**Academic Senate Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, February 22, 2023**

**Approved**

***Call to Order***

Academic Senate chairperson Martha Callison Horst called the meeting to order.

***Roll Call***

Academic Senate secretary Dimitrios Nikolaou called the roll and declared a quorum.

***Public Comment: All speakers must sign in with the Senate Secretary prior to the start of the meeting.***

Senator Horst: The Academic Senate of Illinois State University welcomes constructive communications from members of the University community and the citizens of Illinois. Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to provide information relative to the academic mission of the University.

The Academic Senate will allow up to ten (10) minutes in total for public comments and questions during a public meeting. An individual speaker will be permitted two (2) minutes for his or her presentation. When a large number of persons wish to speak on a single item, it is recommended they choose one or more persons to speak for them. The Academic Senate will accept copies of the speakers’ presentations, questions and other relevant written materials. When appropriate, the Academic Senate may provide a response to a speaker’s questions within a reasonable amount of time (24 hours or more) following the speaker’s presentation. Further comments, according to our bylaws, will be carried over to our next Senate meeting.

Just a reminder to our Public Commenter, please keep your comment to two minutes. If needed, Senator Nikolaou will provide a 30 second warning before your time has expired. We have three public commenters this evening. Our first public commenter is Amy Roser.

Mr. Roser: Good evening, everyone. I first want to put a disclaimer that I am here tonight as a private citizen. I am not here as a representative of the university, as which some of you may know me as. So, full disclaimer there, in terms of our Ethics Act.

I am here tonight to talk about the Unit 5 referendum that impacts many of us here in McLean County. This is very important to the Illinois State University community, and I hope that you are taking note. Well-funded K-12 schools are the foundation of a solid community. We benefit by having a solid community, in terms of our enrollment and having an attractive place to recruit our future and current ISU students; as well a solid community offers a lot of diverse offerings and programing that our students and our institution can benefit from. Additionally, Unit 5 is the thirteenth largest school district in the State of Illinois, and Illinois State University is extremely well known for its education program. So, we benefit as an institution by having a strong school district in our backyard. Finally, I hope as educators that we share in the values, the benefits, and understand fully the benefits of a quality public education.

Unit 5 is asking for a tax increase to its education fund. Currently, we have a $12 million structural deficit in our education fund. The Board has been covering this structural deficit by using a working cash bond to covert that deficit. That working cash bond comes to you as a homeowner as an increase in your taxes. But not only are you paying that increase in taxes, you are collectively paying $3.4 million in interest. In this current bond market, working cash funds are no longer an option. Therefore, we are asking the public to swap that working cash fund rate to an increase to the permanent tax rate in our education fund. If you have any questions about the referendum, I’m happy to answer those on non-work time and through non-work email. Thank you.

Senator Horst: Thank you very much. Our next commenter is Rebekah Mangels from the School of Communications, where she serves as a graduate teaching assistant.

Ms. Mangels: Hello. First off, I’d like to reiterate what Steven said from the last Academic Senate, where he asked the Senate to recognize the importance of circulating the proceedings from the highest body of shared governance to the 20,000 people not in that room, that aren’t paid to be in this room. Unfortunately, the attitude toward transparency is not just a problem of the Academic Senate but the highest public body of nonshared governance on campus, which is the Board of Trustees, composed of seven politic appointees with no accountability to the students, staff, and faculty. There is no recall process. The Board of Trustees is the most powerful institution on campus and simultaneously the least democratic.

Last week, the Board made a decision to enter a contractual agreement with the then President Kinzy that they would not speak about the reasons why Kinzy was “resigning.” Very helpful for both parties since afterwards when the 20,000 people of campus wanted to know why the face of the University was gone from one day to the next. The truth is the Board used the legal agreement as a reason why they could not say anything, which is exactly what they wanted to be able to do. The Board also thinks that we, students, are docile. They are expecting us to do nothing. They think they can just fire her in broad daylight and lie to us because they’ve made a non-disclosure agreement. But the truth is out. We all know. We deserve better from our institution. We deserve a democratic governing body of ISU that is transparent and accountable. Thank you.

Senator Horst: Thank you. Our third speaker is Steven Lazaroff. He’s a graduate teaching assistant in the Department of English.

Mr. Lazaroff: Thanks, folks. So, there’s a lot of smoke here. Despite the Board’s best work, I bet some folks in this room can still see it. As Rebekah said, the Board made an agreement with Kinzy they wanted to make, that was advantageous to them to make. It is very helpful for both parties really, since it ensures that no member of the Board or President Kinzy can speak about something that they both wish to never speak about -- the reason why the first female president in ISU’s history is leaving in the middle of the year, two days before Founders Day, arguably the most important day for an ISU President. There is something clearly going on here. We deserve to know why the most important human on campus is gone from Tuesday to Wednesday. We, the students, staff, and faculty, deserve to know since it’s very likely that whatever is so great that Kinzy would leave in the middle of the year, in the middle of the week. This same burden falls on the Board of Trustees that hired her. That determined the short- and long-term fate of ISU. Whatever was so great to fire Kinzy and need to call it a resignation, they must have made a calculation that that is better than actually telling us what happened. That should reek to you all. That should be a massive stench coming from the Board right now. To close, I want you to think about this. It took more time to fire President Flanagan, who spit on a grounds worker, I repeat, spit on a grounds worker, than it did to fire a president that by all accounts, prior to last week, was beloved by this very same Board. How can we call this University a democracy if the highest ruling body feels no accountability to the 20,000 people that they’re suppose to serve? What is to be done? Thank you

***Presentation: NCAA Constitution and New NIL Visualize Program (NCAA Division I Board of Directors and Professor of Marketing Jeri Beggs, Director of Athletics Kyle Brennan, and Senior Deputy Director of Athletics Leanna Bordner)***

Senator Horst: Next of the agenda is a presentation on the NCAA Constitution and the New NIL Visualize Program. This evening we are very fortunate to have Leanna Bordner, who is the Senior Deputy Director of Athletics, and Jeri Beggs, Faculty Athletic Representative for NCAA since 2009. Dr. Beggs represents Illinois State University on multiple NCAA and Missouri Valley Conference Committees and sub committees. She recently served on the Division One Board of Directors, the top governing body of 24 members for Division One, and the National Division One Transformation Committee, where she was one of only two faculty representatives. She informed me this evening she is the only faculty representative on the NCAA Board. So, it’s quite an honor. Director of Athletics, Kyle Brennan did have an intention of being here this evening; however, he had a sudden conflict in his schedule. He is not able to be here.

I just want to remind everyone that the ISU Constitution actually says that the Academic Senate shall recommend policy for intercollegiate programs and activities. We delegate that responsibility to Athletics Council. However, occasionally, NCAA and Athletics changes so radically that it behooves us to be educated as to what’s going on. So, I will turn it over to our presenters. And thank you very much for coming.

Dr. Beggs: Thank you for having us. So, I will be talking about the national landscape of college athletics, and then Leanna will give you an update on our ISU Redbirds. So, first an introduction. I’m Jeri Beggs. I’m serving in my 21st and final year as a Professor in the Marketing department, and in my 14th and final year (I’ve got to get the final year in there several times, I’m retiring this summer) as your Faculty Athletics Rep. Just really quickly, in case you don’t know what your Faculty Athletics Rep is, it is a required position for all D1, D2, and D3 institutions to have one faculty member designated as the Faculty Athletics Rep and be a go between between Athletics and Academics. This person serves at the pleasure of the President and is, essentially, in an advisory role. I’m charged with three areas, Academic Integrity, Student Athlete Well-being, and Institutional Control. And as Martha said, I’ve served on a whole host of national conference and institutional committees in this role. Most recently, I’m finishing up a term on the NCAA Board of Directors, in which I am the only faculty member of that Board. And then for the last year, I’ve served on the Transformation Committee, which was created to transform college athletics, and I’m one of only two faculty reps. Only 21 people make up that committee.

