PUBLIC NOTICE & AGENDA

University Council Steering Committee
Wednesday, February 14, 2018, 3:30 p.m.
Altgeld Hall 225
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

IV. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17, 2018 MINUTES

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. ITEMS FOR UC STEERING COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

VII. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF UNIVERSITY COUNCIL DRAFT AGENDA – (See attached document)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT
Below is a draft of the upcoming University Council agenda, which we will use to shape discussion at the UC-Steering Committee meeting.

PUBLIC NOTICE AND AGENDA

University Council
Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 3 p.m.
Holmes Student Center Sky Room
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

IV. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 31, 2018 MEETING MINUTES

V. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS
   A. Technology Accessibility at NIU is Improving
      Katy Whitelaw, Information Technology Access Officer
   
   B. Textbook Affordability
      Fred Barnhart, Dean, University Libraries
      Leanne VandeCreek, Acting Associate Dean, University Libraries
      Ian Crone, Director, Holmes Student Center
      Stephanie Torres, Director, Academic Affairs, Student Association
   
   C. Report on IBHE presentation
      Chris McCord, Acting Executive Vice President and Provost

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
   A. Ombudsperson End-of-Term Review received by the Office of the President
      Lisa Freeman, Acting President

VIII. NEW BUSINESS
IX. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – Linda Saborío – report – Page 3

B. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees
   Barbara Andree, Catherine Doederlein, Alex Gelman,
   Mark Riley, Linda Saborío, Kendall Thu

C. Academic Policy Committee – Terry Bishop, Chair

D. Resources, Space and Budget Committee – Jim Wilson, Chair, and
   Sarah McHone-Chase Faculty Senate Liaison/Spokesperson

E. Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – Therese Arado, Chair

F. University Affairs Committee – Reed Scherer, Chair

G. Student Association – Rachel Jacob, President; Christine Wang, Speaker of the
   Senate

H. Operating Staff Council – Barbara Andree, President

I. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Catherine Doederlein, President

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

XI. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Minutes, Academic Planning Council
B. Minutes, Athletic Board
C. Minutes, Baccalaureate Council
D. Minutes, Board of Trustees
E. Minutes, Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
F. Minutes, Comm. on the Improvement of the Undergraduate Academic Experience
G. Minutes, General Education Committee
H. Minutes, Graduate Council
I. Minutes, Graduate Council Curriculum Committee
J. Minutes, Honors Committee
K. Minutes, Operating Staff Council
L. Minutes, Supportive Professional Staff Council
M. Minutes, University Assessment Panel
N. Minutes, University Benefits Committee
O. Minutes, Univ. Comm. on Advanced and Nonteaching Educator License Programs
P. Minutes, University Committee on Initial Educator Licensure

XII. ADJOURNMENT
1. Welcome discussion with President of Illinois College: the topic of this discussion was the value of a liberal arts education. At IC, student-faculty interaction (learning experiences, collaborative relationships) are paramount. There are a number of short term travel abroad opportunities (called “breakaways”) made available to students along with scholarships to help defray costs. Also, there is summer research support for students. Under curriculum, there is a first year and a senior capstone experience. IC emphasizes writing, public speaking, diversity, and teamwork; in other words, a broad education. Finally, there is a student presentation day in April called “Celebration of Excellence Day;” classes are cancelled so that faculty and students can attend recitals, research and art expos, theatrical productions, and more.

2. Rebecca Spencer from IC presented on IC’s programs with Japanese universities, such as Ritsumeikan University. Opportunities include a 10-week research lab experience in the summer for students and a 4-5 week language intensive internship focusing on environmental issues.

3. Marie Donovan indicated that IBHE is no longer going to have lunches with their constituency groups at their quarterly meetings. The stated reason is so that the Board members can have more time to interact with each other; yet, we still want to have a yearly opportunity to make a substantial presentation to the Board. It was suggested that this perhaps could be arranged for what would have been our annual meeting with the Board on June 5th at the College of Lake County. We would also like the opportunity to make a brief presentation at each Board meeting. The hope is that Al Bowman, Tom Cross, and other Board members could be present at more advisory council meetings in the future.

4. Jaimee Ray – Legislative Report: 1) change the Truth in Tuition laws to allow opt in or opt out 2) expand slightly the scope of the Grow Your Own Program (grants for additional certifications) 3) remove the budget recommendation request for the Graduation Incentive grant program since there is no funding.

5. There was discussion regarding the state budget and HLC accreditation. It was suggested that we contact our Faculty Senates/Councils and prepare resolutions on this matter to be publicized and shared with the Governor and Legislature.

6. We received a presentation by Kathleen Almy from NIU on remedial math impacts of the Illinois Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Act (PA 99-0674), which was signed into law on July 29, 2016. Transitional math courses in the 4th year of high school can help students prepare for college. These courses would be structured to offer a different (more applied) type of experience than the math courses in the first three years. Students that pass with a C or better are guaranteed placement into college level math at Illinois community colleges.