

PUBLIC NOTICE AND AGENDA

FACULTY SENATE
Wednesday, March 27, 2024, 3 p.m.
Altgeld Hall Auditorium
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

IV. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 21, 2024, MINUTES – Pages 4-8

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. PROVOST’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIII. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

- A. Presentation of the Bob Lane Faculty Advocacy Award to
Professor Cindy S. York
Department of Educational Technology, Research and Assessment
Page 9
- B. [Faculty Mentoring](#) Update
Janice Hamlet, Associate Vice Provost for Faculty Mentoring and Diversity
- C. Open Scholarship
Bárbara González, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs
Fred Barnhart, Dean, University Libraries
Jaime Schumacher, Sr. Director Scholarly Communications, University Libraries

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A. Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws – Pages 10-14
Article 3.1, Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Article 6, Operating Procedures of the Faculty Senate
Article 7, Duties and Responsibilities of the Faculty Senate
SECOND READING/VOTE
Ben Creed, Faculty Senate President and FS Steering Committee Chair

- B. Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws – Pages 15-16
Article 3.5, Social Justice Committee
SECOND READING/VOTE
Ben Creed, Faculty Senate President and FS Social Justice Committee Convener

X. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. FS-UC Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – report
Emily McKee, FS/RGE Liaison/Spokesperson
1. 2024-25 President of Faculty Senate/Chair of University Council
Call for nominations – Page 17
 - Nominations will be taken from the Faculty Senate floor during the March 27 Faculty Senate meeting.
 - Letters of acceptance of nomination are due in the Office of Faculty Senate by Friday, April 12, and can be emailed to Pat Erickson at pje@niu.edu.
 - Letters of acceptance of nomination will be provided to Faculty Senate voting members via email by Wednesday, April 17, and also will be included in the April 24 Faculty Senate agenda packets.
 - Election of the 2024-25 Faculty Senate president/University Council chair will be held during the April 24 Faculty Senate meeting.
 2. Election of 2024-25 Non-Union Faculty and Staff Grievance Pool – A Qualtrics ballot will be distributed to FS tenured/tenure-track voting members following the meeting.
 3. Motion to approve Professor Tiffany Puckett, Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations, to serve as Linda Saborío’s alternate to the Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE during the 2024-25 academic year – Pages 18-21
- B. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – report
Linda Saborío, NIU representative to FAC-IBHE
Ben Creed, NIU representative alternate to FAC-IBHE
- C. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – report
Felicia Bohanon, Natasha Johnson, Ben Creed
Larissa Garcia, Karen Whedbee, Brad Cripe

- D. Baccalaureate Council – no report
Amanda Ferguson, Chair
Alicia Schatteman, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- E. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee – no report
- F. Social Justice Committee – no report
- G. Student Government Association – report
Chris English, Deputy Speaker of the Senate
Landon Larkin, SGA Treasurer
- H. Operating Staff Council – report
Natasha Johnson, President
Mandy Kreitzer, OSC Representative
- I. Supportive Professional Staff Council – report
Felicia Bohanon, President
John Boswell, SPSC Representative

XI. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. [Policy Library](#) – Comment on Proposed Policies
- B. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council
- C. [Minutes](#), Athletic Board
- D. [Minutes](#), Baccalaureate Council
- E. [Minutes](#), Board of Trustees
- F. [Minutes](#), Comm. on the Improvement of the Undergraduate Academic Experience
- G. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee
- H. [Minutes](#), Graduate Council
- I. [Minutes](#), Honors Committee
- J. [Minutes](#), Operating Staff Council
- K. [Minutes](#), Supportive Professional Staff Council
- L. [Minutes](#), University Assessment Panel
- M. [Minutes](#), University Benefits Committee
- N. [Minutes](#), Univ. Comm. on Advanced and Nonteaching Educator License Programs
- O. [Minutes](#), University Committee on Initial Educator Licensure
- P. 2023-24 FS schedule: Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Nov 29, Jan 24, Feb 21, Mar 27, Apr 24
- Q. [Spring Commencement](#)
Graduate School – Friday, May 10, 4 p.m.
Undergraduate – CLAS, CEET, CVPA – Saturday, May 11, 10 a.m.
Undergraduate – CEDU, CBUS, CHHS – Saturday, May 11, 2 p.m.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES

FACULTY SENATE

Wednesday, February 21, 2024, 3 p.m.

