

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
CHARLESTON, ILLINOIS**

November 7, 2024

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened on November 7, 2024 at 11:30 am in the Dvorak Concert Hall of Doudna Fine Arts Center, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois. Mr. Chris Hicks, Chair presided.

Roll Call

Roll was called:

Ms. Baurer	Present
Ms. Edwards	Present
Ms. Everett	Present
Ms. Madigan	Present
Ms. Morris	Present
Mr. Timi Ngoboh	Present
Dr. Ranchoero	Present
Mr. Hicks	Present

Also present were the following:

Dr. Jay Gatrell, President
Dr. Ryan Hendrickson, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Mr. Matt Bierman, Vice President for Business Affairs
Mr. Mike Hutchinson, Director of Business Services/Treasurer
Dr. Anne Flaherty, Vice President for Student Affairs
Ms. Mindy Spencer, Vice President for University Advancement
Mr. Josh Norman, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Mr. Austin Hill, General Counsel
Ms. Cindy Hutchison, Assistant Secretary, Board of Trustees

Executive Session

Ms. Baurer moved that the Board of Trustees convene in Executive Session to consider employment of employees, collective negotiating matters and executive session minutes as permitted by Section 2.C.1, 2 and 21 of the Open Meetings Act. Dr. Ranchoero seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

Ms. Madigan moved to return to Open Session. Dr. Ranchero seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

The Board of Trustees reconvened after lunch at 1:00 pm in the Dvorak Concert Hall of Doudna Fine Arts Center for the remainder of the Board of Trustees meeting.

Report from Board Chair

Chair Hicks welcomed everyone to the final Board meeting of 2024. He stated the trustees participated in IBHE trustee training during the month of October and all are compliant with the State of Illinois. Chair Hicks thanked the veteran students, employee's and alumni for their service and dedication to our country.

Committee Reports

Executive/Planning Committee

Mr. Hicks shared President Gatrell's concern about the nation-wide racist text messages that have been reported by higher-ed students, including two EIU students. These are being investigated and a statement from President Gatrell will be going out by end of day addressing it. Springfield is in ongoing negotiations with the senate bill funding – more will be known in the spring. A 7.5% increase was requested in overall appropriations at the IBHE Big Picture meeting that took place in October.

VP Norman updated the Board on Freshman Orientation stating our largest growth in early commitment is in Honors eligible Freshman. International numbers are larger than the average for the past 5 years. The International Scholar Award developed could have a significant impact on our undergraduate international population for Spring and Fall. A \$2000 award is available for all admitted international undergraduate students and renewable for up to four years. The EIU Branding Guide is ready to launch. Erin Howarth, former cross-country coach has been hired as the Daily Visit Coordinator and will begin on December 6.

Finance/Audit Committee

Dr. Ranchero reported on the two purchase approvals to be voted on. VP Bierman stated money was set aside at year end last year in anticipation of this request. The Line-Item Status Report prepared by Mike Hutchinson was reviewed. An update on campus projects was given, including the science building project which continues to move forward. As part of the strategic plan, an outside consultant has been brought in to recommend a facilities investment plan. They have determined we are underutilized in many of our spaces and we should receive their final report in December.

University Advancement and Alumni Relations Committee

Ms. Everett shared VP Spencer’s report. Annual Giving is being revised to personalize and produce more gifts. We will see a shift to storytelling, impact reporting, stewardship and engagement. VP Spencer shared plans regarding professional development plans ahead of EIU’s campaign. FY25 gifts as of November 5, 2024 total \$2,701,295. This includes cash, gifts in kind and pledges from 1547 donors.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Mr. Hicks reported on the action item Bachelor of Social Work presented by VP Hendrickson and his report on the D.W.F Initiative. He shared VP Flaherty’s update on Student Legal Services and the work they do. “The Mission of Eastern Illinois Student Legal Services is to provide preventative legal education, legal consultation and legal advice and referral to eligible students to enhance student knowledge of rights and responsibilities and positively impact educational outcomes and retention of students.” VP Flaherty also updated the Trustees on the Mental Health Early Action on Campus (MHEAC) Grant FY2025 & Competitive Grant 2025.

