

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING AGENDA**  
**Wednesday, October 28, 2015, 3 p.m.**  
**Holmes Student Center Sky Room**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**III. APPROVAL OF THE [MINUTES](#) OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 FS MEETING**

**IV. PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Role of the NIU representative to the Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – Sonya Armstrong, NIU representative to the FAC to the IBHE

**V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION**

- A. Our Open Access Policy – Impact and Opportunities  
Jaime Schumacher, Director of Scholarly Communications, University Libraries

**VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

**VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Proposed [Resolution](#) to the Governor and Legislature of the State of Illinois – Page 3

**IX. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

- A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong; Paul Stoddard, alternate – [report](#) – Page 4
- B. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees  
Greg Long, Dan Gebo, Rebecca Shortridge, Leanne VandeCreek,  
Deborah Haliczzer, Holly Nicholson – no report

**X. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

- A. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee – Paul Stoddard, Chair – no report
- B. Academic Affairs Committee – Jimmie Manning, Chair – no report
- C. Economic Status of the Profession Committee – no report
- D. Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – no report

- E. Resources, Space and Budget Committee – Laura Beamer, Liaison/Spokesperson – no report

## **XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

- A. Discussion of Faculty Concerns

## **XII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council
- B. [Minutes](#), Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee
- C. [Minutes](#), Athletic Board
- D. [Minutes](#), Board of Trustees
- E. [Minutes](#), Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
- F. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education
- G. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience
- H. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
- I. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee
- J. [Minutes](#), Graduate Council
- K. [Minutes](#), Graduate Council Curriculum Committee
- 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. [Minutes](#), Univ. Comm. on Advanced and Nonteaching Educator License Programs
- S. [Minutes](#), University Committee on Initial Educator Licensure

## **XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

FS-STEERING: 10-21-15
UC-STEERING:
FACULTY SENATE: 10-28-15
UNIVERSITY COUNCIL:

## **A Resolution to the Governor and Legislature of the State of Illinois**

**Summary:** A Resolution by the Faculty Senate of Northern Illinois University to implore the Government of the State of Illinois to end the budget impasse while holding the line on the higher education budget from FY15 and to completely fund the MAP Grant Program.

WHEREAS, The governor's office has proposed a cut of 31.5% across all of the publicly-funded higher education institutions across the state of Illinois - which at NIU would translate to a \$29.4 million decrease from previous funding levels – and has failed to release MAP funding for the 2015-16 academic year; and

WHEREAS, Northern Illinois University and other public universities in the State of Illinois serve a vital public function in providing quality higher education at reasonable cost – a function that pays future dividends in terms of the state's innovation, economic development and prosperity; and

WHEREAS, such a drastic decrease in state funding would force NIU to either severely compromise its ability to deliver quality education to our students, or to raise tuition significantly; and

WHEREAS, the proposed cuts represent a culmination of decades of declining state support for publicly-funded universities in Illinois; and

WHEREAS, the failure to deliver MAP funding places in jeopardy the future success of thousands of students at NIU and statewide – students who will be unable to complete their educational goals; and

WHEREAS, Northern Illinois University faculty, besides their teaching mission, serve a vital role in externally-funded research, which not only provides state and national benefits (economic and otherwise), but improves the quality of undergraduate education through our ability to offer experiential learning opportunities and internships; and

WHEREAS, the potential cuts and the uncertainty surrounding them have gravely diminished faculty morale, recruitment and retention – there will likely be a “brain drain” whereby current faculty perceive Illinois as a state where higher education is undervalued relative to other states, thereby significantly eroding NIU's competitiveness in both teaching and research; therefore be it

***Resolved**, that the Faculty Senate of Northern Illinois University implores the Governor and the Legislature of the State of Illinois to urgently pass and approve a state budget that is respectful of the needs and potential benefits of higher education in this state; and be it further*

***Resolved**, that State of Illinois officials must further ensure the security and full funding of the MAP Grants Program for the thousands of students who, otherwise, will not be able to attend this or any university in the State of Illinois.*

FS-STEERING: UC-STEERING: FACULTY SENATE: 10-28-15 UNIVERSITY COUNCIL: 11-04-15
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## **FAC to the IBHE**

Friday, October 16, 2015

Rend Lake College, Ina, Illinois

*Local Presentation:* History and implantation of Rend Lake College's first-year experience program. This is a relatively new program, along the lines our UNIV 101. It is a 1½ hour credit course. Its components include teambuilding, study skills, a scavenger hunt (to engender familiarity with campus), and so on. The course was piloted in Spring '14, and has seen 1450 students so far.

*IBHE Update:* The dual credit program was approved by the IBHE with minor Changes. The annual low-performing programs report (required by law) is to be sent to the General Assembly (and the FAC) sometime during the week of October 19, 2015. There was some discussion of this, particularly regarding metrics used and funding implications. IBHE staff liaison Gretchen Lohman did not have answers on these two points. FAC member Abbas Aminmansour (UIUC) expressed concern that information requested reflects a business-oriented sensibility, and that the process was top-down driven, rather than through shared governance.

*Action Items:* 1) The FAC selected two names to forward as nominations to the IBHE to replace Alan Karnes (SIUE) on the board. Those were Terry Clark (SIUC) and Devi Potluri (CSU).  
2) FAC chair Marie Donovan (DePaul) will draft a statement of support for students lobbying Springfield to release MAP funds. This will tie in with NIU's scheduled rally coinciding with the Governor's visit October 29, and the statewide Day of Action (where students, accompanied by some faculty, will rally in Springfield).

*For Consideration:* we received a copy of the *CAEL Survey Data Report on Military Prior Learning Assessment*. There were some minor concerns, but overall the FAC members were in support of the report.

*Upcoming:* The FAC is working on an FAC mission statement, to be posted on the FAC website, currently being developed. The website will likely be hosted on the IBHE server.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Stoddard  
NIU alternate to the FAC