Altgeld Hall Auditorium, 2nd Floor

Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, Illinois

[Full transcript](#)

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Akst, Arado, Atkins, Barrett, Bohanon, Books, Boswell, Brain, Campbell, Creed, Duffin, English, Finch, Fotovat, Guzman, Hartenhoff, Ito, Johnson, Jong, Kim, Kupelian, Lampi, Larkin, Luo, Marsh, McGowan, McKee, Mellon, Mills, Naples, Nesterov, Nyunt, Palese, Porter, Qin, Ross, Rossetti, Salimi, Scanlon, Sharp, Sirotkin, Staikidis, Swedlow, Vahabzadeh, Valentiner, Wang, Whedbee, Zumanu

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Chomentowski, Demir, Harris, Kreitzer, Liberty, Martinez, Rajabi, Ruetsche, Slotsve, Van Wienen, Xie

OTHERS PRESENT: Bryan, Buhrow, Cormier, DeThorne, González, Pitney, Saborío, Schatteman, Sumner

OTHERS ABSENT: Cripe, Falkoff, Ferguson, Garcia, Hughes, Swingley

I. CALL TO ORDER

Faculty Senate (FS) President **B. Creed** called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was verified.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

F. Bohanon moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **C. Campbell**. Motion passed.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 24, 2024, MINUTES

T. Arado moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **B. McGowan**. Motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. PROVOST'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- A.** Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws
Article 4.8.1.6, University Assessment Panel – Administration Representation
SECOND READING and VOTE
Amy Buhrow, Assistant Vice Provost for Assessment and Accreditation

T. Atkins moved to approve the proposed amendment, seconded by **J. Lampi**.
Motion passed by the following vote:

YES – 36
NO – 4
ABSTAIN - 1

- B.** Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws
Article 3, Standing Committees of the Faculty Senate
Article 8, The Academic Personnel Process
Article 9, General Academic Personnel Procedures
SECOND READING and VOTE
Ben Creed, Faculty Senate President

T. Arado moved to approve the proposed amendment, seconded by **T. Atkins**.
Motion passed by the following vote:

YES – 31
NO – 9
ABSTAIN – 5

- C.** Bob Lane Award
Faculty Senate will vote on the recipient during the February 21 Faculty Senate meeting. The recipient will be honored at the March 27 Faculty Senate meeting.

1. Nomination
Professor Cindy York
Department of Educational Technology, Research and Assessment

B. McGowan moved to approve Professor Cindy York as the Bob Lane Faculty Advocacy Award recipient, seconded by **T. Atkins**. Motion passed by voice vote.

IX. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

- A. Higher Learning Commission Report
Amy Buhrow, Assistant Vice Provost of Assessment and Accreditation
- B. Budget Update
George Middlemist
Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer

X. NEW BUSINESS

- A. Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws
Article 3.1, Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Article 6, Operating Procedures of the Faculty Senate
Article 7, Duties and Responsibilities of the Faculty Senate
FIRST READING
Ben Creed, Faculty Senate President and FS Steering Committee Chair
- B. Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws
Article 3.5, Social Justice Committee
FIRST READING
Ben Creed, Faculty Senate President and FS Social Justice Committee Convener

XI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

- A. FS-UC Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – report
Emily McKee, FS/RGE Liaison/Spokesperson
 - 1. President of Faculty Senate/Chair of University Council 2024-25
Call for nominations
 - Nominations for the office of Faculty Senate president will be taken from the Faculty Senate floor during the March 27 Faculty Senate meeting. Faculty Senate voting members are asked to review the list being provided at this time and use the coming weeks to prepare for making nominations during the March 27 meeting.
 - Letters of acceptance of nomination will be due in the Office of Faculty Senate by Friday, April 12.
 - Letters of acceptance of nomination will be provided to Faculty Senate voting members via email by Wednesday, April 17, and also will be included in the April 24 Faculty Senate agenda packets.
 - Election of the 2024-25 Faculty Senate president/University Council chair will be held during the April 24 Faculty Senate meeting.

