

**PUBLIC NOTICE AND AGENDA**

**FACULTY SENATE -FACULTY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES COMMITTEE**

**Friday, November 20, 2020, 3 p.m.**

**Microsoft Teams Meeting**

**Northern Illinois University**

**DeKalb, Illinois**

*All Faculty Senate members will receive an Outlook invitation to this Teams meeting.  
Others wishing to join the meeting, please send your request to Pat Erickson at [pje@niu.edu](mailto:pje@niu.edu).*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

**III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**IV. APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 13, 2020 MEETING MINUTES – Pages 2-3**

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

A. Draft Proposal – Definition of Faculty – Page 4

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

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**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Carpenter, Chomentowski, Keddie, Maki, McGowan, Palese, Surjadi, Vahabzadeh, Whedbee

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Thu

#### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Faculty Senate-Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee Chair **P. Chomentowski** called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

#### **II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

A quorum was verified.

#### **III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**A. Keddie** moved to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded and passed.

#### **IV. APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 20, 2020 MEETING MINUTES**

**D. Maki** moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **B. McGowan**. Motion passed.

#### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

#### **VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**A.** Draft Proposal – Definition of Faculty

**P. Chomentowski** shared the latest document outlining proposed definitions for faculty, instructors, clinical faculty, and research faculty. Discussion included the following:

- Where would visiting faculty fit in? The term, visiting faculty, is currently included in the instructor category, though there was some thought to including it in the research faculty category.
- Has HRS been invited to provide input? Yes, but HRS responded that they use the definitions that already exist in governing documents. **K. Whedbee** believes that HR makes a distinction between regular faculty, who do not need to be reappointed, and temporary faculty, who must be reappointed annually. Further, instructors are divided between those who are part of the instructors collective bargaining union and those who are not. Also, some SPS still have a teaching role in some departments, but it is believed they would fall into the instructor category. **K. Thu** believes that the four broad categories in the document can be parsed by HRS for employment categorizations, as long as it's consistent with the over-arching scheme in the document.
- What is the difference between the term, clinical instructor, in Section 3 and the term, instructor, in Section 2? **P. Chomentowski** has recently received updated information on this. He will update the document for the committee members' review.
- Discussion of the reference to 50 percent or more appointment relative to the instructor definition. While NIU employs instructors at less than 50 percent, these definitions relate to shared governance eligibility only. And in shared governance, an instructor must be employed at the 50 percent or more threshold to participate.

**P. Chomentowski** will update the document. The committee will meet again on Friday, Nov. 20, 3 p.m. to discuss the updated document.

## **VII. NEW BUSINESS**

## **VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**B. McGowan** moved to adjourn, seconded by **S. Vahabzadeh**. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:22 p.m.

The instructional and research core of the University shall consist of four categories of members hereinafter referred to as: 1) Faculty, 2) Instructors, 3) Clinical Faculty, and 4) Research Faculty

#### Section 1: Faculty

Faculty refers to the Tenure/Tenure Eligible Faculty of the University to include all Tenure-track and Tenured Faculty with appointments as Professor, Associate Professor, Assistant Professor, Departmental Chairpersons and professional librarians other than the Dean of the University Libraries. It includes part-time faculty who hold half-time position at Northern Illinois University along with half-time position at an external affiliate institution.

#### Section 2: Instructors

The Teaching Faculty of the University will include all persons with appointments as lecturer, associate lecturer, and assistant lecturer. This would also include adjunct, affiliate, and visiting faculty including those faculty with a limited contractual relationship with the University, including part-time (adjunct), non-compensatory (affiliate), and visiting faculty. All full-time faculty members in the ranks of faculty assistants, instructors, and lecturers, who currently hold temporary appointments of 50% or more of a normal faculty appointment, including employees who devote 50% or more of their working time to non-instructional duties at NIU are also considered to be instructors.

#### Section 3: Clinical Faculty

The Clinical Faculty of the University will include all persons with appointments as Clinical Professor, Associate Clinical Professor, Assistant Clinical Professor and Clinical Instructor. It includes faculty members whose primary responsibilities are clinical supervision and/or clinical instruction and non-tenure track in nature. It includes faculty members whose primary responsibilities include providing and/or overseeing the delivery of professional services to individual patients or clients, teaching at the undergraduate and/or graduate levels, and non-tenure track in nature. These positions shall be supported in large part by the provision of services, extramural research grants, and other non-appropriated funds and purely clinical appointments.

#### Section 4: Research Faculty

The Research Faculty of the University will include all persons with appointments as Research Professor, Associate Research Professor, Assistant Research Professor, and Post-Doctoral Scholars, are strictly non-tenure track and non-teaching in nature. This shall include Senior Research Appointments and Research Associate Appointments, which are disciplines that focus on research, scholarly, and technical activities. These positions shall be supported in large part by extramural research grants and contracts, and other non-appropriated funds.