April 5, 2021 Regents Meeting

Present: Ami Comeford, Leigh Dillard, Kaine Ezell, Tim Helwig, Natasha McPartlin, Felicia Steele (chair), Kassia Waggoner

No minutes from our February meeting were retained, so the Chair apologized.

Old Business

Emerging from our discussions of the Regents Handbook, we discussed the consequences of appointment of student leaders to caucus meeting attendance and reimbursement. The Committee was concerned about what happens at the Caucus if the students don't vote for student leadership. Reached consensus that the caucuses will still be useful because the regents' vote is still every other year and they will provide an opportunity to meet with the region. If there needs to be a by-law revision, we'll need to revise the language about student leadership

New Business

2) We discussed social media issues for Regents and Student leaders.

The committee members recommend that the Executive Committee charge the Communications Committee with formulating guidelines that address the boundaries between individual social media posts and those for the organization. We are certain that the committee can formulate a set of best practices related to privacy settings, post settings, and to counseling student and faculty leaders on professional behavior in social media.

We also reached some consensus that Facebook is still the primary social media outlet for distributing information. If a student or faculty leader does not use Facebook, Katie Mudd can distribute communications by proxy.

3) We also addressed some Write Away issues: some institutional filters are weeding out email that mimic addresses. The NIU team is working on this. Some issues seem to be better when emails are distributed as plain text rather than as HTML.