

# MINUTES

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

[Full transcript](#)

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Arado, Atkins, Books, Boswell, Brain, Campbell, Creed, Demir, Duffin, Ehsani (for Qin), Finch, Fotovat, Hartenhoff, Johnson, Jong, Kitner (for Guzman), Kupelian, Lampi, Larkin, Liberty, Luo, Marsh, McGowan, McKee, Mellon, Mills, Nesterov, Nyunt, Palese, Porter, Rossetti, Salimi, Sharp, Sirotkin, Staikidis, Vahabzadeh, Valentiner, Van Wienen, Whedbee, Zumanu

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Akst, Barrett, Bohanon, Chomentowski, English, Guzman, Harris, Ito, Kim, Kreitzer, Martinez, Naples, Qin, Rajabi, Ross, Ruetsche, Scanlon, Slotsve, Swedlow, Wang, Xie

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Barnhart, Bryan, González, Harris, Schumacher, Singh, Sumner

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

## **I. CALL TO ORDER**

Faculty Senate 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**

**K. Staikidis** moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **T. Arado**. Motion passed.

## **IV. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 21, 2024, MINUTES**

**D. Valentiner** moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **T. Arado**. Motion passed.

## **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
- 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**

Per FS Bylaws, Article 17.3, “To become effective, an amendment must be approved by a vote of two-thirds of those voting provided at least two-thirds of the voting members are present.” It was noted that Faculty Senate currently has 59 voting members seated, meaning that two-thirds, or 40 members, must be present in order to vote on the two scheduled proposed bylaw amendments. It was further determined that only 36 voting members were present. As a result, Items IX. A. and B. will be postponed to the April 24 Faculty Senate meeting.

- 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  
SECOND READING/VOTE  
Ben Creed, Faculty Senate President and FS Steering Committee Chair
- B. Proposed amendment to Faculty Senate Bylaws  
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

- 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](mailto: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.

**T. Arado** nominated Ben Creed, seconded by **K. Staikidis**. Hearing no other nominations, **E. McKee** closed the nominations.

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

**E. McKee** moved to approve Professor Tiffany Puckett to serve as Linda Saborío’s alternate for the 2024-25 academic year, seconded by **D. Valentiner**. Motion passed.

Yes – 34 votes  
 No – 1 vote  
 Abstain – 0 votes

- 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**

**T. Arado** moved to adjourn, seconded by **D. Valentiner**. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m.