

**PUBLIC NOTICE AND AGENDA**

**FACULTY SENATE**

**Wednesday, November 1, 2023, 3 p.m.**

**Altgeld Hall Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**

**Northern Illinois University**

**DeKalb, Illinois**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

**II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM**

**III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

**IV. APPROVAL OF THE OCTOBER 4, 2023, MINUTES – Pages 4-6**

**V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**VI. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VII. PROVOST’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

A. Proposal to amend Guidelines and Principles for Establishment of the Academic Calendar – Pages 7-8

Laurie Elish-Piper, Interim Executive Vice President and Provost

B. Proposal to amend 2023-24 academic calendar – Page 9

Laurie Elish-Piper, Interim Executive Vice President and Provost

**IX. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION**

A. HLC accreditation

Amy Buhrow, Assistant Vice Provost of Assessment and Accreditation

B. Multiyear budgeting: an overview of the process and faculty and staff engagement in the planning and implementation

Laurie Elish-Piper

Interim Executive Vice President and Provost

George Middlemist

Vice President for Administration and Finance and Chief Financial Officer

- C. Executive vice president and provost position description – feedback from Faculty Senate

Lisa Freeman, NIU President

Matt Streb, Chief Strategy Officer/Liaison for the Board of Trustees

Ben Creed, Faculty Senate President

## **X. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

- A. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – report  
Linda Saborío, NIU representative to FAC-IBHE
- B. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – no report  
Felicia Bohanon, Natasha Johnson, Ben Creed  
Larissa Garcia (Katy Jaekel fall 2023 alternate), Karen Whedbee, Brad Cripe
- C. Baccalaureate Council – report  
Amanda Ferguson, Chair  
Alicia Schatteman, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- D. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee – no report
- E. Social Justice Committee – report
- F. FS-UC Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – no report  
Emily McKee, FS/RGE Liaison/Spokesperson
- G. Student Government Association – report  
Olivia Newman, SGA President  
Cole Hensley, Speaker of the Senate
- H. Operating Staff Council – report  
Natasha Johnson, President
- I. Supportive Professional Staff Council – report  
Felicia Bohanon, President

## **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. [Fall 2023 Commencement](#)  
Graduate Commencement – Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023  
Undergraduate Commencement – Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023

## **XII. ADJOURNMENT**

## MINUTES

**FACULTY SENATE**  
**Wednesday, October 4, 2023, 3 p.m.**  
**Altgeld Hall Auditorium, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor**  
**Northern Illinois University**  
**DeKalb, Illinois**

[Full transcript](#)

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Arado, Atkins, Barrett, Bohanon, Books, Boswell, Brain, Campbell, Chomentowski, Coulter (for Rossetti), Creed, Demir, Duffin, Finch, Fotovat, Guzman, Harris, Hartenhoff, Ito, Johnson, Jong, Kim, Lampi, Liberty, Luo, Marsh, Martinez, McGowan, McKee, Mellon, Morris (for Geisler), Naples, Nyunt, Porter, Qin, Rajabi, Ross, Salehinia (for Vahabzadeh), Salimi, Scanlon, Sharp, Sirotkin, Slotsve, Staikidis, Swedlow, Vahedian, Valentiner, Van Wienen, Wang, Whedbee, Xie

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Graves, Nesterov, Rossetti, Vaezi, Vahabzadeh

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Bryan, Elish-Piper, Falkoff, González, Hughes, Olson, Paquette, Saborío, Sumner, Swingley

**OTHERS ABSENT:** Cripe, Ferguson, Jaekel

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

Faculty Senate (FS) President **B. Creed** called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

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

A quorum was verified.