Action Items

- A. Ms. Everett moved to approve the minutes of the September 5, 2024 Board meeting. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

- B. Dr. Ranchoero moved to approve the following Executive Session Minutes: 11/17/2023, 1/19/2024, 4/19/2024, 6/21/2024, 9/5/2024. Ms. Baurer seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

Ms. Madigan moved for the executive session minutes to remain confidential and Ms. Edwards seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

- C. Ms. Everett moved to approve the New Academic Program, Bachelor in Social Work. Ms. Madigan seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

- D. Ms. Baurer moved to approve the Honorary Degree of Mr. Robert Flider. Dr. Ranchoero seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

- E. Dr. Ranchoero moved to approve the Purchase Approval – Building Automation System. This purchase is for upgrading the BAS systems in Old Main and textbook Rental Service, cost \$272,518.00. Ms. Edwards seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Ms. Baurer	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Ms. Everett	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Ms. Morris	Yes

Mr. Ngoboh	Yes
Dr. Ranchoero	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes

Motion carried.

- F. Ms. Edwards moved to approve the Purchase Approval – Vehicle Replacement. This purchase is for replacing fleet vehicles that are at or nearing end-of-life, not to exceed \$500,000. Ms. Baurer seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Ms. Baurer	Yes
Ms. Edwards	Yes
Ms. Everett	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Ms. Morris	Yes
Mr. Ngoboh	Yes
Dr. Ranchoero	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes

Motion carried.

- G. Ms. Edwards moved to approve the action item Non-Indentured Reserves. Ms. Madigan seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

Information Items

President’s Report

President Gatrell introduced Ms. Shawn Peoples, Director of Civil Rights who gave a presentation on Title IX. Title IX covers every aspect of federally funded education programs: access to higher education, athletics, and education for pregnant and parenting students.

Earned Degrees Report

VP Hendrickson shared university data on the number of total degrees earned in the past academic year. Majors with the largest number of bachelor’s degree recipients in FY24 were BA in Psychology, BA in Interdisciplinary Studies, BSEd in Elementary Education, BS in Biological Sciences, BS in Organizational Development and BS in Exercise Science.

Reports from Constituencies

Faculty Senate, Todd Bruns: Mr. Bruns reported that Faculty Senate has met four times since the last Board meeting covering an array of agenda topics including ADA compliance concerns; student support services; student success initiatives; international student support; student mental health;

AI developments and E books available via textbook rental. Mr. Bruns also gave a brief presentation on The Keep Digital Exhibits – a new platform for students to post their posters [The Keep | Digital Exhibits - Eastern Illinois University](#) and Welcome to Scholars @ EIU which features faculty profiles and collaborations within the past 5 years [Eastern Illinois University Scholars @ EIU](#).

Student Government, Ameenah Morris: Ms. Morris updated the Board on the Executive Board Members of Student Government. President, Taylor Cloud; Executive VP, Ameenah Morris; VPAA Ty Rea; VPSA, Mason Tegeler. They have 15 active Senators and Megan Fox was appointed Parliamentarian. Recent events were Dining with the Deans on 10/18 and book Bingo on 10/30; Managing Finals Stress will be on 11/15.

Summary of Purchases \$100,000 - \$249,000

Vendor	Type of Purchase	Bids	Amount
CORE Construction	Smokestack Demolition	(A)	\$495,924.00

(A) IPHEC Contract #IPHEC1708; Exempt per VB1d of Board Regulations

FY 2024 Deposit & Investment Report for the Quarter ended 9-30-2024

For the quarter ending September 30, 2024, the University had an average daily invested cash balance of \$97,901,362.46 and a net average daily balance of \$95,486,072.32. The annualized average yield was 5.34%.

FY24 Income Producing Grants and Contracts

FY2024 income producing contracts valued at \$10,000 or more totaled \$2,585,617 compared to \$2,330,649 in FY2023. FY2024 income producing contracts valued at \$10,000 or less totaled \$164,850.

FY 24 Tuition Waivers

FY2024 undergraduate tuition waivers averaged \$6337.70 for 1688 undergraduate students and graduate tuition waivers averaged \$4700.50 for 635 graduate students.

University Highlights

University Highlights were provided as well as spotlight events around campus, student/faculty/staff/alumni honors and achievements, athletic events and honors.

Other Matters – None

Public Comment –None

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 1:59 p.m.