2. 2024-25 [Student Grievance Panel](#)

By-lot drawing of three tenured faculty members and three instructors to serve on the 2024-25 grievance panel for student grievances. Members serving on the panel might be called upon to review a student grievance should one be filed during the 2024-25 academic year.

- B. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – report
Linda Saborío, NIU representative to FAC-IBHE
Ben Creed, NIU representative alternate to FAC-IBHE
- C. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – report
Felicia Bohanon, Natasha Johnson, Ben Creed
Larissa Garcia, Karen Whedbee, Brad Cripe
- D. Baccalaureate Council – report
Amanda Ferguson, Chair
Alicia Schatteman, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- E. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee – no report
- F. Social Justice Committee – no report
- G. Student Government Association – report
Chris English, Deputy Speaker of the Senate
Landon Larkin, SGA Treasurer
- H. Operating Staff Council – no report
Natasha Johnson, President
Mandy Kreitzer, OSC Representative
- I. Supportive Professional Staff Council – report
Felicia Bohanon, President
John Boswell, SPSC Representative

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

- A. [Policy Library](#) – Comment on Proposed Policies
- B. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council
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- P. 2023-24 FS schedule: Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Nov 29, Jan 24, Feb 21, Mar 27, Apr 24

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

D. Valentiner moved to adjourn, seconded by **N. Johnson**. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:37 p.m.



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

**Department of Educational Technology,
Research and Assessment**

February 7, 2024

Dear Faculty Senate,

I'd like to nominate the ETRA department's Dr. Cindy York for the Bob Lane Faculty Service Award. This nomination is based on her tireless work on behalf of ETRA's faculty within NIU's College of Education. As one example of her faculty-centered activities, Dr. York is an active member of the DPC and has represented ETRA's interests on many other committees and working groups. As part of her service in these groups, Dr. York continues to remain vigilantly on guard to detect issues of concern to the faculty, representing their interests while also supporting our students and staff. She has been on the leading edge of defining faculty's role as NIU expands its online presence, and has also been a trailblazer in using, teaching, and considering the effects of Artificial Intelligence in the classroom.

For all of the above reasons, I can strongly recommend Dr. Cindy York for this recognition. Please feel free to reach out if I can provide any additional details.

With appreciation,

Hal Hinderliter, Ph.D.
Coordinator, General Education courses

Dep't. of Educational Technology, Research and Assessment
College of Education
Northern Illinois University
Email: hhinderliter1@niu.edu
<https://www.cedu.niu.edu/etra/>

Your Future. Our Focus.

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NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INSTITUTION.

Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws
Article 3.1, Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Article 6 Operating Procedures of the Faculty Senate
Article 7, Duties and Responsibilities of the Faculty Senate

Issues which fall within the Faculty Senates duties and responsibilities do not always occur within the academic year. However, the Faculty Senate has no mechanism to operate outside of the academic year. Other public universities in Illinois have bylaws which enable the Faculty Senate (or equivalent body) to convene and make decisions outside of the academic year, often by designating standing committees of the full body to act on its behalf. NIU's University Council has a mechanism to operate over the summer. This proposal seeks to enable the Faculty Senate to conduct its business when urgent matters arise outside of the academic year by delegating its authority to the Faculty Senate Steering Committee. Language has been added to clearly state Faculty Senate retains their right to review and reconsider any decisions taken by the Faculty Senate Steering Committee on behalf of the Faculty Senate.