So, let me tell you a little bit about why we needed to transform college athletics. I’m sure you see in the newspapers and on television that college athletics is in a crisis in some ways. We are being sued into oblivion. The NCAA has multiple lawsuits out there looking to sue and gain money because of restrictions that we have placed on student athletes. And those numbers just go up and up and up. The demand for change in the rules related to things like NIL (which I’ll talk about in a minute), transfer, and gender equity continue. And sadly, in my opinion, we seem to have reached a point where some people don’t believe that the athletics administration (the members that make up the NCAA) are actually looking out for the best interest of student athletes. I don’t believe that to be true, but I think society seems to believe that. And what we have had happen is that the government has gotten involved. Politicians have gotten involved. We now have over 30 states who have their own NIL rules, and I’ll explain NIL just briefly to you.

NIL stands for Name, Image, and Likeness. And until a couple of years ago, student athletes were not allowed to use their own name, image, and likeness to make money. They couldn’t sell autographs. They couldn’t sell a jersey that had their name on it. And while the NCAA was working to put in new rules that would allow them to do just that, they moved too slow, and states—California being one of the first ones with Florida following. Illinois has its own set of NIL. We add voice to our conversation. They moved faster than we could. So, now we have different rules in 30 some states, which has become a real problem for the NCAA.

We also are dealing with a whole host of other situations that are causing us problems. The time I spent on the Transformation Committee, the first six months was all about legal issues. I joked that at the end when I retired, I was going to have at least six hours of a law degree, because we had six lawyers in the room every time we met. Three looking at anti-trust. One on employment law. And two on gender equity. So, a very legal conversation about what we should be changing. The last six months ended up being very much a political conversation because now we know that we cannot solve our problems on our own and that we are going to have to go to the government. We’re going to have to go to congress and ask them for some help to solve some of these problems.

I’ll give you a little run down of a few of the issues. Mental health has become a huge issue, as you all know, on all of our college campuses and in particular with our student athletes. The number one demand from our Nation Student Athlete Advisory Committee was more attention on mental health. So, that became a big part of our conversation. NIL (as I mentioned name, image, and likeness) is a little bit out of control. If you are paying attention to what’s going on nationwide, we have 18-year old’s signing million-dollar contracts. We have student athletes transferring and people trying to get their cars back from them. We have all kinds of crazy things going on with name, image, and likeness. I’m known for saying it’s good to be a Redbird, and I’m going to say in this situation it’s good to be a Redbird. We find ourselves, in my opinion, in the sweet spot of name, imagine, and likeness. We have opportunities here for our student athletes, but we don’t have donors offering quarterbacks million-dollar contracts that could cause a lot of problems. We’ve hired a couple of people to help us work with name, image, and likeness, and in my opinion, the win-win situation in this is that a student athlete actually learns to promote themselves, brand themselves, negotiate a deal, figure out salesmanship techniques, and then is able to earn a few hundred dollars, a thousand dollars, whatever it is. In my opinion, we are doing it right here at Illinois State University, and we are in a good spot. It’s going to take us a little longer to get to where I think we can be in the future. But we don’t have the crazy things going on that some of these schools have, where boosters and donors and companies are getting involved with their student athletes.

The other area that has gotten a lot of attention is transfer. For those of you who don’t know this, for many years we had a one-time transfer exception that allowed almost all the sports to transfer and be immediately eligible. There were five sports that were not allowed to do that. Men’s and women’s basketball, football, baseball, and men’s ice hockey. And if you think about what all of those sports have in common, they have professional opportunities when you graduate. And so, it was truly a competitive issue. We don’t want you to transfer. We want you to stay. A few years ago, we made changes to that and now all of our student athletes can transfer and be immediately eligible one time. We created a transfer portal which allows student athletes to essentially put their name into this platform that then tells the world that they are interested in transferring. The problem is this all kind of happened at the same time. We had COVID. We had change in transfer rules. And we had NIL come onto the landscape. So, it’s created quite an environment where we are seeing a lot of transfer students. A lot of students going into this portal. Many of them never coming out the back side. We’re trying now to get education out there to try to show student athletes that it’s not a magic box in which you go in and are automatically transported to someplace better. Many student athletes end up being kind of left behind. Lots of concerns about this constant transfer. Lot of grad students in there also. COVID has created—because student athletes got an extra year of eligibility because of COVID—COVID has created a lot of grad students in the student athlete arena. So, they already had four years to compete over five. We’ve added another year. So, we have a lot of student athletes who are now grad students and who can now transfer again as grad students.

Finally, gender equity is an issue that has been on the forefront of college athletics now for several years. I don’t know how many of you were paying attention a few years ago when the men’s and women’s Final Four were held in a bubble situation, and that allowed a really direct comparison between the situation that the men were participating in and the situation that the women were participating in. It created a lot of media because it didn’t appear to be equitable. There was a study done and we have made huge strides in that. Is it, in my opinion, completely equitable? Probably still not. But we’ve come a long way in terms of gender equity on the men’s and women’s Final Four situation.

Last, I’ll tell you a little bit about what we are going to ask congress to do, and that’s really what the NCAA is working on right now. These are big asks. Honestly, if we get even one or two out of the three, I’ll be surprised. So, here’s what we are going to ask congress to do. Our president’s are being informed on this. They’re being asked to meet with the politicians in their state to help them understand the situation. Before I do this, let me be very clear, to me, college athletics in the United States are magical. I say that without hesitation. Every other country in the world would like to have college athletics the way we have them in the United States, because college athletics is not just men’s and women’s basketball, it’s not just football. We support all the Olympic sports in a way that other countries have to support them differently. We support them through the NCAA. So, there is something good to be held onto for the NCAA and college athletics. Here’s what we are going to ask congress for though. Hold on to your hat. Preemption of state laws. So, we are going to ask them to preempt all of the NIL rules across the United States in order to have a national law. This, in my opinion, is probably the one we have the greatest chance of getting because it just doesn’t make sense to have every state have its own rules. That’s very complicated and very difficult. A student in Iowa coming to Illinois may be under two sets of rules because of the state rule. So, that’s the first one.

The second one is going to be harder. Student athletes cannot be employees. There are several cases out there right now, lawsuits going on, where they’re trying to prove that student athletes are employees and should be paid as employees. Leanna can correct me if she disagrees, but to me this would be the end of college athletics as we know it, because we cannot support most of these teams if we had to pay them all. Across the nation, only football and men’s basketball consistently pay for themselves. In most other places, the other sports do not pay for themselves. And so, we would probably have to get rid of a bunch of sports if we had to pay them all as employees. So, that would be very harmful to our Olympic sports, and it would be very harmful to our broad-based opportunity.

The last one, is a hard one also. We are going to ask for anti-trust protection. We are being sued over and over and over again on anti-trust issues. That we are not allowing competitions. That we’re not paying student athletes what they deserve. The most recent one is, it’s interesting how the legal system works, we’re trying to do better, but that actually makes the lawsuits even worse because now they are saying we should have been doing this for a long time and their suing backwards. Right. They’re saying everything you do for them now, and everything we add to the student athlete experience they’re going back and saying you should have been doing that for the last five years and suing the NCAA and many of the FBS conferences for the damages there. So, I’m going to stop. That’s a lot. Before I turn it over to Leanne, does anyone have any questions about the national picture on college athletics?

