FACULTY SENATE MINUTES  
Wednesday, April 24, 2013, 3 p.m.  
Holmes Student Center Sky Room

Disclaimer: These minutes should not be taken as a verbatim transcript but rather as a shortened summary that is intended to reflect the essence of statements made at the meeting. Many comments have been omitted and, in some cases, factual and grammatical errors corrected. The full verbatim transcript is available online at the University Council Web site under Faculty Senate / Agendas, Minutes & Transcripts.

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Abdel-Motaleb, Arado, Azad, Bateni, Bisplinghoff, Cappell, Carpenter, Chandler, Chen, Chung(for Poole), Coles, Collins, Creamer, Crowley (for Ryan), Daniel, Deng, Farrell, Frank, Gilbert (for Gaillard), Gowen (for Briscoe), Gupta, Koren, Kostic, Mackie, Martin, McHone-Chase, Mirman, Naples, Novak, Pitney, Rheineck, Rosenbaum, Sagarin, Siegesmund, Sirotkin, Slotsve, VandeCreek, Wilson


OTHERS PRESENT: Armstrong, Bryan, Haliczer, Streben, Zanayed

OTHERS ABSENT: Freedman, Latham, Prawitz, Small, Snow, Sunderlin, Waas

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 3:08 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A. Rosenbaum: There are no walk-in items but I would like to move item IX. F. up to IX. A. because we want to have enough people in the room to vote on the various things that we have to vote on. With the move of item IX. F. to IX. A., I’ll ask for a motion to adopt the agenda.

J. Novak: made the motion. T. Arado: was second.

The agenda was approved with the order change without dissent or abstention.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 27, 2013 FS MEETING  
(distributed electronically)
W. Pitney: made the motion. J. Wilson: was second.

The minutes were approved as written without dissent or abstention.

IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. President Peters – Farewell remarks

A. Rosenbaum: introduced John Peters, outgoing president of NIU.

J. Peters: Thanked the senate for their invitation, for their commitment to NIU, and for their support during his administration.

Following the President’s comments, A. Rosenbaum made a presentation to President Peters on behalf of the faculty and the Faculty Senate.

A. Rosenbaum: The gift was a proclamation printed into a diploma from Northern Illinois State Normal School. This is from 1902 and it’s signed by the first president of NIU. We used that as the basis for this tribute.

Whereas, John G. Peters has completed 13 years of distinguished service as the 11th president of Northern Illinois University; and

Whereas, he has been an advocate for the faculty and a strong supporter of shared governance at NIU; and

Whereas, he has successfully guided NIU through a period of unprecedented challenges; and

Whereas, he has demonstrated his devotion to and affection for Northern Illinois University; and

Whereas, he has opted for a well-deserved retirement.

It is with great respect and appreciation that the Faculty Senate of Northern Illinois University hereby appoints John G. Peters as an honorary Faculty Senator in Perpetuam.

Resolved this 24th day of April, 2013.

J. Peters: Thanked the senate for the tribute.

B. Recognition of Faculty Senate members who have completed their terms, who have been re-elected, or who are newly elected – Page 4

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION
A. Rosenbaum: Next we are going into executive session for purposes of the presentation of the annual evaluations of the Executive Secretary, Alan Rosenbaum, and the Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor, Toni Tollerud.

I. Abdel-Motaleb: made the motion. S. McHone-Chase: was second.

The motion passed.

A. Rosenbaum: George Slotsve, our vice president, will take charge. John Novak is our recording secretary for the executive session and we ask all non-voting members of the Faculty Senate to please exit into the chamber outside.

A. Report from the Committee to Evaluate the President of Faculty Senate/Executive Secretary of University Council

B. Report from the Committee to Evaluate the Faculty and SPS Personnel Advisor

VI. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve list of candidates running unopposed to serve on committees of the university – Pages 5-8

J. Novak: made the motion. W. Pitney: was second.

The consent agenda was approved without dissent or abstention.

VIII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – report – Pages 9-10

S. Armstrong: This report is largely informational but I wanted to call your attention just to two things. One, that the Faculty Advisory Council officers have been named and the three people you see there under FAC meeting have been re-elected. Those are the officers for the FAC. The other thing is that the IBHE meeting minutes have not been published yet, but I will send a link to Blackboard as soon as those are available.

