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

June 11, 2026

A meeting of the Board of Trustees was convened on June 11, 2026, at 11:12 a.m. on the Dvorak Stage of the Doudna, Eastern Illinois University, Charleston, Illinois. Ms. Julie Everett, Chair, presided.

Roll Call

Roll was called:

Ms. Baurer	Present
Mr. Hicks	Present
Ms. Madigan	Present
Mr. Ngoboh	Absent
Dr. Ranchero	Present
Ms. Veatch	Present
Ms. Everett	Present

Also present were the following:

Dr. Jay Gatrell, President
Dr. Holly Farley, Acting Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Anne Flaherty, Vice President for Student Affairs/Interim Vice President of Advancement
Mr. Matt Bierman, Vice President for Business Affairs
Mr. Mike Hutchinson, Director of Business Services/Treasurer & Interim FEO
Mr. Josh Norman, Vice President for Enrollment Management
Ms. Laura McLaughlin, General Counsel
Ms. Cindy Hutchison, Assistant Secretary, Board of Trustees

Executive Session

Ms. Veatch moved that the Board of Trustees convene in Executive Session to consider employment of employees, collective negotiating matters, and Closed Session minutes permitted by Sections 2.c.1.2. and 21 of the Open Meetings Act. Dr. Ranchero seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

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

The Board of Trustees reconvened after lunch at 1:00 p.m. on the Dvorak stage in Doudna for the remainder of the Board of Trustees meeting.

Report from Board Chair

Chair Everett called the meeting to order and thanked Ms. Veatch for her work as Student Trustee during the 2025-2026 academic year.

Committee Reports

Executive/Planning Committee

Ms. Everett reported on the Executive/Planning Committee. President Gatrell testified in Springfield on the Adequate Funding Bill; the reauthorization of $500,000 will be directed toward student success and will be used to launch Navigate 360. There is an active search for an Athletic Director with the hope of having them in place by October 1. The enrollment cliff is real, and EIU is working hard to counteract it. two-year housing requirement is beginning to generate additional revenue. The integrated science building project is moving forward.

Finance/Audit Committee

Ms. Everett reported on the Finance/Audit Committee. Updates were provided on the line-item status report and purchase approval request.

VP Bierman shared the budget timeline including the FY27 Preliminary Budget to be approved. $4.8 mil deficit is expected for next fiscal year. Expenditures will outpace revenue in FY27 with total revenue projected at $167.9 mil and total expenditure at $172.7 mil. The decline in international enrollment continues to have a negative impact on the deficit. EIU maintains the lowest tuition and fees among our Illinois peers at $14,654 for 30 credit hours.

Four audit findings were reported in FY25 compared to ten in FY24 and eight immaterial findings.

The bid date for the Science Building is July 8, with the expectation to have a contract negotiated by end of Fall 2026 semester and work beginning in Spring 2027.

Academic and Student Affairs Committee

Mr. Hicks reported on the Academic and Student Affairs Committee. Updates were provided by VP Farley on the reorganization moves taking place and effective July 1. The Department of Economics is relocating to Lumpkin Hall as a division within the School of Business. Theatre is joining Communication & Journalism but will remain in their space in Doudna. Philosophy & Political Science are merging and will reside in Coleman Hall. World Languages & English are merging and will remain in Coleman Hall. The Engineering program is part of the Physics Department and will be joining the Mathematics and Computer Science Department to create the School of Engineering, Mathematics, Computer Science and Physics. No physical moves are taking place. The School of Human Development was created with the merger of the Human Services Department and the Department of Counseling & Higher Education. Human Services will move to Buzzard Hall where Counseling & Higher Education reside. The College of Education is merging with the College of Health & Human Services to form a new college called College of Education, Health & Human Services. The dean's office will reside in Buzzard Hall. The new School of Education will be part of the new college.

Updates were provided by VP Flaherty on the relocation of Student Affairs Housing and Dining moving to the Health and Human Services Building. She also reported the testing of the EIU Emergency Alert System was conducted and went well. The University Bookstore will transition to the EIU Spirit Shop under the management of Follett Higher Education on July 6.

University Advancement and Alumni Relations Committee
Dr. Ranchero reported on the University Advancement and Alumni Relations Committee. Updates were provided by VP Flaherty on the status of the positions still to be filled in University Advancement. She reported EIU Giving Day generated 826 gifts totaling $306,692. Raiser's Edge is being utilized to track prospect interests, alumni interests and alumni student involvement. Housing & Dining Reunion was held June 5 – 6, 2026. An update was also given on various alumni events that are planned for the summer months.

Enrollment Management Update
Ms. Everett shared the Enrollment Management update. VP Norman reported that the University made meaningful progress during the current enrollment cycle through several key initiatives, including:

- Launching the University's first interest, talent, and leadership-based scholarship program
- Introducing artificial intelligence into student recruitment efforts
- Establishing a military tuition assistance program
- Strengthening re-enrollment initiatives through a partnership with REUP and the Pathway to Completion Program
- Enhancing the campus visit experience through greater personalization

VP Norman reported that the Fall 2026 enrollment outlook anticipates an overall decrease. However, several positive trends were noted, including an increase in Honors Program deposits, steady summer enrollment with slight growth in credit hour production, and a 36% increase in summer enrollment for the Master of Arts in Teaching program.

