

Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University

Board Meeting Minutes

February 10, 2022

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Thursday, February 10, 2022 in the Alumni Hall located at 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL. Jim Palos, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m.

Roll was called and the following Trustees were present: Sherry Eagle; Marvin Garcia; Ann Kalayil; Javonti Mordican; Jim Palos; Charlie Serrano; and Jonathan Stein

The following Trustee was not present: Carlos Azcoitia

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

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Trustee Serrano, seconded by Trustee Eagle moved to approve, by consent, (i) the open and closed minutes and to keep the closed minutes closed from the November 18, 2021 Board meeting; and to approve the open minutes from: (ii) the January 21, 2022 Executive Committee meeting; (iii) the January 20, 2022 Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee meeting; and (iv) the February 2, 2022 Finance, Buildings and Grounds Committee Meeting.

Discussion: there was no discussion

The motion carried by acclamation.

Opportunity for Public Comment

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

Chair's and President's Remarks

Chair Palos introduced several of the enrolled students from the Afghan transition program. On behalf of the students already enrolled, Maywand Pohyar made a plea to the board to consider extending the transition program into academic year 2023.

Chair Palos offered congratulations on behalf of the Board to all December graduates. Thank you to Sharon Heimbaugh and the entire COVID-19 Task Force for their tireless work and efforts in keeping the University community safe. Thank you to Dr. Shireen Roshanravan for leading a thorough and engaging discussion on equity, diversity and inclusion during today's board luncheon.

President Gibson introduced the new Vice President for Enrollment Management, Dr. Kimberley Buster-Williams; Ryan Trout, the Interim Executive Director for Enrollment Services; and Dr. Andrea Elzy, the President's Chief of Staff.

Fall 2022 recruitment by the numbers: of the 3,169 first-time/full-time student applications to date, 60 have confirmed their intent to enroll. Transfer student applications are down slightly, but the intent to enroll to

date is double that of same time last year. The University has awarded 16 Provost Scholarships and 8 Dean's Scholarships for Fall 2022. NEIU has joined the state's 'common app' and will be live by the end of February. 40,000 postcards have been mailed to prospective students across Illinois promoting NEIU for You 2.0, along with other promotional efforts.

NEIU for You 1.0 retention from Fall 2021 to Spring 2022 for first-time/full-time freshmen is 81% and 88% for transfers.

Dual enrollment saw an increase in numbers this year thanks in large measure to efforts by Trustee Marvin Garcia, and also work by the Provost and his team. There current 88 students enrolled in this initiative.

Afghan student transition program update: 17 students were admitted; 2 students left and 2 decided not to enroll. 13 students remain enrolled in the Spring 2022 semester. Thank you to everyone who is helping to support these students.

Congratulations to the College of Business and Technology for having received re-accreditation from the Association of Colleges and Schools of Business (ACSB).

The current Nest occupancy is 56.7%. There are 77 students enrolled in 3 Living/Learning Communities (LLCs) at the Nest. The University will add 2 more LLCs for Fall 2022.

The Seal of Excelencia committee received their charge in December 2021. All committee and sub-committees' assignments have been made and all are working on responsive material for the University's June application submission. The Seal of Excelencia committee leaders will present an update to the Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee at their March meeting.

Governor Pritzker's latest budget proposal has increased Northeastern's FY23 appropriation to \$37M. He is recommending a supplemental appropriation for FY23 of \$1.7M. The Governor is also recommending a supplemental appropriation for FY22 of \$1.7M. House Appropriations hearings will take place on February 24 and Senate hearings will take place on March 11. The General Assembly is expected to vote on the final budget by April 8.

President Edwin Medina and the Student Government Association (SGA) have recommended to bring athletics back to Northeastern. SGA has adopted a resolution to begin a study with the University on restoring the athletics program. Trustee Serrano has expressed his interest in being part of the athletics committee.

The George Floyd Social Justice Scholarship winners are Tamaya Levy and Javonti Mordican. Each recipient receives a \$5,000 award.

The Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) has recognized Northeastern's Grow with Google Hispanic Serving Institutions career readiness program.

Over 200 students enrolled in the University's first-ever Winter Session classes this past December. These classed represented 516 credit hours and an additional \$200,000 in tuition revenue. 80% of surveyed students indicated they would register for Winter Session courses again. Special thanks to Dr. Sandra Beyda-Lorie and her team for their efforts in getting this new session started.

Shared Governance Presentation: Administrative & Professional (A&P) Employees Council

Christopher Maxwell, Assistant Dean of Students and Chair of the A & P Council, presented an overview of the Council, its mission, membership, current issues and priorities, recent successes, and answered Trustees' questions.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee

Chair Palos reported that the Executive Committee met on January 21, 2022 via video conference. The committee received several informational briefings, a presentation on the Foundation's capital campaign, and recommended Trustee members to form the 2022 Ad hoc Committee on the President's Evaluation. The committee was asked by the Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee to approve two additional scholarships for displaced Afghans who qualify for enrollment at Northeastern. The committee approved this urgent request due to the start of the Spring term on January 18. The Board was duly notified of this action by Chair Palos.

Action Item I. A. Approval of 2022 Ad hoc Committee on the President's Evaluation

Trustee Serrano, seconded by Trustee Mordican moved to approve, by consent, the following members of the 2022 President's Evaluation Committee: Trustee Carlos Azcoitia, Chair; Trustee Marvin Garcia, member; and Trustee Ann Kalayil, member.

Discussion: there was no discussion

The motion carried by acclamation.

Chair Palos introduced Liesl Downey, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and Executive Director of the NEIU Foundation, who presented an abbreviated overview of the Foundation's capital campaign timeline and answered Trustees' questions.

Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee

Trustee Ann Kalayil reported that the committee met on January 20, 2022 via video conference and received several informational briefings. The committee also officially asked the Executive Committee, at its January 21 meeting, to urgently approve two additional scholarships for displaced Afghan students who qualify for enrollment at Northeastern.

Finance, Buildings and Grounds Committee

Trustee Sherry Eagle reported that the committee met on February 2, 2022 via video conference. The committee received several informational briefings and recommends one item today for board approval.

Action Item I. B. Approval of Recommendation to Develop an RFP for Real Estate Brokerage Services Solely for the Bryn Mawr Property Upon Thorough Review by the University's and Board's Counsels, and a Review by Members of the Board Prior to Posting.

Trustee Serrano, seconded by Trustee Eagle moved to approve the development of an RFP for Real Estate Brokerage Services Solely for the Bryn Mawr Property.

Discussion: Trustees will review the RFP language prior to posting. The University recommends a 21-day posting period.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia:	Garcia: Yes	Mordican: Yes	Serrano: Yes
Eagle: Yes	Kalayil: Yes	Palos: Yes	Stein: Yes

The motion carried.

Motion to Convene in Closed Session

At 2:45 p.m. Trustee Kalayil, seconded by Trustee Serrano moved to convene in Closed Session to receive a legal report, citing section 2(c)11 of the Illinois Open Meetings Act.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Azcoitia:	Garcia: Yes	Mordican: Yes	Serrano: Yes
Eagle: Yes	Kalayil: Yes	Palos: Yes	Stein: Yes

The motion carried.

Motion to Reconvene in Open Session

At 3:04 p.m. Trustee Stein, seconded by Trustee Eagle moved to reconvene in Open Session. The motion carried by acclamation.

Legal Report

Chair Palos reported that the Trustees received the legal report in advance from the University's General Counsel and had an opportunity to ask questions during Closed Session.

Old/New Business

Thanks to Manish Kumar and his team for recently getting the El Centro signage project across the finish line.

Trustee Mordican would like to arrange a meet-and-greet at the April meeting between the Student Government Association and the Board. More details to follow.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2022.

There was no further business.

Adjourn

At 3:19 p.m. Trustee Serrano, seconded by Trustee Kalayil moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Palos, Chair of the Board
Karl Voigt, Assistant Board Secretary
Approved April 14, 2022