Senator Myers: I’m not really educated about this issue, so I’m not going to pretend to be. But from what I know, athletes are pretty dedicated to their fields, almost to where it’s a full-time job. I’m a little bit concerned about, like if it’s a full-time job, why aren’t they being allowed to be paid?

Dr. Beggs: Well, they are also being given scholarships, right. Many of them are full scholarships. Room and board. Some of them are earning—there are several different ways we can give student athletes money, and depending, of course, which university you are at may depend on which ones you get—some student athletes across the nation get cost of attendance money. Some student athletes get what we now call Alston money. That was a lawsuit where they said ,basically, we should be allowed to give student athletes more money for educational purposes. Now they can actually make money on NIL, right. They can actually make money on their own name, image, and likeness, which would mean autographs, t shirts, and all kind of things. And we have some student athletes doing that. So, we have lots of ways to get money to student athletes; but you are absolutely right, student athletes, essentially, are almost working two full time jobs. Which is why it’s always been hard for them to participate in student jobs, in internships, in study abroad. They have very demanding schedules that they live. The cost that has been predicted if we treated them like employees would mean that we would lose a lot of sports because we couldn’t afford to pay them all that way. We have 19 sports here at Illinois State University, one of the largest in the Valley, before the new people, I think we were the largest in the Valley. And some of those would probably have to go away, to be very honest, if we had to pay them all as employees. The NCAA requires schools at the FCS (Football Championship Subdivision) level, which is what we are at, to have 14 sports, and we have 19. So, we could get rid of a few, but it would be very difficult. The idea of a student athlete as an employee, they did some estimates on just a football team, and it would mean millions of dollars a year just to pay a football team. Leanna’s going to give you the story about what’s going on here at ISU.

Ms. Bordner: That you for this opportunity. There’s a lot of really positive things that I could share with you tonight. I’d prepared about 45 minutes of information and Dr. Garrahy advised me that probably wouldn’t go over very well, so I deferred to her wisdom.

I’m going to jump into our department and really the most important aspect of what we do is the education of our student athletes. In Jeri’s comments, you probably noticed how many times she said the words “student athlete.” We make sure every time we talk about our student athletes that’s exactly how we address them.

I’m going to go over some of our academic successes. During the 2021-2022 school year, we had 28 individual Redbird student athletes who were in the prestigious Missouri Valley Conference and Missouri Valley Football Conference, President’s Council Academic Excellence Award. These student athletes earned this honor from the Conference by obtaining a 3.8 cumulative GPA or better and being within 18 hours of graduation, or 3.5 in the case of football. We also continue each year to have an exceptional number of student athletes who earn a 4.0 GPA. In the spring of 2022, there were 112 student athletes who earned a perfect 4.0. This past fall, we had 120 student athletes who received a 4.0 in the classroom. The department as a whole earned a 3.27 semester GPA in the spring of 2022. And we’ve tied our GPA record mark this past fall with a 3.36 in the classroom. That is with 450 student athletes, about 110 who are football players. It doesn’t happen on every campus. We also have a strong history of Bone Scholars. Last year was the first year in many that we did not have a Bone Scholar. Currently, we have several of our student athletes going through the process.

I need to talk about one of our best and brightest that you may have read about or watched around the basketball court. Mary Crompton, a CoSIDA All American Third Team last year, just yesterday she was awarded the Regional Academic All American again. She has a really good chance of being a First Team Academic All American Scholar Academic Athlete in the Conference Elite 17, which is the highest award in the Conference. And I could go on and on. She’s going to med school next year. She still has a 4.0 while pursuing her master’s degree in Biological Studies, and she received her bachelors in three years with a 4.0 GPA, earning a degree in Physiology, Neuroscience, and Behavior, with a minor in Chemistry. She’s just one of many. But really, truly one of our outstanding student athletes.

The other question I get asked a lot is what college are your student athletes in? We have 159 student athletes in the College of Applied Science and Technology. We have 142 in the College of Business. We have 113 in the College of Arts and Sciences. And several in some of the other colleges. But those three are the areas that most of our student athletes pursue their degree.

I’m going to talk a little bit about our competitive status. Last year in the spring, we three-peeded with the Missouri Valley Conference All Sports trophy. We get points for how our teams finish. Our success last year was highlighted by five league championships, five of our women’s sports: volleyball, women’s basketball, women’s golf, women’s tennis, and women’s outdoor track and field. So, it was a really outstanding year last year. So far this year, our volleyball program, we went through a coaching change late last spring. We lost some kids to the transfer portal. And we also ended up during the season losing a couple of our student athletes to medical retirement due to concussions. We’ve looked at injuries in a holistic way, and always make decisions based on long term health and welfare, and really off the field of competition.

Football had a winning record and have a lot of players back. A lot of promise. This weekend our indoor track program, men’s and women’s, will compete for the championship of our 19 sports. Our men’s and women’s cross country indoor track and field/outdoor track and field account for six of our sports. In the past, they have been very instrumental in our success relative to the Missouri Valley Conference All Sport trophy. Swimming and Diving just finished with a number of record-breaking performances. We’re really looking for our spring sports (softball, baseball, men’s and women’s golf, men’s and women’s tennis, and outdoor track men’s and women’s) to do well to help us with our records for the Missouri Valley Conference All Sport trophy.

The indoor practice facility that’s going up north of Horton Field House that you may be aware of, right now, we are looking at a June finish. We have run into labor issues as well as supply chain issues. But, truly, as an athletic department, as a campus, and as a community, there is a lot of people waiting for that facility to be open. It will be something that we can all be proud of and can all utilize.

Friday at the Board of Trustees meeting, we received approval to move our volleyball office into an office space that is currently utilized by our business office. This helps us address an equity concern and provides our volleyball staff with their own suite in Redbird Arena. You also may have noticed, in June, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of Title IX. Currently, as far as all of our historians and our media relations folks can verify, we are the only university in the United States that has or built a Title IX landmark. It’s between Redbird Arena and Horton Field House if you haven’t seen it. It’s historic -- very well done. We’ve had letter winners back. We have a group of women’s basketball letter winners coming back this weekend, many who were at our Title IX celebration, but the landmark was not built. So, a lot of people are very anxious to see that.

I’d like to just make one comment. Jeri made the comment about football and men’s basketball making money, not every FBS (football) or men’s basketball program makes money. They are few and far between, but they are the ones that can and have the ability, they just don’t always do it. So, thank you very much. I’d be happy to answer any questions.

Senator McHale: I just have a couple of observations and those lead to the question. I noticed that we used to have in football Redbird first downs, then they became Toyota Redbird first downs. Then, we just decided to take our students out of there, and we’ve just given credit to Toyota for the first down. So, it’s a Toyota first down. I wonder who made those decisions? It didn’t seem like there was any kind of decision made from us. How much money do we get for privileging the Toyota Corporation over our Redbird students? And can we seek such sponsors for our schools, our departments, and our classes? And I think I heard you say Redbird Arena, but I just saw that it’s now CEFCU is responsible for our arena, and being a member of ISU Credit Union, why wasn’t I consulted for that decision? And I guess my real question is, where does the commodification of our university stop?

Dr. Beggs: I think that’s above our paygrade.

Senator McHale: Okay. Well, who’s paygrade would it be in?

