

Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University  
**Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee Meeting Minutes**  
August 24, 2023

A meeting of the Academic/Student Affairs, Enrollment, and Technology Committee of the Board of Trustees of Northeastern Illinois University was convened on Thursday, August 24, 2023 in the Student Union Golden Eagles Room located at 5500 N. St. Louis Avenue, Chicago, IL. Trustee Ann Kalayil, Chair of the committee called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

**Roll was called and the following Trustee committee members were present:** Marvin Garcia; Ann Kalayil; and Edwin Medina

**Other Trustees present:** Michelle Morales in person and Anna Meresidis via video conference

**Also present:** Katrina Bell-Jordan, Interim President; G. A. Finch, University Counsel; Karl Voigt, Assistant Secretary to the Board of Trustees; vice presidents; students; staff; and university community members

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**Opportunity for Public Comment in Accordance with P.A. 91-0715**

Trustee Kalayil announced the opportunity for public comment. There were 2 registrations placed in advance and 2 presentations.

1. **Gabriel Cortez** as Associate Professor and Director of the ENLACE Leadership Institute  
**Topic:** to provide a brief summary of the ENLACE Leadership Institute
2. **Mit Patel** as NEIU student  
**Topic:** to comment on the College of Business and Technology

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

Interim President Bell-Jordan thanked everyone for their support in her recent transition to the President role. Dr. Bell-Jordan welcomed back faculty for the fall term. Students have moved into the Nest and thanked everyone for helping to welcome students.

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**ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

Academic Affairs

Introduction of Interim Academic Affairs Leadership

Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Dr. Shayne Cofer, introduced the interim leadership team within Academic Affairs. Interim Associate Provost and University Contract Administrator, Dr. Effie Kritikos; Interim Associate Provost for Innovation and Academic Assessment, Dr. Sudha Srinivas; Acting Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Timothy Libretti; Acting Associate Dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, Dr. Amanda Dykema-Engblade; Associate Dean of the College of Business and Technology, Dr. Jane Xu; Director of the First Year Experience Program, Jeremy Babcock; and this year's Coordinator of the Living and Learning Communities, Dr. Pamela Geddes. Dr. Cofer thanked everyone for their willingness to step up during this transitional year.

Academic Program Updates: MSN and Ed.D.

Dr. Thomas Phillion, Dean of the Goodwin College of Education provided an update on the Master of Science in Nursing Entry into Practice Program and the Ed.D. program. Dr. Connie Zak left as director of the MSN program in May. The University is finishing up interviews for a new director. The University will continue to work with various accrediting bodies as the search process continues. Reporting on behalf of Dr. Kamau Rashid on the Ed.D. program, the curriculum has been written and information sessions are being planned. By October 1, the program will begin its journey through the governance process. The proposed name for the program is the Doctoral Program in Leadership, Equity and Inquiry.

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Common App Applicant Pool Data (2022-2023)

Dr. Marcelo Sztainberg, Interim Dean of the College of Graduate Studies and Research reviewed several data sets related to enrollment in 2023. Trustee Kalayil announced that she is working with Dr. Sztainberg and Rene Quiñonez to build out an enrollment dashboard that will be available to Trustees.

Enrollment Management

Fall 2023 Enrollment Updates

Ryan Trout, Director of Undergraduate Admissions reviewed the Fall 2023 enrollment figures. Fall 2022 new first-time full-time freshmen enrollment was 516. Fall 2023 enrollment for the same group is 542. Fall 2022 Transfer enrollment was 584. Fall 2023 enrollment for the same group is 523. Mr. Trout reviewed the University's tactical plan and goals for recruitment.

Afghan Refugee Transition Program Update

Dr. Terry Mena, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students, provided an update on the Afghan Refugee Transition Program (ARTP). Fall 2023 is the second cohort of this student population. The University received a state-supported grant to help fund the initiative. Of the 42 prospective students in this cohort, 7 have been admitted.

Student Success and Retention

AASCU Student Success Equity Intensive (SSEI) Initiative

Dr. Cofer introduced Interim Associate Vice President for Student Success and Retention, Irma Ortiz. Ms. Ortiz reported that the Fall 2022 to Fall 2023 first-time full-time freshman retention is 59%. 95 high school students are enrolled in dual credit classes.

Dr. Shireen Roshanravan, Executive Director of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion, reported that NEIU was selected by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) to be a part of their student success and equity intensive program that is fully funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The program support is for three years. In February, the University submitted its Illinois Equity and Attainment Plan as mandated by the governor, to identify and close equity gaps for traditionally underserved populations in the areas of retention and graduation. The cohort with AASCU will be particularly useful in helping the University with their equity deliverables.

Student Affairs

Nest Updates

Dr. Terry Mena reported that as of today the occupancy rate at the Nest is 94%. Applications are still being processed. Of the 398 current leases, 161 are returning students and 237 are new. Dr. Mena reviewed the current Nest charges, payments and balances.

Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act & Grant (MHEACA)

Dr. Miki Koyama, Interim Director of Student Counseling Services, reported on the Act's purposes, objectives and goals. The Act was signed into law in 2019 and as of July 1, 2023 has been funded by the Legislature. NEIU took steps to implement certain objectives within the Act that it could afford to on its own and is now fully implementing the objectives since funding has become available.

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**Old/New Business**

Trustee Kalayil asked if there was any old or new business. Trustee Garcia asked for an audit or presentation of prior NEIU for You initiatives. There was no further business.

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**Motion to Adjourn**

At 2:53 p.m. Trustee Medina, seconded by Trustee Garcia, moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned by acclamation.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Kalayil, Chair of the Committee  
Karl Voigt, Assistant Board Secretary  
Approved November 16, 2023