

To: Faculty Senate

From: Ismael Montana. Faculty Senate President/University Council Chair

RE: Faculty Senate Activity Report for AY 2022-2023

Date: April 10, 2023

Pursuant to the Faculty Senate's (FS) Bylaws Article 2.5 outlining the duties of the Faculty Senate President, this report hereby provides a summary of main duties and accomplishments during my term which began July 1, 2022, and extends through June 30, 2023. Since my tenure as Faculty Senate President officially ends June 30, the report does not include activities extending through the remaining period of term.

I: Primary and Routine Duties:

- Worked with Patricia Erickson, Faculty Senate's Administrative Assistant to coordinate, set agendas and chaired, to date, seven Faculty Senate meetings.
- Co-facilitated University Council (UC) agendas and co-chaired UC meetings (with President Freeman).
 - Participated in UC prep sessions with President Freeman and Matt Streb, Chief of Staff, Office of the President.
- Co-facilitated agendas and meetings of the Faculty Senate Social Justice Committee (FSSJC).
- Serve as the primary liaison between faculty and NIU shared governance.
- Leveraged administration and shared governance support for the (FSSJC's effort to implement the FSSJC 2020 Draft Report's Prioritized recommendations.
- Led three Faculty Fellows, three Graduate Assistants, and a Research Assistant appointed by the Provost's Office to conduct summer research to support the work of the FSSJC. Work Period: May 16 through June 30.
- Led the FSSJC's efforts to provide feedback to President Freeman's 2023 Draft University Goals and Draft Article 8 Revisions within the context of the Academic Affairs working group of the FSSJC's emerging framework focused on updating NIU's tenure and promotion process.
- Served as alternate on the University Advisory Council to the IBHE.
- Held regular meetings with Shared Governance: (*Monthly*) including with Lisa Freeman (NIU President); Beth Ingram (Executive Vice President and Provost); Chad McEvoy (Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs); Vernese Edghill-Walden (Vice President for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, & CDO) Joseph Flynn (Executive Director for DEI); Felica Bohanon (President, Supportive Professional Staff Council) and Holly Nicholson (President, Operating Staff Council).
- Attended State of the Union Student Government Address.
- Facilitated a panel discussion in response to faculty concerns over Campus Safety Issues. Panelists included Matt Streb, Chief of Staff, Office of the President, NIU; Bill Nicklas, City Manager, City of DeKalb; Darren Mitchell, Chief of Police, NIU; and David Byrd, Chief of Police, City of DeKalb.
- Served on the Campus Violence Prevention Committee.

II: Faculty Senate Meetings and Actions Taken:

Date: 8/31/ 22

- Proposed amendment to Student Evaluation of Instruction: Second Reading (Passed).
- Confirmation of Professor Sarah Marsh (Department of Management) to serve as the 2022-23 Faculty Senate vice president per FS Bylaws, Article 2.2.
- Confirmation of Professor Ferald Bryan (Department of Communication) to serve as the 2022-23 Faculty Senate parliamentarian per FS Bylaws, Article 2.2.
- Confirmation of the 2022-23 Faculty Senate Standing Committee membership rosters per FS Bylaws, Article 3.
- Confirmation of the 2022-23 University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees membership roster, and confirming Professor Brad Cripe (Department of Accountancy) for a three-year term, per NIU Bylaws, Article 8.4.1.1.
- Confirmation of faculty candidates running unopposed to serve on committees of the university.
- Confirmation of Professor Peter Chomentowski (Department of Kinesiology and Physical Education) to serve as NIU's academic representative to the State Universities Retirement System Members Advisory Committee (SURSMAC).
- Confirmation of Professor Sarah Marsh (Department of Management) to serve on the 2023 BOT Professorship Award Selection Committee.

Date: 10/26/22

- Election of Professor Carrie Kortegast (Department of Counseling, Adult and Higher Education) to serve as the Faculty Personnel Advisor.

Date: 1/25/23

- Proposed Amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article 4.6.3.1, Honors Committee, Student Membership: First Reading.
- Proposed Amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article 1, Membership of the Faculty Senate: First Reading.

Date: 2/22/23

- Proposed Amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article 4.6.3.1, Honors Committee, Student membership: Second Reading (Passed).
- Proposed Amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article 1, Membership of the Faculty Senate: Second Reading (Passed).
- Proposed 2032-33 academic calendar (Passed).
- Three tenured faculty members selected by lot to serve on the 2023-24 grievance panel for student grievances.
- Three instructors selected by lot to serve on the 2023-24 grievance panel for student grievances.

Date: 3/29/23

- Approval of Biagio Palese, Associate Professor (Department Operations Management and Information Systems) to serve on the Vice President-Chief Diversity Officer Search Committee.
- Nomination of Professor Ben Creed to serve as 2023-24 Faculty Senate President/University Council Chair.
- Proposed Amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article 4.8, University Assessment Panel: First Reading.

III: University Council Meetings

Date: 9/7/22

- Proposed amendment to NIU Bylaws 2.2, UCPC membership and duties – FIRST READING.
- Approved the 2022-23 University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees membership roster, confirming Professor Brad Cripe for a three-year term per NIU Bylaws, Article 8.4.1.1.
- Approved Professor Peter Chomentowski and Human Resource Services Director of Insurance and Benefits Liz Guess to serve as NIU's academic and non-academic representatives, respectively, to the State Universities Retirement System Members Advisory Committee (SURSMAC).
- Approved Professor Brad Cripe to serve on the Student Mandatory Fee Advisory Committee.
- Approved the University Council tenured/tenure-track faculty serving on the FS-UC Rules, Governance and Elections Committee, and approved the University Council Personnel Committee membership roster per NIU Bylaws, Article 2.1.1(A) and 2.2.1(A).

Date: 11/2/22

- Proposed amendment to NIU Bylaws, Article 2.2, UCPC membership and duties SECOND READING/VOTE (Passed).

IV: University Search Committees & Task Force:

- Vice President for Research and Innovation Partnerships search.
- Executive Director of Graduate Enrollment for the Graduate School search.
- Senior Associate Vice President and Chief Human Resource Officer search.
- Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs search.
- Director, Center for Black Studies search.
- Member, Campus Accessibility Education Task Force (Chair, Holly Nicholson)

V: Other Key Activities:

- Participated in Council of Illinois University Senates Fall and Spring 2022-23 (Virtual) Meetings.
- Participated in National Council of Faculty Senates Fall and Spring 2022-23 (Virtual) Meetings.
- Spoke to the 2022 Staff Professional Development Academy:
 - Topic: NIU's Shared Government Councils Engagement with Broader University Community, Holmes Student Center, 9/16/ 2022.
- Spoke to NIU's MAC Academic Leadership Development Program Participants:
 - Topic: Shared governance and unionization on campus, 2/14/2023.
- Provided Public Testimony on Teaching U.S. History at Illinois State Legislature in Springfield (Virtual):
 - With Robert Brinkmann (Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences) and Valerie Garver (Chair, Department of History), 2/16/2023.