B. Student Association – Delonte LeFlore, President, and James Zanayed, Speaker – report

J. Zanayed: The Interfraternity Council has their yearly tradition of the tugs going on right now. It’s a tug-of-war match for those of you who don’t know. Just want to let you all know that if a student comes with duct tape wrapped around their arm it’s not a social experiment or anything.

A. Rosenbaum: It means they’ve had most of the skin ripped off during the tugs competition.
J. Zanayed: Right. But it would be nice to see some of the faculty there if you want to get out. It’s a great tradition at NIU that has been going on for a very, very long time.

An update, we reported our elections last time. The president-elect, Jack Berry, is getting together his cabinet. He is at the end of his hiring process right now and we’re beginning the transition.

I spoke to you last month about a recreation center to try and garner support for that. Since then, we have submitted a resolution that is on the agenda tonight in new business asking this body to support a new or improved recreation center. Sandy Carlisle, the director of recreation services, and I put together the resolution with help from Professor Rosenbaum. I was unaware that the faculty need their own locker room in a new recreation center for many reasons, but Sandy also agreed in the fact that it would be very irresponsible for us and irresponsible of the university to have faculty share locker rooms with students. It just puts everybody in an uncomfortable position. That is included in the resolution that we put forth today and I hope you will vote on it to lend faculty support. There’s been a resolution that came out of the Student Association Senate as well and a referendum of the students indicating that a large majority of students support this being a high priority.

C. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Kerry Freedman and Andy Small – no report

D. BOT Finance, Facilities and Operations Committee – Alan Rosenbaum and Greg Waas – no report

E. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Todd Latham and Rosita Lopez – no report

F. BOT – Alan Rosenbaum – no report

IX. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Therese Arado, Chair

1. Nomination of the Executive Secretary of the University Council for 2013-14

T. Arado: The first order of business is to nominate the Executive Secretary of the University Council for the 2013-2014 academic year. The Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article 2.1.3, calls for this to be accomplished by secret ballot. Our clickers are going to be out secret ballot. Alan Rosenbaum is the only nominee who’s been put forward for the 2013-14 election.

A. Rosenbaum was nominated by the following vote:

1 – YES – 34
2 – NO – 0
3 – ABSTAIN – 0

2. Election of UCPC representatives for 2013-15 – Ballots were distributed by college and left at their places.

3. Committees of the University 2013-14 – Election of candidates who are running opposed and must be selected by Faculty Senate – Ballot packets were distributed and left at their places.

A. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Brad Cripe, Chair – no report

B. Academic Affairs – Charles Cappell, Chair

1. Report regarding open access scholarly publishing – Pages 11-17

C. Cappell: The Academic Affairs Committee has three items for senate consideration. The first is an informational report on the open access [publishing] question. The committee did not decide to recommend any action at this time. We want to draw your attention to this issue. There are several recommendations that each of you can take back to your departments in good faith and recognition that this is a growing trend and that faculty across the country will be coping with a change in the publication venues.

A. Rosenbaum: Charles and his committee have done great work to prepare these reports. And this is an important issue that is not going anywhere. The future is probably going to be online journals and open access publishing so it’s probably a really good idea to get your departments up to speed on this issue so departments can start thinking about the place of open access publications in the tenure and promotion process.

2. Resolution concerning shared access to data relevant to academic affairs – Page 18

C. Cappell: The second item presented from the Academic Affairs Committee, with its ten members, this resolution is supported by nine aye votes and one member not voting. I’ll move the following resolution. It concerns access to data as part of shared governance.

G. Slotsve: seconded the motion.

A. Rosenbaum: Everyone is up to speed on what this is about? This is part of our ongoing difficulties in getting data relevant to things like raises. This, of course, is addressing the academic side of things, but getting data has been a challenge and the motion from our Academic Affairs Committee is designed to increase transparency and shared governance.

C. Cappell: I might just elaborate a little bit. We focused this resolution on the business of the Academic Affairs Committee because that’s our primary responsibility. It’s not just a complaint; its saying we want to establish that, if we’re full partners in shared governance, we need the same kind of information that others around the university have to make informed, deliberative
policy recommendations. And I also see it also as a precedent for other committees. I see this as not just restricted to academic affairs but to the general shared governance of the Faculty Senate.