FS Bylaws, Article 3.1 would designate the Faculty Senate Steering Committee to serve in this way and extends the terms of those serving on this committee to ensure continuity over the summer. FS Bylaws, Article 6.5 describes when the Faculty Senate Steering Committee is authorized to act on behalf of the Faculty Senate. Guidelines for calling and holding meetings are included, as is a requirement to notify all faculty senators prior to meeting. All actions taken outside of the academic year will be reported to the full Faculty Senate at the first regular meeting following such an action.

While precedence is that the Faculty Senate sets the academic calendar, this has never been codified in the FS Bylaws. After consultation with senior administration and the Faculty Senate Steering Committee, it is proposed to codify this responsibility as one of the Faculty Senate's responsibilities through the proposed amendment to FS Bylaws Article 7.3.

Revisions to the proposal, made per Faculty Senate first reading discussion, are shown in yellow highlighting.

ARTICLE 3: STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

3.1 Steering Committee

3.1.1 Composition

The Steering Committee shall be chaired by the president and shall consist of the following:

The chairs of the Faculty Senate standing committees;

The president and vice president;

With the advice and consent of the Faculty Senate, additional members shall be appointed by the president to include one instructor, one operating staff member, one supportive professional staff member, and one student member. In addition, the president shall assure that each degree-granting college and the University Libraries are appropriately represented.

3.1.2 Duties

3.1.2.1 The Steering Committee shall advise the president between meetings of the Faculty Senate.

3.1.2.2 The committee shall prepare the agenda for distribution to Faculty Senate members prior to meetings of the Faculty Senate.

3.1.2.3 The committee will act for, and on behalf of, the Faculty Senate on matters which require immediate action or attention outside the academic year calendar, within the parameters of FS Bylaws Article 6.5.

3.1.2.4 Terms for those serving on the committee will extend to the first day of the next academic year.

3.1.2.35 In addition, the committee shall perform other duties as are assigned to it.

ARTICLE 6: OPERATING PROCEDURES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

6.5 Operating Outside the Academic Year

In order for the Faculty Senate to fulfill its duties, advise the president and otherwise participate in the governance of the university, the Faculty Senate Steering Committee is authorized to act for, and on behalf of, the Faculty Senate on matters which require immediate action or attention outside the academic year calendar with the stipulations that:

6.5.1 The Faculty Senate president or any three members of the Faculty Senate Steering Committee may call a meeting to address matters requiring action outside of the academic year calendar.

6.5.2 The Faculty Senate Steering Committee will achieve quorum, the majority of which must be tenure-track faculty. If needed, alternates for the Steering Committee members will be selected by the president of the Faculty Senate.

6.5.3 All members of Faculty Senate will be directly notified at least 48 hours in advance when the Steering Committee is convening outside of the academic year, including a description of the business to be addressed.

6.5.4 Actions taken outside of the academic year will be reported to the full Faculty Senate at the first regular meeting of the Faculty Senate following such action. The Faculty Senate retains the right to reconsider any action taken outside of the academic year.

ARTICLE 7: DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

7.1 The Faculty Senate shall serve as the official voice of the faculty of Northern Illinois University and as the authoritative representative liaison body between the faculty and (1) the University Council, (2) the president of the university, (3) the executive vice president and provost, (4) other vice presidents with respect to their responsibilities affecting the faculty, and (5) the chair and the Board of Trustees. The Faculty Senate is the body empowered to act as an agent for the university faculty with the power to formulate policies regarding educational functions of the university.

7.2 In accordance with the Preamble and Article 7.3 of the University Constitution and the stated commitment to university governance as a shared process, the Faculty Senate shall serve the following purposes:

7.2.1 Faculty shall predominate in all policy decisions relating to the faculty personnel system, the university curriculum, and to policy decisions concerning admissions and academic policies and standards.