Ms. Bordner: I can speak to a few generalities that are probably common knowledge. But all of our sponsorship opportunities belong to Learfield Sports Properties. Probably 95% of the universities in the United States have contracts with a third-party vender that sells the sponsorships. I know L.J., when Esports got on board, I know they were and are interested in sponsorship opportunities. They’re ready, willing, and able to pursue here at the University. I’m not sure I answered your question. But basically, Redbird Sports Properties, which is Learfield, owns all of the sponsorship, advertising, inventory, and the opportunity to do that.

Senator Horst: I can forward that question to Director Brennan, who wasn’t available this evening. But I’m sure he could give a fuller answer. So, I’ll forward that to him via email, if that’s okay.

Senator McHale: And just to follow up, can we seek out sponsorship for our schools, our departments, and you know the Microsoft convergent media writing class?

Senator Horst: Okay. The Interim President is nodding.

(Laughter)

Senator Miller: You mentioned the NCAA taking a mirror and looking at its differences between men and women in basketball. I wonder if we’ve taken that mirror and looked at the difference between men and women’s sports here. And if there are any observations of inequalities between the two?

Ms. Bordner: On our Athletics Council, we have a subcommittee that’s called Gender Diversity Student Athlete Wellbeing. Every year we look at the EADA report where a lot of the information is included relative to salaries, budgets, grant and aid, those types of things. So, we take a good look at that. We also do a tour of our indoor facilities and our outdoor facilities and note inequities. Probably the biggest inequity (I’ve been here 30 years) has been our track locker rooms. But the men’s were actually worse than the women’s. They were both horrible. Fortunately, about a year and a half ago, we were able to fix those locker rooms. Locker rooms are very important to all of our teams. We do have a plan to upgrade locker rooms. We have some dominos that need to fall into place as we keep making those locker rooms and opportunities more equitable. I will say in 1982 when women’s sports joined the NCAA, we were the very first institution in the State of Illinois to fully fund all athletic scholarships. NCAA limits how many scholarships you can give per sport. We are at our max. We award every scholarship we can according to NCAA rules. Grant and aid were very important to us in 1982, just as it is today. So, we absolutely do take a look at that, and we take it very seriously. We’ll continue to do the same.

Dr. Beggs: I’ll add that the fact that we fully fund our scholarships is a point of pride because that is not done across the nation. Even FBS schools will occasionally offer a sport but not really offer scholarships. One of the things the transformation committee is looking at is should you get to count a sport as one of your sports if you are not offering scholarships. I would say no, you should not be allowed to do that. But we have a lot of schools across the nation, even ones that have a lot of money, that aren’t doing that. In the Missouri Valley, again, a lot of schools do not fully fund their scholarships. We do, which I’m very proud of.

Ms. Bordner: I might just add. We have four priority one sports (football, volleyball, men’s and women’s basketball) and again, in the State of Illinois we are the very first university to provide charter flights to volleyball and women’s basketball because we were doing it with men’s basketball. We were also the very first institution in the State of Illinois to have an excused absence policy for all students. Which is fabulous. We still have institutions, athletic departments, in our Conference that don’t have an excused absence policy. So, again, several things that we are very proud of.

Senator Novotny: Following up on your question, is there a difference between the number and amounts of the scholarships given between men and women?

Ms. Bordner: Yes. And, again, it depends on the sports that you offer. Because every sport has a number. We have some schools in our Conference that don’t have football. Missouri State has Field Hockey, we don’t have that. They give scholarships. So, it really truly depends on the sports you have to be able to adequately answer that question.

Dr. Beggs: I’ll also add, if it helps you, we have head count sports. Men’s basketball is 13. Women’s basketball is 15. Meaning they get a full scholarship. We also have what we call equivalency sports. Baseball gets 11.7 scholarships to spread over a certain number of students. So, it’s a complicated game, the scholarship area is.

Senator Myers: A couple weeks ago we learned from just looking at the budget, over all of Illinois state University housing was a bond unit. I find that particularly interesting. Could you tell us a little bit if Athletics is a bond unit? And again, this is not my area of expertise, but I’d love to know more.

Senator Stephens: If I may. Thank you for your question. In the State of Illinois rules (and it’s very similar in other states, I’ve worked in a number of other institutions across the country) the states tend to say which areas of an academic institution or student experience is going to be considered self-funded. It’s a general phrase in revenue; no appropriations will be coming from the state for those type of facilities. So, the housing program or the dining program are self-sustaining. The Bone Student Center that you are in is a self-sustaining unit. From the academic side of the house, Governor Pritzker just announced a state operating appropriation budget. That is actually just for the academic side. So, within the Athletics program, the athletic facilities are self-sustaining themselves. The CEFCU Arena is a bond facility. Not all the operating activities, scholarships for example, scholarships are coming and supported by the General Revenue side. So, it’s a hodge-podge of things. But any of our facilities themselves are ending up in the AFS side. Parking is a bonded area. It has to be self-supporting. So, we’ve got a number of them on campus. Our academic buildings are not, and they never will be.

Senator Holmes: We recently reviewed the student fees increase in Student Government. And there was a $2 increase between two different line items toward athletics per credit hour. Can you speak to why students have to pay more towards athletics now than they did last year?

Senator Stephens: I think that question is probably suited for either Emily or Kyle to address. I can just say in the big picture, again, those self-sustaining operations there’s a lot of students that work in the facilities over there. We’ve got minimum wage hourly increases. We’ve got utility cost increases. Some of those operational costs are just literally going up. As you are buying food costs are going up. Those are the funding sources that help pay for that. Like I said earlier, there are certain rules where we cannot take tuition dollars and move them over into those areas. But it’s probably best answered by Emily or Kyle.

Senator Horst: I will forward that as well.

Ms. Bordner: Yeah. Kyle can answer that specifically. The only thing I would add to what Dan said is we now have two more teams in our Conference. Our coaches are fundraising for their budgets. Our budgets haven’t been increased. And everything is going up. I’m sure that’s part of it but you’re right, Athletic Director Brennan can probably give you a better answer. He was involved with the actual fee meetings.

Senator Gillan: I’ve had a couple of students ask me (I’m a student athlete) they’ve asked me a couple questions about the possibility of movement outside of the Missouri Valley, because I know there have been some, for example, Loyola left and went to the Atlantic 10. Murry State and Bellmont have now just joined the Valley. So, has UIC. Does ISU have any plans on moving outside the Valley to a different Conference?

Ms. Bordner: Jeri and I don’t. And I don’t know why we would want to. That’s what it boils down to. On the football side, we are in the premier FCS. The only way to go up is to be FBS, and I don’t think we are interested in that. On the All Sports side, Missouri Valley is probably one of the stronger of the mid-majors. We have 12 schools. We have success in the tournaments. We’re in a good place. I don’t know why we’d want to go anywhere else. But you are right. There’s lots of conference realignment. The Board actually considered putting a moratorium on bringing Division 2 and 3 schools up into the D1 arena, and literally there were conferences that were fighting for their lives. They had lost so many schools to other conferences that they had to bring in new schools in order to stay viable.

Senator Miller: I understand if you don’t have anything on this, but I was wondering what the narrative was regarding trans people in sports here? If you have any focus on that? If you have any advocacy avenues? If there’s any issue with that. I was just wondering the status of that.

Dr. Beggs: I’ll speak to the national level. There are lots of policies and meetings and research being done at the national level. A lot of that came around Leah Miller, the swimmer, brought a lot of attention to that issue. The NCAA is doing a lot of research. And it has actually kind of agreed to mirror what the Olympic areas in each sport are doing. I’ll let Leanna talk about what we are doing here.

Ms. Bordner: As a Conference, two years ago at a Conference swim meet we had a trans student athlete. So, it’s something that we have talked about as a Conference, our senior women administrators, probably more so, kind of walking through the scenario and how that was handled with coaches and the other student athletes. But we’re very open to being inclusive with all of our coaches and all of our student athletes. We had a PRIDE night a couple weeks ago. So, we are very open and affirming.

Senator Horst: It seems like there is a lot of interest here in Senate, so I hope we can make this an annual occurrence. Thank you so much.

***Approval of the Academic Senate minutes of 01/25/23.***

Motion by Senator Duffy, seconded by Senator Myers, to approve the minutes. The motion was unanimously approved.

***Chairperson's Remarks***

Senator Horst: Good evening, everyone. I just want to start with the obvious. Last week was a strange and dramatic week for Illinois State University. I can sum up my experience by one moment. Cera and I were trying to finalize the agenda for tonight’s meeting, and I had no idea what to put down for the administrators. So, for the first time in Senate history we just put Administrator Remarks and we just thought we’d fill in the blanks later. So, that was my take last week. That was one moment I had.

The Board of Trustees have one employee, the President. Last week, they came to an agreement with that one employee. This was a personnel decision. The Board voted unanimously to approve the separation agreement and release between Dr. Kinzy and the Board of Trustees. I respect the wishes of the Board of Trustees and former President Kinzy to keep the details of this personnel matter confidential, and I hope other members of the Illinois State University community will as well. We all need to act in good faith, on behalf of Illinois State University and put this behind us. We need to give our new interim leaders the space to succeed in supporting our institution. As chair of the Academic Senate, I wish to communicate the following messages to our new University leaders and to our Board of Trustees.

Interim President Tarhule, I look forward to continuing to work with you on the Academic Senate and on other matters. We have a relationship built on trust and friendship. I look forward to building upon that relationship. Last week, you exhibited a commitment to shared governance policies by consulting with the Academic Senate faculty leadership before naming the new acting Provost. This was an auspicious start to your tenure as Interim President, and it signals to me that you respect the long tradition of shared governance at our institution.

Acting Provost Yazedjian, I have the utmost respect for you, and I look forward to working with you one on one in the coming days. The faculty senate leadership enthusiastically supported naming you to this position, and we look forward to getting to know you better as you meet with the Executive Committee every other Monday for 4-5:30ish. And by the way you are also on the Faculty Caucus Executive Committee, which meets directly after the Executive Committee meeting. I don’t know if you knew that.

To the Board of Trustees, I hope that we can start a dialogue regarding how ISU conducts its presidential searches. During this period of transition, I urge the Board to evaluate how they have conducted these searches over the past decade. Next year, as the Board begins to think about organizing the presidential search process, please honor the unanimous request of the Campus Communication Committee that the next search be an open one.

There is going to be a process of transition in the coming days and weeks. This does not mean we must be limbo as an institution. The Memorandum of Understanding, one of the most important policy items for Illinois State University in the past 20 years, was signed by Interim President Strand. I anticipate great things for Illinois State University in the coming months. At this moment we have stable leadership. I look forward to working with them as we all work to make Illinois State University a better and a stronger institution. And we all need to move forward with that common goal in mind.

Senator McHale: My question is, is it true that President Dietz was an interim President after Flannagan left?

Senator Horst: I believe he was appointed as President because there was a search. President Flannagan was appointed after that search. President Dietz was a candidate in that search. I believe, he went straight to President.

Senator McHale: So, my comment is maybe we should just search for the President and then find the person that would replace them, and just hire them. I have an additional question related to this. Are we providing housing subsidy for our new Interim President as we pay for whatever we’re paying for the residence now? Why is the Interim President doesn’t get that residence?

Senator Horst: Are you receiving housing subsidies?

Interim President Tarhule: Thank you, Senator McHale. I don’t have a contract yet. So, I don’t know what they are giving me or not giving me. I’ll let you know that as soon as I know.

***Student Body President's Remarks***

Senator Walsh: Hello, all. I hope you are all having a great Wednesday today, despite the rainy weather. First, I’d like to wish a happy beginning to the lenting season for those who celebrate.

Next, I would like to thank President Kinzy for her service to our institution and her mentorship to myself in my role as Student Body President. I’m grateful for the advice she provided to me. And I wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

Following that, I would like to offer congratulations to our new Interim President, Dr. Aondover Tarhule. I have full faith that President Tarhule is a perfect fit for the role. Throughout my time getting to work with him, he has always responded with the utmost respect, strong communication, and impressive knowledge on our campus community.

Additionally, I would like to congratulate our new Acting Provost, Dr. Yazedjian. I am confident in her ability to do wonderfully in her new role. Our University is in great hands.

Next, I would like to provide an update on the activities of SGA. Firstly, we concluded our food drive last Monday. Thanks to the generous donations of our campus community, we were able to make a large donation to our local food bank. Additionally, we recently approved funding to bring ice coffee to the Watterson Dining Hall, which I am confident will be extremely popular among the student body. Finally, we are currently working to garner student signatures for our petition to add an amendment regarding our election procedures which will allow student who are currently living in residence halls to vote for off campus senators for the following academic year. This will act as a more representative movement as students will be able to choose who will represent them for the following academic year in the constituent area in which they are residing in. If any faculty members are willing to share this petition with your students, we would be more than grateful. It is an electronic position through Redbird Life, so it is very simple to use. We need over 2,000 signatures by March 1, which is a week from today. Any help is appreciated. If you are willing to share this with your class, please let me know and I will send you the link.

Senator Larson: With the petition, is there a chance that you can use your presidential email to email all students about the petition?

Senator Walsh: That was actually something that I was thinking about and something I was going to discuss with our advisors.

***Administrators' Remarks***

* ***Interim President Aondover Tarhule:***

Interim President Tarhule: Good evening to everyone. I’d like to reiterate some of the comments I made at the Board of Trustees meeting after my announcement. I’m truly honored and humbled to be appointed as Illinois State University Interim President. I would, again, like to extend my thanks to the Board of Trustees for their confidence in me. I look forward to working in collaboration with shared governance partners, students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and everyone willing to support ISU to advance the mission, vision, and values of Illinois State University. Earlier this week, I had my first meeting as Interim President with Senator Horst, and I look forward to upcoming meetings with the A/P and Civil Service Councils and Student Government Associations. In the coming weeks, I’ll be meeting with staff in Student Affairs, University Advancement, Athletics, Finance and Planning, and Academic Affairs, as well as making it a priority to engage with students, faculty, and staff informally throughout campus. I will work tirelessly to build trust, strengthen a shared understanding of the University’s issues and priorities and advance the mission, the values, and the visions of Illinois State University.

I would also like to extend my congratulations to Dr. Ani Yazedjian as Acting Provost. As Chairperson Horst said, shared governance policies required me to consult with Academic Senate in appointing a senior leadership position. So, I did that, in meeting with Chairperson Horst and Secretary Nikolaou and secured their concern to appoint Ani as Acting Provost.

I’d like to say something here about Ani briefly. Those of you who were here longer and knew President Dietz, he used to tell lots of stories. One story he would tell is that he took a lot of credit for things that other people did. People underneath him. But he would always conclude by saying he’d never felt bad doing it because he also took a lot of blame for things that other people did. I feel a little bit like that with Ani. Not about the blame part. But I took a lot of credit for the things that Ani did in the Provost’s office, whether it’s from organizing the Academic Affairs Retreat, the Engineering Program, the OIE (Office of International Engagement) reorganization, the Strategic Planning, HLC, creating the new Data Science program. These are all projects that Ani lead while I was in the Provost’s office. Externally, most people thought I was doing this stuff. I actually wasn’t. She was. The reason I say that is because I feel very confident in turning over the position to her because, essentially, she was doing most of this anyway. So, believe you me when I say, you are in good hands. The Provost office is in good hands. And I’m very confident that she will do a fantastic job. I’m excited to continue to work with her because we worked really well.

