



Southern Illinois University System  
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January 26, 2024

Members of the Board Academic Matters Committee

Ed Hightower, Chair  
Lauren Harris  
Sara Salger  
Subhash Sharma

Dear Committee Members:

The Academic Matters Committee will meet on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville on the second floor of the Morris University Center in the Legacy Room, Room #2038 with YouTube option.

The agenda, Athletic Report and minutes from the December 7, 2023, meeting can be viewed through the Board portal system.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gireesh V. Gupchup".

Gireesh V. Gupchup  
Vice President for Academic Innovation, Planning, and Partnerships

GVG/pm

Attachments

c: Ed Curtis  
J. Phil Gilbert  
Victor Ludwig  
John Simmons  
Roger Tedrick

Dan Mahony  
Austin Lane  
James Minor  
Jerry Kruse  
Other Interested Parties

Office of the President

Stone Center • Mail Code 6801 • 1400 Douglas Drive • Carbondale, Illinois 62901  
Phone: 618/536-3331 • Fax: 618/536-3404

## AGENDA

### MEETING OF THE SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACADEMIC MATTERS COMMITTEE

Thursday, February 8, 2024  
9:00 a.m.

Legacy Room – Room #2038  
Morris University Center (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor)  
Southern Illinois University Edwardsville  
Edwardsville, Illinois,  
live stream video at [siousystem.edu](https://siousystem.edu) via Youtube

1. Announcements
2. Approval of Minutes of the Meeting December 7, 2023
3. Recommendation for Honorary Degree, Doctor of Humane Letters, SIUE [Mr. Ed Grady] (Board Agenda Item J)
4. SIU System ADEI Lifetime Achievement Award Name Change Approval, SIU System (Board Agenda Item K)
5. Information Report: *Athletic Report*
6. Other Business
7. Adjournment

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**

**Minutes of the Academic Matters Committee Meeting  
Thursday, December 7, 2023**

**Immediately following the Executive Committee  
live stream video at [siusystem.edu](https://siusystem.edu) via YouTube and through Zoom**

The Academic Matters Committee met at 9:00a.m on Thursday, December 7, 2023, in person and via Zoom. Present were: Ed Hightower (chair), J. Phil Gilbert (pro-tem), Lauren Harris (virtual), Sara Salger(virtual) and Subhash Sharma. Other Board members present were: Ed Curtis, J. Phil Gilbert, Victor Ludwig , John Simmons (virtual) and Roger Tedrick. Executive Officers present were: President Dan Mahony (virtual); Senior Vice President Duane Stucky; Vice President Gireesh Gupchup; Vice President Sheila Caldwell, Chancellor Austin Lane, SIUC; Chancellor James Minor, SIUE (virtual); and Dean and Provost Jerry Kruse, SIU School of Medicine.

**Announcements**

Dr. Gupchup provided a progress report on SIU System Online. He concluded that the National Association of Higher Education Systems provided them with a grant to develop degree and certificate pathways that will be planned next year. An automated solution is being researched to make the registration process easier as the course offerings are scaled up.

Hightower asked how many students are projected for spring 2024 and how it is being marketed. Dr. Gupchup replied that students are still registering but there are eight students currently enrolled for spring 2024. They will have a better count in January or on census date. Since this is early in the planning stage, marketing has been done through the campus academic advisors as they sign students up for courses. The SIU System Online Team also communicated with the Faculty Senates and other stakeholder groups and developed an SIU System Online website. The team is looking at automated solutions that may have advertising capabilities.

President Mahony added that this will be a big priority for the soon to be hired SIU System Executive Director for Marketing and Communication. This is a major part of the enrollment growth plan. External advertising will be done to attract more students once the infrastructure is in place.

Hightower asked if there are other university systems that have focused on this that SIU System is seeking direction. Dr. Gupchup responded that, because this is part of the SIU System strategic plan, they applied to participate through the National Association of Higher Education System Heads. SIU was one of four systems in a network improvement community that was selected nationally. The other systems selected were Montana, Texas State, and Hawaii. There are several systems currently considering cross-registration. Other states such as Maine and Alaska have already developed and

are offering system online course sharing. To his knowledge, SIU is the only system in Illinois that is offering System course sharing.

President Mahony said the University of South Carolina does something similar and were able to significantly help thousands of students.

Trustee Sharma commented that when the course sharing matures and allows national/international students to take courses, there needs to be a “safeguard” to ensure the enrolled students are the ones taking the exams. Dr. Gupchup responded that our campus IT departments have security measures in place. He asked Will Clark if he could elaborate. Will Clark’s response was inaudible.

Hightower applauded the team for their efforts and looks forward to its growth.

Trustee Gilbert commented that he believes it will be one of the biggest growth areas for SIU.

#### **Approval of Minutes of the Meeting September 21, 2023**

Motion was made by Trustee Sharma to approve the minutes of the September 21, 2023, meeting. The motion was duly seconded by Trustee Gilbert. Madam Secretary called roll call with Hightower, Gilbert, Harris, Salger, and Sharma passing the motion.

#### **Informational Report: Performance Report FY2023**

Dr. Gupchup gave a brief overview of the Performance Report that documents the efforts of the university to achieve the goals of IBHE’s new strategic plan. The provosts presented slides highlighting their successes in the areas of equity, sustainability and growth. Provost Sheryl Tucker (SIUC) presented first with Provost Jerry Kruse (SIU School of Medicine) and Provost Denise Cobb (SIUE) following.

#### **Recommendation for Distinguished Service and Honorary Degree Awards, (Board Agenda Item J-P)**

Chancellor Austin A. Lane presented the recommendations for Distinguished Service Awards and Honorary Degrees for Southern Illinois University Carbondale.

Recommendation for Distinguished Service Award, SIUC  
[Larry Dietz] (Board Agenda Item J)

Recommendation for Distinguished Service Award, SIUC  
[Paul E. Echols] (Board Agenda Item K)

Recommendation for Honorary Degree, SIUC  
[Crystal Arlene Kuykendall] (Board Agenda Item L)

Recommendation for Honorary Degree, SIUC

[C. James “Jimmy” Wright] (Board Agenda Item M)

Trustee Hightower asked if there was a motion for approval. Trustee Sharma made the motion. The motion was duly seconded by Trustee Hightower. Madam Secretary called roll call with Hightower, Gilbert, Harris, Salger, and Sharma passing the motion.

**Other Business**

Having no other business, the Committee adjourned at 9:57am.

**Adjournment**

GVG/pm