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

**D. Valentiner** moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **S. Marsh**. Motion passed.

### **IV. APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER 6, 2023, MINUTES**

**N. Johnson** moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **P. Chomentowski**. Motion passed.

### **V. PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **VI. FACULTY SENATE PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VII. PROVOST'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**VIII. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION**

- A. Faculty Affairs Priorities for this Academic Year  
Bárbara González, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs
- B. Mental Health Early Action on Campus Act – Update  
Tim Paquette, Director of Counseling and Consultative Services  
Kelly Olson, AVP Student Development and Dean of Students

**IX. NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Approve Professor Therese Arado to serve as a faculty representative on the 2023-24 University Fee Advisory Group

Faculty Senate approved the appointment of **T. Arado** to serve as a faculty representative on the 2023-24 University Fee Advisory Group by voice vote.

**X. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES**

- A. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – report  
Linda Saborío, NIU representative to FAC-IBHE
  - 1. What are some of NIU's university-wide or college-specific requirements for graduation, other than general education and major courses? A few examples are the COB Business Passport program, a writing infused course and the human diversity requirement.
- B. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – report  
Felicia Bohanon, Natasha Johnson, Ben Creed  
Larissa Garcia (Katy Jaekel fall 2023 alternate), Karen Whedbee, Brad Cripe
- C. Baccalaureate Council – no report  
Amanda Ferguson, Chair  
Alicia Schatteman, Vice Provost for Academic Affairs
- D. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee – no report
- E. Social Justice Committee – report
  - 1. [2022-23 Year End Report](#)
- F. FS-UC Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – no report  
Emily McKee, FS/RGE Liaison/Spokesperson

- G. Student Government Association – report  
Olivia Newman, SGA President  
Cole Hensley, Speaker of the Senate
- H. Operating Staff Council – no report  
Natasha Johnson, President
- I. Supportive Professional Staff Council – report  
Felicia Bohanon, President

## 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](#), Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
- G. [Minutes](#), Comm. on the Improvement of the Undergraduate Academic Experience
- H. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee
- I. [Minutes](#), Graduate Council
- J. [Minutes](#), Honors Committee
- K. [Minutes](#), Operating Staff Council
- L. [Minutes](#), Supportive Professional Staff Council
- M. [Minutes](#), University Assessment Panel
- N. [Minutes](#), University Benefits Committee
- O. [Minutes](#), Univ. Comm. on Advanced and Nonteaching Educator License Programs
- P. [Minutes](#), University Committee on Initial Educator Licensure
- Q. [2022-23 Annual Reports](#)
- R. 2023-24 FS schedule: Sep 6, Oct 4, Nov 1, Nov 29, Jan 24, Feb 21, Mar 27, Apr 24
- S. [University Benefits Committee](#) – seeking one tenured/tenure-track faculty member of Faculty Senate to serve on this committee, which meets virtually on the first Thursday of the month at 1 p.m. Contact Pat Erickson at [pje@niu.edu](mailto:pje@niu.edu) if you can help.
- T. Annual call for [honorary doctoral degree nominations](#); materials must be submitted by Friday, Oct. 27.
- U. [Fall 2023 Commencement](#)  
Graduate Commencement – Saturday, Dec. 16, 2023  
Undergraduate Commencement – Sunday, Dec. 17, 2023

## XII. ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting adjourned at 4:07 p.m.

## **Proposal to amend Guidelines and Principles for Establishment of the Academic Calendar**

Clarification of SB2123 from Illinois State Senate staff has revealed that the holiday language relative to Illinois general election day does not apply to colleges and universities. As a result, reference to this leave day in item 5, student-faculty vacation periods and holidays, is proposed to be removed, in order to align with Illinois state law.

### **GUIDELINES AND PRINCIPLES FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ACADEMIC CALENDAR**

1. Instruction in the fall semester will begin on the last Monday in August and end on a Saturday in December that falls between December 5 and 11. Final examinations for the fall semester will begin on the first Monday after the last day of classes and conclude on Saturday of that same week. Dates for the first day of examinations will range from December 8 to 14.

If the last Monday in August is August 29, 30 or 31, the instruction for that fall semester will begin on the fourth Monday in August and conclude on the first Saturday in December. In any of these events, final examinations will run from December 5 to 10, December 6 to 11, or December 7 to 12, respectively. