Minutes of the Student Success & Academic Affairs Committee Meeting Northern Kentucky University Board of Regents Tuesday, September 16, 2025

Meeting Opened: Chair Himes called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present: Ashley Himes, Collin Jarrell, Nathan Smith, and Debbie Wulfeck.

Absent: Victoria Grooms

NKU Senior Staff in attendance:

Bob Alston, AVP and Dean of Students; Chris Calvert, Vice President for Administration & Finance/CFO; Grant Garber, Vice President for Legal Affairs/General Counsel; Ray Horton, Interim Housing Director, Tammy Knochelmann, Executive Assistant to the President & Secretary to the Board; Diana McGill, EVP Academic Affairs & Provost; Cady Short-Thompson, President; Mary Paula Schuh, Sr. Director, Planning, Design, and Construction, Brandon Thompson, Vice President for Student Affairs

Others Present: Kyle Dorriere, Liz Futscher

Approval of Minutes:

Regent Smith moved to approve the minutes of the June 10, 2025, meeting. Regent Wulfeck seconded the motion. (*Motion Carried*)

Following the approval of the minutes, Chair Himes proceeded to the business items.

Business Items:

1. Housing Updates

Vice President Thompson provided updates:

- Introduced Ray Horton, Interim Housing Director; noted search for permanent director is underway.
- Reported three stacks of full kitchens recently came online in Northern Terrace and shared current occupancy results.
- Discussed recent flooding in University Suites due to fire suppression malfunction and commended facilities staff for response and cleanup.

Discussion:

- Regent Smith asked about cost comparison between Northern View Apartments and NKU residence halls; concerns raised about competitiveness.
- President Short-Thompson and VP Thompson emphasized student satisfaction and strategic realignment to attract on-campus residents.
- Regent Himes inquired about naming the new residence hall.
- Regent Jarrell asked about future living-learning community developments.

2. Clearview Update

Vice President Garber provided an update on the Norse Neighborhood housing project:

- Noted four members of the Pike fraternity have moved into 16 Clearview.
- Shared that additional university-owned residences will be converted into student housing, with occupancy goal by Fall 2026.

3. Student Success Initiatives – Diana McGill and Abdou Ndoye

Provost Diana McGill and Senior Vice Provost Abdou Ndoye provided an overview of student success programs, including:

- Pathfinders, Learning Community, Peer Coaches
- FAFSA Campaign and First-Year Success Hub
- Financial literacy initiatives

Key Points:

- Tracked Pell-eligible students and aid recipients, encouraging FAFSA completion through texts, emails, and virtual office hours.
- Improved outcomes for drop for non-payment and early payment plan enrollment.
- Early Progress Report (EPR) sent to 661 course sections, 400 instructors; resulted in 308 alerts for 247 students regarding missing assignments, attendance, personal challenges, or financial difficulties.

Committee Self-Evaluation

The Committee reviewed and expressed satisfaction with the results of its self-evaluation process.

November Agenda Planning

Committee members requested the following items be added to the **November 17, 2025**, meeting agenda:

- Student Life Update, including Student Activities report (student involvement metrics)
- SGA report-out
- Academic Affairs Programs Report:
 - o Enrollment numbers by program
 - Opportunities for new programs

Having no further business to discuss, Chair Himes adjourned the meeting at 5:20 p.m. The next meeting of the Student Success and Academic Affairs Committee is scheduled for November 18, 2025, at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

January Knochelmann
Secretary to the Board