VP Norman outlined the University's upcoming strategic enrollment priorities:

1. Modernize the University's web presence and redesign the presentation of academic programs to respond to the growing role of artificial intelligence in the college search process
2. Align enrollment efforts with academic restructuring while minimizing disruption to the student experience
3. Fully implement Navigate 360
4. Increase student yield and reduce enrollment melt

VP Norman concluded that these strategies position the University to remain competitive while enhancing its ability to attract, support, and retain current and prospective students.

Action Items

A. Ms. Madigan moved to approve the minutes of the April 16, 2026, Board Meeting. Dr. Ranchero seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

B. Ms. Madigan moved to approve that the Board of Trustees retains the confidentiality of Closed Session meeting minutes for 11/13/2025, 1/22/2026 and 4/16/2026. Ms. Baurer seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

C. Ms. Baurer moved to approve the Cashnet Maintenance, Support and Service. This software, hardware and services process the University's billing receivables, PCI compliant payments to the University via credit card, as well as secure and PCI compliant gifts and purchases. The software is compatible with the University's Banner Enterprise Reporting System. This agreement will have an initial contract term of July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2031. Dr. Ranchero seconded the motion.

Roll was called and the vote was as follows:

Ms. Baurer	Yes
Mr. Hicks	Yes
Ms. Madigan	Yes
Mr. Ngoboh	Absent
Dr. Ranchero	Yes
Ms. Veatch	Yes
Ms. Everett	Yes

The motion carried.

D. Ms. Madigan moved to approve FY27 Preliminary Budget. Ms. Baurer seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

E. Ms. Madigan moved to approve the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local #149 contract. The agreement is effective June 1, 2026, through May 31, 2029. Ms. Veatch seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

F. Ms. Madigan moved to approve the University Professionals of Illinois, Local #4100 Successor Agreement for a two-year extension of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. The agreement is effective August 1, 2026, through July 31, 2028. Mr. Hicks seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

G. Ms. Madigan moved to approve the FOP Successor Agreement for a one-year extension of the current Collective Bargaining Agreement. The Agreement will be effective from July 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Ms. Veatch seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

H. Ms. Madigan moved to approve the Teamsters Local #26 Successor Agreement. Ratification occurred on June 1, 2026. The agreement is effective from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2028. Mr. Hicks seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

I. Ms. Baurer moved to approve Non-Indentured Reserves. Ms. Madigan seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

J. Ms. Madigan moved to approve the 2027 Board Meeting Calendar. Ms. Baurer seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

K. 1. Ms. Madigan moved to approve the extension of the multi-year contract for Jason Anderson, Head Baseball Coach. This extends the agreement through June 30, 2031. Ms. Veatch seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

2. Ms. Madigan moved to approve the extension of the multi-year contract for James Gildon, Head Track & Field Coach. This extends the agreement through June 30, 2029. Ms. Veatch seconded the motion. By unanimous vote, motion carried.

<u>Information Items</u>

President's Report

President Gatrell introduced Mr. Jeremy Alexander who gave a presentation titled "Making the Most of Summer Camps & Conferences". Music Camp was established in 1956 and is the longest recurring camp offered at EIU. IHSA Girls and Boys Track have been coming to campus since 1972 and 1973 bringing nearly 5,000 student competitors combined between the two weekends.

Summary of Purchases $100,000 - $249,999 and Exempt Purchases

Vendor	Type of Purchase	Bids	Amount
Gordon Food Service	Edible & Nonedible Items	(A)	$3,426,600.00
Mythics, LLC	Oracle Database	(B)	$566,144.70
Presidio Networked Solutions Group	Network Core & Dist. Upgrade	(C)	$390,890.58
EBSCO	Electronic Journal Access	(D)	$354,000.00
Ohio Valley Conference	Arbiter Fees	(E)	$327,999.45
University of Illinois	CARLI Electronic Resources	(F)	$314,000.00
United States Postal Service	Postage for meter	(G)	$180,000.00
Dell Marketing LP	Office 365	(H)	$169,157.53
Dell Marketing LP	Computers & hardware	(I)	$137126.25
DeMoulin Brothers Co.	Marching Band Uniforms	(J)	$121,858.06
D2L Ltd	Annual Software & Support	(K)	$121,503.11

(B) IPHEC Contract #JMT201707; Exempt per VB1d of Board Regulations
(C) IPHEC Contract #IPHEC1807; Exempt per VB1d of Board Regulations
(D) IPHEC Contract #IPHEC2011; Exempt per VB1d of Board Regulations
(E) IPHEC Contract #2400LBM; Exempt per VB1d of Board Regulations
(F) Exempt per Procurement Code.
(G) Exempt per Procurement Code.
(H) Exempt per Procurement Code.
(I) IPHEC Contract #IPHEC2207; Exempt per VB1d of Board Regulations
(J) IPHEC Contract #IPHEC2207; Exempt per VB1d of Board Regulations
(K) IFB #EIUMJT2604
(L) IPHEC Contract #IPHEC2409; Exempt per VB1d of Board Regulations

Public Comment - None

To learn more about the procedures for public comment, please visit:
https://www.eiu.edu/trustees/regulation01.php#:~:text=At%20the%20end,to%20the%20Board

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

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.