seconded by Chair Palos.

Discussion: there was no discussion

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Garcia:                      Kalayil: Yes                      Mordican: Yes                      Palos (e.o.): Yes

The matter is recommended to the Executive Committee for action.

#### Information Technology

Manish Kumar, Vice President for Finance and Administration, introduced the University's new CIO, Arman Rashid. Mr. Rashid brings more than 22 years of high-level technology integration experience to NEIU. Mr. Rashid began his duties in November, 2021. Mr. Rashid announced that the University has recently rolled out its multi-factor authentication program, helping ensure University technology assets are better protected, and he is happy to report that Slate, the CRM, is now live.

Abby Murray, the University's Executive Director of Human Resources, presented Trustees with a technology update with an overview of the Workday system being implemented at the University. Ms. Murray stated the current operations of the human resources department are

woefully behind the times, leaving the University vulnerable to legal and compliance issues. Workday will transform the human resources department to a fully-functioning employee asset by redefining business operations, enabling a robust employee self-service component, improve job candidate experiences, help with employee retention, provide better ROI data integration, and accelerate the University's workforce. The Workday project scope will assist with core human capital management, making recruitment, talent optimization, time tracking, absence tracking, payroll, and benefits management significantly less cumbersome. Workday is an approved IPHEC vendor. Mr. Rashid provided an overview of Workday's security and upgrade timeline, and remarked on the system's overall efficiency when compared to other similar providers.

#### Academic Affairs

Dennis Rome, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presented a report on the University's dual enrollment program. As of January 2022, the University anticipates up to 92 high school students from 14 area high schools participating in the dual enrollment program now in its second year. 37 students are from Chicago Public Schools (CPS) and 10 are from CPS Charter schools. In addition to students earning college credit while still in high school, the many benefits to dual enrollment give students an opportunity to see what college-level coursework is like, take courses not offered in their high schools, and find an area of academic focus before entering college. Dr. Rome thanked Trustee Garcia for all of his efforts in navigating the CPS system in getting dual enrollment program established. In a shift away from the dual enrollment program discussion, Trustee Kalayil asked at the March committee meeting to see metrics for measuring academic success at the University.

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#### **Old/New Business**

The next Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee meeting is scheduled for March 10, 2022.

There was no further business.

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#### **Motion to Adjourn**

At 10:44 a.m. Chair Palos, seconded by Trustee Mordican moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalayil, Chair of the Committee  
Karl Voigt, Assistant Board Secretary  
Approved February 10, 2022