7.2.2 To promote the representation of the faculty in the governance of the university;

7.2.3 To encourage active faculty participation in the development of university policies and procedures;

7.2.4 To discuss and recommend as a Faculty Senate policies affecting the university as a whole;

7.2.5 To promote the welfare of the faculty and the university.

7.3 To achieve these purposes the specific functions of the Faculty Senate shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

7.3.1 To review academic policies, procedures, and practices at the university level, and to make recommendations on such matters to the appropriate administrative officers and governance bodies of the university;

7.3.2 To advance collective and individual faculty prerogatives in university policies and procedures;

7.3.3 To make recommendations on matters affecting faculty welfare;

7.3.4 To monitor and annually assess and report to the faculty and the administration the effectiveness of the faculty grievance processes;

7.3.5 To articulate and promulgate faculty positions on issues of general concern within and to the university;

7.3.6 To define and recommend mechanisms for faculty participation in university governance and in system-wide and state-wide issues;

7.3.7 To be consulted by and to advise the president of the university, the executive vice president and provost, and other appropriate university-wide administrative officers through mutually acceptable means on matters concerning university priorities, university budgets, university facilities, and university long-range planning, and on proposed changes in the administrative organizations of the university directly or primarily related to its academic mission.

7.3.8 To maintain an interactive liaison with those university shared-governance bodies established by the University Constitution and Bylaws, particularly the University Council, the Academic Planning Council, the Baccalaureate Council, and the Graduate Council;

7.3.9 To render advice and, if appropriate, act upon matters laid before it by the president of the university, other governance bodies of the university, or members of the faculty;

7.3.10 To elect faculty to serve on the University Advisory Committee (UAC) to the Board of Trustees and the Faculty Advisory Council to the Illinois Board of Higher Education.

7.3.11 To set the academic calendar, in consultation with the president, the executive vice president and provost, the chief human resource officer, and the university registrar.

Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws, Article 3.5 Social Justice Committee

The first change in this proposal is focused on representation on the Social Justice Committee. To ensure this committee includes sufficient representation from all constituencies without placing unfair burdens on particular faculty senators, this proposal allows the tenured/tenure track faculty senators from the University Libraries and the College of Law, as well as the clinical faculty representative, to determine if they would like to serve on this committee. Currently, there is only one tenured/tenure-track faculty representative from the University Libraries and the College of Law and one clinical faculty representative, which can lead to these members being overburdened by various Faculty Senate committee requirements.

The second change is to clarify language in 3.5.2.1 so the language is aligned with how actions take place within shared governance and to clarify that the five-year reviews are summative, not penultimate.

ARTICLE 3: STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

3.5 Social Justice Committee

3.5.1 Composition

The membership of the committee shall be Faculty Senate members appointed by the president of the Faculty Senate and approved by the Faculty Senate. One ~~faculty senator~~ tenured/tenure track faculty member will be appointed to the committee to represent each of the Colleges of Business, Education, Engineering and Engineering Technology, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences and Visual and Performing Arts, ~~as well as University Libraries and the College of Law.~~ A tenured/tenure track faculty member representing the College of Law and a tenured/tenure track faculty member representing University Libraries may be appointed upon their expression of interest in service on the committee. A faculty senator representing clinical faculty may be appointed upon their expression of interest in service on the committee. ~~A committee chair will be appointed from the tenured and tenure track faculty members.~~ In addition, one student, one instructor, one operating staff member, and one supportive professional staff member serving on Faculty Senate will also be appointed. A committee chair will be appointed from the tenured/tenure track faculty members.

3.5.2 Duties

The committee shall be a primary voice of tenured and tenure track faculty and advise the Faculty Senate on matters and issues to include:

3.5.2.1 Identify the intersecting structures contributing to racism, sexism, classism, ageism, transphobia, homophobia and ableism at NIU, particularly within policies, procedures and practices; and create strategic plans and take actions to correct them ~~with approval of Faculty Senate~~ operating within appropriate shared governance procedures. Evaluate progress on an annual basis with ~~penultimate~~ summative reviews every five years.