A few more announcements, I would encourage you all to continue to engage in the Strategic Planning process. You will be receiving an email coming up soon. As you know, and as I just mentioned, there is a Strategic Plan in motion and a survey will be sent out to campus that will close on March 3. So, please continue to engage in that process.

There were some very devastating earthquakes in Tukey and Syria. I know that the news media tends to cycle on and off on these things very quickly. It’s more than what 44,000 people dead the last time I saw it. This is devastating. I continue to encourage you all to support in whatever way you can, the people of that region and keep them in your prayers. Even if the news cycles off, I think we should continue to be very supportive of that region.

Tomorrow is a really exciting day. Redbirds Give Back. So, tomorrow is the fifth annual Birds Give Back, Illinois State University annual day of giving. Please consider joining the thousands of other Redbirds to support your favorite cause on campus. Illinois State University’s goal this year is to have 3,000 donations in 24 hours. We have more than 20,000, if you count staff and students, more than 25,000 people. We should be able to get 3,000 donations in 24 hours. So, you can learn more about this by watching social media tomorrow. I encourage your participation.

So, I’m very excited to get started and eager to work with all of you in this new role to create the ISU that we know we can have and that we deserve. Thank you so much.

Senator Duffy: First, President Tarhule, I’d like to congratulate you on the new job. I’m an on-campus senator and several of my constituents have approached me and I wouldn’t use the word scared but they definitely feel a little bit uneasy about everything that’s going on with the sudden change in leadership. I was wondering what is a message that I can relay to my constituents during this time of uncertainty?

Interim President Tarhule: First of all, it’s understandable. It’s a big change. So, if people are a little bit apprehensive and concerned, I get that. I understand that. I think the bigger message, as you’ve seen, there should be no impact on students. We are in a very strong position. I don’t know if you got the message that I sent out, but we are in a truly unique and strong position as an institution. All of our priorities remain. All of our values remain. And our number one priority, as I indicated in that message, is our undying focus on student success. So, whatever it is that we can do, we plan to build on that reputation and making sure that we maintain, relentlessly, our focus on student success. So, the concern is understandable, but I would say you have nothing to be concerned about because our priorities remain, and our support and all of our services will continue as before.

Senator Holmes: I know it’s a large part of the job as President of this University to host events on behalf of the University for alumni and other donors and such. I know that the University Residence is typically where those types of events are held. With former President Kinzy still having access to that building for the next four months, how are we hosting those events, and what kind of modifications are we looking at?

Interim President Tarhule: So, I can answer the question after four months. You are right. President Kinzy still has access to the residence for the next four months. My plan is after the four months we will continue to host events there, just like before. So, we will continue to do that. I know that doesn’t quite answer the question about what happens in the next three or four months. I don’t have a super satisfactory answer today. I will look into it and continue to discuss it. And maybe at one of the next upcoming Academic Senate meetings I may have a better answer for you. The Bone is a potential solution to where we can host events.

Senator Garrahy: Just a comment to our new President and new Provost. When opportunities present themselves there are also sacrifices that are made with you and your family members. So, thank you to your family members for permitting you to step into these roles as well.

Interim President Tarhule: Thank you so much.

Senator Myers: Congratulations on the new role. One of the things I was wondering is as Provost you were extremely accessible to students, especially people working in Student Government when we were working on legislation, when we had legislation ideas, we would come to you. Are there any specific plans on trying to still maintain that connection to Student Government in the same way that you did as Provost, considering the larger role you are taking on?

Interim President Tarhule: Absolutely. I will say directly and then I’ll qualify this slightly. My desire is actually to be more accessible. Now, the President travels a lot more. So, obviously, if I’m out of town, I wouldn’t be accessible. I remember when I interviewed for this position, Larry Dietz had all these smart wisdoms. He said the Provost is the stay-at-home parent of the University. But that’s something that he told me. The Provost is the stay-at-home parent. The Provost doesn’t get to travel too much. The President travels a lot on business. So, while I’m traveling, obviously access may be limited. But as long as I’m on campus, I plan to be engaged just as much as before, and maybe even more with students, both Student Government and the generality of the student body. I’m looking forward to it.

* ***Acting Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs Ani Yazedjian:***

Acting Provost Yazedjian: Thank you for the nice introduction. I appreciate it. It’s a pleasure to be here today. I’m honored to have the opportunity to serve in the position of Acting Provost for the next 17 months. I’ve been here for almost a decade, so I hope that President Tarhule and I can bring some stability and continuity during this time of transition at Illinois State University. I’m familiar with a lot of the initiatives that are already happening across the division, but I look forward to learning more in the coming months.

I’ve also decided not to refill the Associate Provost position in the immediate future because that would just create a ripple effect across departments in the middle of a semester. But I will be looking for a new Ani starting sometime in May. So, I’m open to any recommendations for the associate provost position moving forward. In the meantime, my colleagues in the Office of the Provost have graciously stepped up and we’re going to be working on dividing some of those tasks over the next several months.

This does remain a very busy search season in our office. We’re in the middle of doing Zoom interviews for three positions: CAST dean, AVP for Academic Administration, AVP for Faculty and Staff Development, Diversity, and Learning. And really, when candidates come to campus, I would encourage you to come and meet with them and fill out the evaluation forms. I’ve been on a lot of search committees, and I’ve hired a lot of people. Those comments and that feedback is really useful. So, please take time to come to the meetings that are relevant to your areas and take time to fill out those evaluation forms.

I just have a few brief updates from Academic Affairs. The first is that tomorrow night the Three Minute Thesis Competition will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the Normal Theatre. The Three Minute Thesis is a research communication competition that allows masters and PhD students to describe their research topic and its significance in just three minutes to a general audience. The winner of our competition goes on to the Midwest Association of Graduate Schools Three Minute Thesis competition on March 31st. So, it will be a great time tomorrow night.

I’d like to highlight Dr. Matt Caplin, a Theoretical Physicist at ISU, who has been awarded the prestigious Cottrell Scholar Award to support his research on nuclear astrophysics and nuclear weapons. Dr. Caplin will use the support from the award to pursue his studies on the mysteries surrounding the origin and continued existence of dark matter. Only 25 faculty are given this recognition every year. So, it’s a very big recognition for us and for him.

The Canvas kick off, I’ll tell you this and then remind you of this in a couple of weeks as well. There will be a Canvas kick off on Tuesday, March 21st, from 1:00-5:00 p.m. in the Brown Ballroom 1. This is going to be an open house style event. You can stop in any time but there are going to be some structured Q&A sessions that will occur with the Canvas project team at 1:30p.m., 3:00p.m., and 4:30 p.m. You’ll get to hear from faculty peers who are already using Canvas this semester in the pilot program, look at their class shells for summer and fall, and experts will be on hand to answer any questions.

Finally, I’ll close by giving a shout out to my colleague Dr. Doris Houston and her colleagues who organized a great EDI leaders circle event last Tuesday. The full day of programming began with a presentation from IBHE Executive Director Ginger Ostro, and she actually recognized a lot of the important work that is already happening on the Illinois State University campus, including the Illinois Tutoring initiative. The event provided folks from campus and across divisions to attend sessions on restorative justice practices, ways to support student success, faulty and staff success, and there were networking opportunities as well. But really what I left with was just an excitement and a feeling of just connection with other people on campus that are really doing the important work of continuing to make ISU a place where everybody feels like they belong and can thrive. So, thank you.