The Senate approved the resolution by the following vote:

1 – YES – 28
2 – NO – 2
3 – ABSTAIN – 2

A. Rosenbaum: The motion passes and will be passed along to the president.

3. Proposed motion requesting a senate appearance by appropriate NIU administrators able to present information on the academic characteristics of admitted students – Page 19

C. Cappell made the motion on behalf of the Academic Affairs Committee.

G. Slotsve: seconded the motion.

The motion passed by the following vote:

1 – YES – 31
2 – NO – 0
3 – ABSTAIN - 1

C. Economic Status of the Profession – Debra Zahay-Blatz, Chair – report

J. Novak: I have a very short report.

A. Rosenbaum: John Novak is presenting the report for Debra Zahay-Blatz.

J. Novak: We have requested some additional research assistance from the soon-to-be-appointed Faculty Senate grad assistant to help us get salary data at the department level for NIU and compare institutions. We have some preliminary information that’s tantalizing but it’s too early to really report and corroborate. We’re looking forward to seeing exactly where we stand among departments, with schools in Illinois and with schools across the nation.

A. Rosenbaum: Excellent and we’ve been trying to get this data for quite some time. We’re trying to get a sense of where NIU salaries are compared to similar institutions.

D. Rules and Governance – Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb, Chair – no report

E. Resources, Space and Budgets – Jim Wilson, Liaison/Spokesperson

1. Report on meeting with president and provost – Pages 20-23
2. Year End Summary – Page 24

3. Resolution concerning the shared governance role of Resources, Space and Budgets Committee in setting recommendations for budget priorities – Pages 25-26

J. Wilson: made the motion that the resolution be adopted.

P. Carpenter: was second.

The motion passed by the following vote:

1 – YES – 26
2 – NO – 0
3 – ABSTAIN – 1

A. Rosenbaum: We have overwhelming support for this resolution. So, Jim, thanks to you and to the Resources, Space and Budgets Committee. This will now go to the University Council for its consideration.

J. Wilson: Thank you for your support.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

XI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Campus Recreation Center resolution – Pages 27-28

A. Rosenbaum: Last item of business is the Campus Recreation Center resolution which is on pages 27 and 28. This was brought forward by the students, who are asking us to support their campaign for a new health and wellness center. The students have agreed that we should have separate faculty locker room and shower facilities. This is a good idea so that students can’t argue about their grades while you are standing naked in the shower with them. It seems like an idea that is long overdue. I will make the motion that we support the student campaign for a new recreation/health and wellness center as articulated in the resolution.

S. McHone-Chase: was second.

G. Slotsve: I’d just like to point out that by faculty I believe we also mean staff?

A. Rosenbaum: Yes we do.

G. Slotsve: So that it could be retired staff or current staff that would also be using the facilities.

A. Rosenbaum: We will make those changes in the resolution, faculty and staff.
P. Carpenter: Can we also consider adding in there that we also consider the extent to which this sort of facility could be used by the academic programs as well for particular classes?

The motion passed by the following vote:

1 – YES – 25  
2 – NO – 1  
3 – ABSTAIN – 0

XII. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR

XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Minutes, Academic Planning Council  
B. Minutes, Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee  
C. Minutes, Athletic Board  
D. Minutes, Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee  
E. Minutes, Committee on Advanced Professional Certification in Education  
F. Minutes, Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education  
G. Minutes, Committee on Initial Teacher Certification  
H. Minutes, Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience  
I. Minutes, Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum  
J. Minutes, General Education Committee  
K. Minutes, Graduate Council  
L. Minutes, Honors Committee  
M. Minutes, Operating Staff Council  
N. Minutes, Supportive Professional Staff Council  
O. Minutes, Undergraduate Coordinating Council  
P. Minutes, University Assessment Panel  
Q. Minutes, University Benefits Committee  
R. Letter of acceptance of ES/P nomination – Alan Rosenbaum – Pages 29-30  
S. Meeting Schedule – 2013-14 – Page 31

A. Rosenbaum: I want to call your attention to informational item S. This is the meeting schedule for next year. I hope you’ll take a look, on your way out, at the certificate that we created for President Peters. I hope you all have a healthy and productive summer and we’ll see you all at the first meeting of next semester. Thank you all for coming.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.