3.5.2.2 Coordinate and communicate with other campus entities to pursue social justice initiatives.

3.5.2.3 Report to Faculty Senate and provide guidance and input on issues related to institutional racism, diversity, equity and inclusion.

3.5.2.4 Facilitate discussions on social justice issues and community engagement for faculty, staff and students.

3.5.2.5 Work with relevant units/committees to strengthen anti-racism and social justice curriculum at NIU.

Faculty Eligible to Serve as 2024-25 President of Faculty Senate

Article 2: Officers of the Faculty Senate

2.1 The president of the Faculty Senate shall be elected as follows:

2.1.1 The initial selection of candidates for the office of president of the Faculty Senate shall take place at the third spring semester meeting of the Faculty Senate. Any Faculty Senate voting member may nominate or second the nomination of a candidate. To be qualified to serve, the candidate must be a tenured faculty voting member elected to the Faculty Senate for the current year and for the ensuing year.

Name	College	Department
Mark Mellon	BUS	Accountancy
Sarah Marsh	BUS	Management
Biagio Palese	BUS	Operations Management and Information Systems
Jodi Lampi	EDU	Curriculum and Instruction
Cynthia Campbell	EDU	Educational Technology, Research and Assessment
Peter Chomentowski	EDU	Kinesiology and Physical Education
Benjamin Creed	EDU	Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations
Lisa Liberty	EDU	Special and Early Education
Veysel Demir	EET	Electrical Engineering
Ziteng Wang	EET	Industrial and Systems Engineering
Sahar Vahabzadeh	EET	Mechanical Engineering
William Mills	EET	Engineering Technology
Sheila Barrett	HHS	Health Studies
Nahal Salimi	HHS	Interdisciplinary Health Professions
Therese Arado	LAW	Law
Emily McKee	LAS	Anthropology
Virginia Naples	LAS	Biological Sciences
Evgueni Nesterov	LAS	Chemistry and Biochemistry
Karen Whedbee	LAS	Communication
Kirk Duffin	LAS	Computer Science
Wei Luo	LAS	Earth, Atmosphere and Environment
George Slotsve	LAS	Economics
Mark Van Wienen	LAS	English
Taylor Atkins	LAS	History
Gleb Sirotkin	LAS	Mathematical Sciences
Alicia Finch	LAS	Philosophy
Yasuo Ito	LAS	Physics
Brendon Swedlow	LAS	Political Science
David Valentiner	LAS	Psychology
Shane Sharp	LAS	Sociology
Dennis Brain	LAS	World Languages and Cultures
Beth McGowan	ULIB	University Libraries
Kryssi Staikidis	VPA	Art and Design
Lori Hartenhoff	VPA	Theatre and Dance

March 21, 2024

Dear NIU Faculty Senate:

I am writing to express my sincere interest in serving as the university's alternate representative for the IBHE Faculty Advisory Council. As a dedicated faculty member and a passionate advocate for academic excellence, I believe I possess the qualities and experience necessary to contribute to the council's mission effectively. I am a proud NIU Alum and committed to ensuring that NIU is an excellent place for students, faculty, and staff. I am an associate professor at the College of Education and a faculty associate at the College of Law, where I teach education law. I am also a licensed Illinois attorney. Throughout my academic career, I have served on many different committees and projects that show my commitment to this university, including, but not limited to, the Presidential Commission on the Status of Disabilities, the College of Education Ad Hoc Committee to create the Dr. Gyant Mentoring program, and Faculty Senate alternate for Ben Creed. Please see the attachment with my credentials and service for the past three years.

I found out and became familiar with the role of the university representative to FAC while serving on the faculty senate. I have always been interested in hearing the reports from the FAC meetings provided by Linda Saborio. My position as an associate professor in the College of Education and a faculty associate at the College of Law has equipped me with a comprehensive understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing our faculty members, students, and administrative staff. I have actively engaged in initiatives to enhance academic programs, promote faculty development, and advocate for policies that prioritize the well-being and success of our university community.