Senator McHale: I just want to thank both the Acting Provost and the Acting President for stepping up on such short notice and a feeling that you will provide continuity. I’ve very grateful for your leadership.

* ***Vice President for Student Affairs Levester Johnson:***

Senator Johnson: I’ll keep my comments short. I’d like to also add my congratulations to Acting Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Yazedjian. I look forward to building upon the strong relationship that we already have between Academic and Student Affairs. You have a wonderful track record here, so I’m pretty positive we’re just going to build upon that.

President Tarhule. I’ve gotten to know this gentleman for the last two and a half years, and I can say that it’s been an actual honor working with you, your creativity, your steadfastness working towards advancing the institution. And as a colleague I’m absolutely positive, I have absolutely no doubts that you are going to lead us into a very bright and solid future. So, I look forward to working with you in your new role.

That being said, I’m very encouraged about where the institution is headed. I have no doubt about the leadership, not only around this table but heading up our institution. So, I look forward to working with you all.

* ***Vice President for Finance and Planning Dan Stephens***:

Senator Stephens: I too want to offer my congratulations to Interim President Tarhule and Acting Provost Yazedjian. It’s very exciting for both of you in this opportunity and I look forward to continuing the partnership that I’ve had with both of you over the last several years.

I’ve got a couple of comments I want to share this evening. On a positive note, in the Governor’s Budget Address last week, he indicated a recommendation to the legislature for a 7% increase in the Higher Education Operating Budget Appropriation for this coming fiscal year 2024. That equates to approximately about $5.1 million for ISU. If this is adopted, this will move our annual appropriation and excess of $78 million. We currently sit around $73 million today. The IBHE has requested that that Governor and the legislature also consider allocating this budget increase not on an across-the-board methodology but to factor in the allocation formula, recognition of those schools who enroll and support lower income Pell and Map eligible students. If this methodology is adopted, ISU would receive an increase closer to 10%. That would move our increase closer to $7 million. This topic was introduced in last year’s budget session, but in the end, the final budget allocation percentage was shared evenly across all schools. At both the House and Senate hearing this spring, we will be advocating for such consideration.

On another topic, Standard and Poors in completing their annual review of our fiscal year 2022 credit using our fiscal 2022 financial statements for their credit profile review they do each year. They are expected to release their final report in a couple of weeks. I will share the final results with this body. We are optimistic that we will maintain our current rating of A- with a positive outlook. That’s all I have for this evening.

***Action Items:***

***From Executive Committee:***

***01.13.23.01 Barrett Email\_RE\_ Bikes Skateboards Scooters and other Recreation and Transportation Devices on Campus***

***01.12.23.03 Policy 5.1.8 Bikes, Skateboards, and other Recreation and Transportation Devices Current Copy***

***02.16.23.02 Policy 5.1.8 Bikes, Skateboards, and other Recreation and Transportation Devices Mark Up***

***02.16.23.02 Policy5.1.8 Bikes, Skateboards, and other Recreation and Transportation Devices Clean Copy***

Senator Horst: Our next item is an Action Item. This is not coming from an internal committee; it’s coming from the Executive Committee representing the work that the Office of General Counsel is doing. I would like to invite our General Counsel Jeannie Barrett to the microphone. She has agreed to give us a summation of the changes that she made since the last time we saw this policy as an Information Item.

Ms. Barrett: Good evening, everyone. So, just to recap, the last meeting, as you know, we brought this forward as an Information Item. The prompt for the current update was the tragic accident that occurred last fall between an e-bike and a pedestrian, Dr. Adam Peck. It happened around 6:30 p.m., so after the business day on the in-between plaza. As part of that, we had to report to Illinois OSHA, which is part of the Department of Labor for state. The University’s communication back from that body is that we are on notice of the known hazard presented by scooters and e-bikes on campus. That’s just on top of the significant impact of that accident on the campus community. So, that was the starting point for us reviewing possible changes to the policy, which have been provided to you as of two weeks ago.

After our conversation, I just wanted to give you an update on some of the issues and suggestions that were made, and where we landed on those. Just to kick that off, I’m going to remind everyone how many people have personal experiences that, in brief comments shared during our meeting two weeks ago, none of which were actually reported, but just close calls that people had as pedestrians with bicycles on campus. So, with that in mind, I wanted to let you know that I have added a statement about bike etiquette. Bike etiquette on campus, it’s actually riding etiquette in addition to saying you have to be riding your device in a controlled manner, what I added was that riding etiquette like announcing your approach to those who may not see you is encouraged; so that we get that in there.

I followed up with the recommendation to look into what sanctions might be resulting with interaction with police and whether they would be riding their patrol bikes through the dismount zones. Police Chief Woodruff had the following to say: First of all, citations are not anticipated for violation of the dismount zone itself but there could be other violations that would lead to citations, and he wasn’t able to say hypothetically it would be X, Y, Z. But if there were a legal violation for which citations are the stated natural consequence then that would be in play. As far as whether the policy bike patrol would be riding through the dismount zone, yes, they would be. He did go on to put context around that. He said police officers who are part of the bike patrol are not just police officers who are handed a bike. They go through licensing and certification training as part of that. Certainly, if pedestrians on campus were to experience inappropriate riding through the dismount zones by police officers who are part of the bike patrol, those absolutely would need to be reported. I don’t anticipate that that’s going to be much of a problem if at all on campus, but that would be the appropriate response there.

Someone had the good idea to add a list on the dismount zone signage of approved accommodation devices that would be allowed under the ADA. Having followed up with that, what I understand is the list of those, even for what we know exist right now, would not fit on the dismount zone signage; plus it would not allow for things that are continually in development and come to market. So, that wasn’t something that I incorporated in this iteration. I also looked again at the idea of having limited hours for application. Where I landed with that is it’s just not really workable. Yes, there is a campus that does that but, in this case, if we were to have limited hours it doesn’t provide any additional safety on a campus that’s largely covered with gorgeous trees; so there’s limited visibility between that and all of the angled intersections on the Quad and on the plazas. It wouldn’t lend any safety improvement during non-business hours, and, in fact, Dr. Peck was struck and killed after business hours. Not while it was dark. But the safety issue is compounded, of course, when it is not light hours. So, that explains where I landed with that.

And then I really like the great idea of looking to the cultural shift that we experienced as a campus when the smoking ban went into place. I think that that was a really important take away for the people who would be responsible for implementing dismount zones if they are approve by this Senate. And that’s all I have for you. Do you have any questions?

Senator Horst: We are in action. We had an hour of questions.

Motion by Senator Mainieri, seconded by Senator Pancrazio, to approve policy 5.1.8 Bikes, Skateboards, and other Recreation and Transportation Devices.

Senator Miller: I’m hesitant with this policy specifically because OSHA replied with the ultimatum of whether or not we should allow electric vehicles on campus or not. And we’ve come up with a dismount policy that doesn’t really address that at all. I’m advocating on behalf of Dr. Peck; he was one of my superiors and I miss him dearly. And I wish we wouldn’t equate this to an OSHA violation because it was more than that. I’m sorry. I really want you guys to consider electric vehicles on campus instead of just the dismount policy.

The motion was approved, with 3 nays.

Motion by Senator, seconded by Senator Miller, to call a division of the house.

Through a roll call vote (26-8, with 4 abstentions) the Senate approved taking an official roll call vote for policy 5.1.8 Bikes, Skateboards, and other Recreation and Transportation Devices.

Policy 5.1.8 Bikes, Skateboards, and other Recreation and Transportation Devices was approved by roll call vote, 25-10 with 2 abstentions.

