
J. Koch attended for S. Clayton; Parliamentarian Ferald Bryan was present.

THOSE FACULTY SENATE MEMBERS NOT PRESENT: Baker, Caughron, Creamer, Cummings, Engel, Fox, Frank-Stromborg, Ghrayeb, Greene, Kolb, Loubere, Mehrer, Munk, Musial, Payvar, Pierce, Robertson, Smith-Shank, S. Song, Spear, Stephen, Turner, Wade

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA - adopted

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 2, 2003 FS MEETING – approved, with slight amendment to D. Wagner’s remarks

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Report from the Committee to Evaluate the President of the Faculty Senate/Executive Secretary of the University Council (Carole Minor, Chair, Rangaswany Meganathan, Sean Ackerman, Jean Pierce and Xueshu Song)

B. Report of the Committee to Evaluate the Faculty Personnel Advisor (Carol DeMoranville, Chair, Jody Newman-Ryan and Earl Shumaker)

V. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Recognition of Faculty Senators whose terms are expiring:

Robert Miller, Finance
Carol DeMoranville, Marketing
Jean Pierce, Educational and Psychological Foundations
Jody Newman-Ryan, Communicative Disorders
Earl Shumaker, University Libraries

EXPIRING AND RE-ELECTED

C. T. Lin, Chemistry
NEWLY ELECTED

James Johnson, Finance
Geoffrey Gordon, Marketing
Nancy Castle, Communicative Disorders
David Lonergan, University Libraries

B. Presentation of Bob Lane “Eternal Vigilance Award”

The award went to David Wagner.

C. Other announcements: Curtis Behrens has agreed to stand for Faculty Personnel Advisor. The Lipman-Herne study was just presented to President Peters; results are also being shared with student recruitment, university outreach, and others. Results of the alumni survey will be published in the August issue of Northern Now; Mike Malone is willing to address the Senate about the results.

Republican legislators are holding a hearing here tomorrow about the effects of budget cuts at NIU; President Willis will speak and is looking for information. The FY03 budget is set; we have received about a 3% rescission of previously appropriated funds. The Governor’s budget request includes an 8% cut for higher education; this still needs to be passed by the legislature but historically they have not usually modified this part of the budget. In addition, the Governor’s office is looking at “non-restricted un-appropriated funds”, to see if any can be reallocated to instruction; this remains to be clarified.

VI. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Committees of the University 2003-2004 vacancies for Faculty Senate to approve – approved

VIII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Patricia Henry – report

The IBHE is looking for feedback on its website about recommendations of affordability and faculty diversity.
The FAC would like the seventh goal of the Illinois Commitment, which they have proposed, to be approved by the faculty senates. P. Henry made a motion to endorse the statement; the motion was seconded and approved.

B. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Paul Loubere and William Tolhurst – no report.


D. BOT Legislation, Audit and External Affairs Committee – Sara Clayton and Beverly Espe – no report.

E. BOT – Sue Willis – no report.

IX. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic Affairs – Jody Newman-Ryan, Chair – report – walk-in

The Committee revisited its January report, and wished to clarify that it had not said that non-tenure-track faculty were unqualified, just that they might not be familiar with NIU policies. The Committee had two suggestions: First, bring the Faculty Handbook up to date and reissue it (perhaps on the Internet due to cost considerations); second, have a chart in each classroom explaining basic functioning of lights, audio-visual equipment, heat and cooling, and any other essential items, along with a list of people to call in case of trouble or problems. Jody moved that these recommendations be forwarded to Provost Legg; the motion was seconded. Bev Espe pointed out that such a handbook does exist for SPS; the motion passed.

B. Economic Status of the Profession – Jim Lockard, Chair – report – walk-in

The Committee’s report will be available on the Senate website; this will facilitate distributing it to colleagues. May is benefits choice month, but we won’t know what the choices are until May 1 at the earliest (except that Humana HMO and POS will no longer be available). Both CMS (state) and HR (NIU) have lost many positions recently, making it difficult to get questions answered. CIGNA makes a lot of mistakes; if you think something has been handled inappropriately, resubmit it. Magellan is in Chapter 11 but this should not affect payouts for mental health claims. HB 3511 is a power grab by the Governor of state boards of all kinds, including SURS; call your legislators. We should all consider joining SUAA (State Universities’ Annuitants Association) to help lobby for SURS and other benefits. Finally, new privacy regulations make it impossible for HR to assist with claims unless they have written permission from you.

C. Resource, Space and Budget – C. T. Lin, Chair – no report

D. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Mark Cordes, Chair – report
1. Vacation Creep – see memo from S. Willis

The vacation creep statement was discussed; the following language was approved:

“The faculty of Northern Illinois University are committed to honoring the entirety of the academic calendar. The regular meeting of classes throughout the academic year is integral to the University’s core mission of excellence in teaching and instruction. Although the decision to cancel classes ultimately is up to the discretion of the individual faculty member, faculty should cancel classes for appropriate reasons and only when steps are taken to ensure that it will not interfere with the courses and educational integrity and objectives.”

The Senate also wished to make it clear that this statement, although it does not explicitly address classes near scheduled breaks, should be taken to imply that classes just before or after breaks should not be cancelled solely due to expectations of low attendance.

E. Rules and Governance – Gretchen Bisplinghoff, Chair – no report

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – John Novak, Chair

1. Election of President of Faculty Senate for 2003-2004 – S. Willis was unanimously approved.

2. Election of UCPC representatives from Faculty Senate for 2003-2004 – ballots will be distributed at FS meeting – voting will be by college – votes will be counted the following week and new UCPC members will be notified – sample ballots are enclosed

3. Committees of the University 2003-2004 vacancies for Faculty Senate to approve or select

Jana Brubaker was elected to the Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee, Mary Munroe to the Intellectual Property Committee, and Linda Yasui to the Unity in Diversity Steering Committee.

4. Election of Faculty Personnel Advisor – C. Behrens was elected

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XI. NEW BUSINESS

XII. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

President Willis thanked all for their service this year.
D. Wagner asked about ACT scores in light of increased admissions.
K. Miller expressed his appreciation to all.
XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Minutes, Academic Planning Council
B. Minutes, Athletic Board minutes
C. Minutes, Campus Security and Environmental Quality
D. Minutes, Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
E. Minutes, Committee on Undergraduate Curriculum
F. Minutes, Graduate Council
G. Minutes, Undergraduate Coordinating Council minutes
H. Minutes, University Assessment Panel
I. Minutes, University Benefits Committee minutes
J. Meeting Schedule for 2003-2004 (Page 20)

XIV. ADJOURNMENT