

**Minutes of the Special Called of the
Student Success & Academic Affairs Committee of the
Northern Kentucky University
Board of Regents
Thursday, October 3, 2024**

The Student Success & Academic Affairs Committee (SSAAC) of the Northern Kentucky University (NKU) Board of Regents met on Tuesday, October 3, 2024, in Votruba Student Union 302.

Committee Chair Ashley Himes called the meeting to order at 4:39 pm.

Roll Call: The following members of the SSAAC answered the call of the roll: Lucy Burns, Ashley Himes, Nathan Smith, Sandra Spataro.

Andr Ward arrived at 4:45 p.m.

Other Attendees: Sarah Aikman, Bob Alston, Grant Garber, Tammy Knochelmann, Diana McGill, Scott Patton, Cady Short-Thompson

Regent Smith’s motion to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2024 committee meeting was seconded by Regent Spataro. (***Motion carried***)

New Business/Discussion

1. Medical cannabis update

VP Garber provided an update on new state legislation that legalizes the use of medical cannabis in Kentucky starting on January 1, 2025. VP Garber advised that despite Kentucky’s more permissive law, NKU must adhere to federal drug-free laws, and federal law requires that NKU prohibit the use of drugs on its campus that are illegal under the Controlled Substances Act.

The administration stressed the importance of retaining a Drug-Free policy to remain compliant with the Federal Drug-Free Act, as violations could impact students’ access to Federal funding.

Further discussion included the plan for campus-wide communications before the Thanksgiving break, the development of FAQs, and conversations with front-line offices.

2. Housing Plan

President Short-Thompson reviewed a draft 3-year housing plan aimed at increasing occupancy and revenue. The committee members and administration then held an open discussion on ways to convert existing university-owned small house properties and/or dedicated dormitory spaces into Affinity Housing areas, with the request for the administration to bring a proposal for a pilot small house program to the November SSAAC meeting.

1. Adjournment

Having no further business to discuss, at 6:30 p.m., Regent Spataro seconded Chair Himes' motion to adjourn. (***Motion Carried***)

Respectfully Submitted,



Tammy Knochelmann
Secretary to the Board of Regents