Senator Horst: At this moment, I do want to take a moment of silence and remember Assistant Vice President Peck.

***From Faculty Affairs Committee:***

***12.09.22.04 Policy 3.3.11 Endowed Chairs and Professorships\_Current Copy***

***12.09.22.05 Policy 3.3.11 Endowed Chairs and Professorships\_Mark Up***

***12.09.22.03 Policy 3.3.11 EndowedChairs-Professorships\_Clean Copy***

The committee asked that this policy discussion be postponed.

***Internal Committee Reports:***

* ***Academic Affairs Committee: Senator Cline***

Senator Cline: The Academic Affairs Committee met this evening. We had a very educational presentation by Amy Roser about Reinstatement Committee’s work. And we had further discussion about the Classroom Disruptions policy, which we are working on with Legal Counsel. We did pass 2.1.9 Baccalaureate Degree Program; so that will be going to Exec.

* ***Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee: Senator Nikolaou***

Senator Nikolaou: The Administrative Affairs and Budget Committee met this evening. We concluded our discussion about the Academic Impact Fund with Dr. Elkins. We talked about the NTT/TT ratio and instructional capacity ad hoc committee report. And then we also approved the language on policy 1.3.1 Reasonable Accommodation Procedures that we saw a few weeks ago. It’s going to be coming to Exec. We approved the changes in the Mennonite Deans annual performance survey. And then we also approved policy 1.11 Academic Calendar, which also will be coming to the Executive Committee.

* ***Faculty Affairs Committee: Senator Smudde***

Senator Smudde: Faculty Affairs Committee met tonight and discussed and approved two policies that will be sent to Exec. The first policy is 3.2.14 Assignment of Persons Holding a Faculty Rank to Administrative and other Non-Departmental Positions. And the other policy is 3.3.10 Termination Notification of Faculty. We did start to get into policy 3.3.11 today because we just got comments today from General Counsel on this policy, which is why we didn’t get to cover it during this meeting because we didn’t get to finish it today.

* ***Planning and Finance Committee: Senator Valentin***

Senator Valentin: The Planning and Finance Committee discussed and approved revisions to policy 5.1.21 Advertisement or Sponsorship of Activities, Events, or Programs involving Alcohol and/or Hemp based CBD. We’ll be forwarding the policy to the Executive Committee. Our committee also had guests from the Strategic Planning Taskforce who facilitated the discussion on ISU’s strengths and purpose and key trends and obstacles that will have an impact on our University’s future success in order to help develop information about the Strategic Plan.

* ***Rules Committee: Senator Blum***

Senator Blum: The Rules Committee met tonight, and we passed the Graduate School Bylaws. And we also passed revisions to the Academic Senate bylaws in Article III Section V, Article VI, and Appendix II. We will be sending those over to Exec.

***Communications***

Senator Pancrazio: Congratulations are in order for Senator McHale for getting the 2023 Award of Excellence from the Broadcast Education Association.

Senator McHale: It’s an honor and a privilege to get to tell the story of ISU faculty and students that were part of the 33rd regiment that fought in the Civil War from Missouri through Arkansas down to Texas. It’s just an honor and a privilege to get to remember those students that fought again the evil of slavery and the desire to keep this union together. Thank you.

Senator Johnson: On behalf of the Peck family, I’d like to thank this body for approving the bill earlier. I have maintained contact with Michelle Peck, Adam’s wife, since his passing. Often, she would share with me policies similar to the one that was just passed today. Even while on vacation, some policies and ordinances that were passed in other cities in hopes that some day we would pass a similar policy as well. I appreciate this body going in and passing that policy. That being said, there were a number of colleagues that got together during the fall semester and actually wrote an article given the loss that campuses actually experience each year. I would draw your attention to the Journal on Campus Activities Practice and Scholarship, in which their most [recent issue they dedicated to Dr. Peck](https://www.naca.org/JCAPS/Documents/JCAPS_Issue_9_Rosch.pdf). There was a specific article called [Cost of Caring in Student Affairs: When Professional Loss Becomes Personal.](https://www.naca.org/JCAPS/Documents/JCAPS_Issue_9_Russel_Krebs.pdf) It’s a touching article in which they cite different incidents on campus, again, where we lose our community members. So, again, on behalf of the Peck family and this community, thank you for your work tonight.

Senator Horst: Thank you, Senator Johnson. I park in that parking lot that you have to walk through the Exchange to get to, and I think about what happened every day when I walk to my car. It could have been any of us.

***Adjournment or Hard Stop 9:00 p.m.***

Motion by Senator Cline, seconded by Senator Garrahy, to adjourn. The motion was adjourned.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| |  | | --- | | **2022-23 ACADEMIC SENATE ROSTER  Wednesday February 22, 2023** | | | |  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  | **Senate** |  |  |
| **Name** | **Attendance** | **Motion to have roll call vote for Policy 5.1.8** | **Motion to approve Policy 5.1.8** |
| Blair, Cobi | 1 |  | 1 |
| Blanco Lobo, German - EXCUSED | 0 |  |  |
| Blum, Craig | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Bonnell, Angela | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Carney, Lania | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Cline, Lea | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Duffy, Alex | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Ebikhumi, Ash (student trustee)\* | 0 |  |  |
| Fulton, Megan | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Garrahy, Deb | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Gillan, Aneel | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Graham, Rhiannon - EXCUSED | 0 |  | |
| Gudding, Gabriel - EXCUSED | 0 |
| Hammond, Tom - EXCUSED | 0 |
| Harpel, Tammy | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Helms, Jeff | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Hofstetter, Paige | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Hollywood, Mary | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Holmes, Jimmy | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Horst, Martha | 1 |  |  |
| Hurd, Amy\* | 1 |  | |
| Johnson, Levester\* | 1 |
| Larson, Ethan | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Lucey, Tom | 0 |  | |
| Mainieri, Tracy | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| McHale, John | 1 |  | 1 |
| McLauchlan, Craig\* | 1 |  | |
| Midha, Vishal | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Miller, Chloe | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Monk, Eduardo | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Myers, Braxton | 1 | 1 |  |
| Nichols, Wade | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Nikolaou, Dimitrios | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Novotny, Nancy | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Palmer, Carl - EXCUSED | 0 |  | |
| Palmer, Stuart | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Pancrazio, Jim | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Peters, Steve | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Rardin, Nate | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Samhan, Bahae | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Schmeiser, Benjamin | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Setnan, Matthew James | 0 |  | |
| Smith, Zoe | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Smudde, Pete | 1 |  | 1 |
| Stephens, Daniel\* | 1 |  | |
| Tarhule, Aondover\* | 1 |
| Torry, Mike | 0 |
| Valentin, Rick | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Walsh, Patrick | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Wielgosz, Alexander | 0 |  | |
| Wilburn-Johnson, Jayden | 0 |
| Wollard, Jason | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Wollard, Justin | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Woodard, Jewel | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Yazedjian, Ani\* | 1 |  | |
| Vacant - 1 CAS SCI Faculty | 0 |
| Vacant - 1 CAS SS Faculty | 0 |
| Vacant - 1 COB Faculty | 0 |
| Vacant - 1 COE Faculty | 0 |
| Vacant - 1 Faculty associate | 0 |
| Vacant - 1 Student senator | 0 |
| Neubrander, Judy (dean rep)\* | 1 |
| Carte, Traci (chairperson rep)\* | 1 |
| **QUORUM (VOTING) (28) (\*=NV)** | 38 | 26 | 25 |
|  |  | Motion passes. | Motion passes. |
|  |  |  |  |