

Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

March 7, 2022

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Monday March 7, 2022 in the Golden Eagles Room located at 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL. Trustee Jim Palos, Chair of the Board, called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Roll was called and the following Trustee committee members were present: Sherry Eagle; Jim Palos; and Jonathan Stein

Other Trustees present: Charlie Serrano

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

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 Remarks

Chair Palos reported that he is working with Student Government Association (SGA) President, Edwin Medina, to confirm the meeting between SGA and the Board at the April Board meeting. Chair Palos has been asked to consider a proposal from the Administrative and Professional Employees Council related to a Board-sponsored employee recognition program as a value-added distinction from the University's existing employee recognition programs. Chair Palos and the Board's Counsel have been working on some pending matters related to Ensemble Español related to their reconstituted board, company operations, and a new memo of understanding between the University and the Ensemble. There is also an unresolved insurance question related to the NEIU Foundation.

ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION AND POSSIBLE ACTION

Consideration and Possible Items for Upcoming Committee Agendas

Chair Palos asked the committee if there were any matters they wished to see addressed at upcoming committee meetings. Trustee Eagle asked if the program evaluation presentation slated for the next Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology (ASAET) Committee meeting could also be presented, in some form, at the next Finance, Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting especially if the presentation is strategic in nature. Provost Rome stated that the presentation for the ASAET committee would be a descriptive look at the academic landscape in response to the Higher Learning Commission's request for the University to publish its compiled program statistics on the website. Trustees discussed taking an aggregated look at credit hours in order to formulate a snapshot of a longer-term view from around 2019 and running through 2026. Vice President for Enrollment Management, Kimberley buster-Williams, informed Trustees that the University is presently working on a strategic enrollment plan that will aid in a forward-looking, data-driven, predictive model to better inform planning for the future. Trustee Stein asked for real estate and campus signage to be discussed. President Gibson concluded that she has asked the entire University to focus its energies on enrollment. Campus signage can wait a bit longer. The committee took no action.

Consideration and Possible Approval of Future Learning Sessions

Chair Palos suggested for the April meeting to consider either an event with the Student Government Association (SGA) or a presentation on cybersecurity or freedom of speech. President Gibson advocated for cybersecurity as the more critical issue. The committee took no action.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Implementation of Trustee Engagement Initiatives

To ensure the Board is providing adequate representation at key University events, Chair Palos asked that a Board participation list be presented to all Trustees at the next Board meeting. The Board will review the Foundation's summary of board member expectations and roles as a guide.

Update on the President's Annual Evaluation

The President will provide her self-evaluation by March 28. The Ad hoc Committee on the President's Evaluation will complete and submit their interview summaries by March 31. Chair Palos will speak 1:1 with each Trustee in early April to solicit their feedback.

Old/New Business

There was no further business.

Adjourn

At 9:37 a.m. Trustee Eagle, seconded by Trustee Stein 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