I believe that the Faculty Advisory Council plays a crucial role in representing the interests and concerns of faculty members across the State of Illinois, and I would like to provide a voice for Northern Illinois University. If given the opportunity to serve on the council, I am committed to actively listening to my colleagues' diverse perspectives and working towards solutions that promote the advancement of our academic mission.

Respectfully submitted,



Tiffany Puckett, J.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor
Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations
College of Education

Faculty Associate
College of Law
Northern Illinois University
tpuckett@niu.edu

Tiffany Puckett, JD., Ph.D

EDUCATION

Ph.D.

Education Policy, Organization and Leadership

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois; May 2016

Dissertation: “Maryland Special Education Due Process Decisions: A closer look at the issues and outcomes” Christopher Lubienski (Chair)

J.D.

Law

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois; May 2000

Ed.M.

Education Policy Studies

University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois; May 2000

B.S.

Political Science

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL; May 1997

CERTIFICATES

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace Certificate, University of South Florida; May 2021

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

Associate Professor – Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations; August 2023 – Present

Assistant Professor – Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Foundations; August 2019 – August 2023

Courses taught:

- Education Law I
- Education Law II
- Education as an Agent for Change
- Policy Analysis for School Administrators
- Legal Issues in the Education of Diverse Learners
- Legal Aspects of School Business Management
- Special Education Law

Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL

Faculty Associate – College of Law (Contractually required to teach in the College of Law)

August 2020 to Present

Courses taught:

- Education Law

Asynchronous Courses/Workshop Developed

- Cultural Competence and Culturally Responsive Lawyering
- Understanding the Law Related to Business Practices – Business Entities Module

Illinois State University, Normal, IL

Assistant Professor (tenure track) – Legal Studies, Department of Politics and Government; August 2015 – May 2019

Courses taught:

- Real Estate Law
- Introduction to Law
- Legal Research and Writing
- Introduction to Business Transactions
- Family Law
- Litigation

Illinois State University, Normal, IL

Faculty Affiliate – Education Law/Leadership Courses - Department of Educational Administration and Foundations; Spring 2017, Summer 2017 & Summer 2018

Courses Taught:

- Education Law
- Leadership for Diverse Learners Needs

ACADEMIC SERVICE

Faculty Advisor, Black Law Students Association, Northern Illinois University College of Law, May 2023 – Present

Committee Member, AdHoc Mentoring Committee, College of Education, Northern Illinois University, November 2020 – May 2023

Committee Member, Elections & Academic Affairs Committee, Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Leadership, Northern Illinois University, August 2020 – Present

Faculty Senate, Northern Illinois University, August 2022 – August 2023

Committee Member, Curriculum Committee, Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Leadership, Northern Illinois University, August 2021 – May 2022

Member, Presidential Commission on the Status of Disabilities, Northern Illinois University; August 2020 – August 2023

Committee Member, Graduate Faculty Status Committee, Department of Leadership, Educational Psychology and Leadership, Northern Illinois University; August 2019 – May 2020

OTHER SERVICE

Committee Member, Standing Committee on Paralegals, American Bar Association, June 2023 – Present

Board Member, Education Law Association, November 2022 - Present

Board Member, Pro Bono Network, May 2020 – Present

Committee Member, Racial Equity Committee, Pro Bono Network, May 2020 – Present

Committee Member, Development Committee, Pro Bono Network, May 2020 – Present

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES, CERTIFICATES AND MEMBERSHIPS,

- Admitted to the State of Illinois Bar (Member since 2001)
- Education Law Association
- American Bar Association
- American Educational Research Association
- Black Doctoral Network
- Illinois Council of Educational Administration
- Illinois Principals Association
- Illinois Council of Professors of Education Administration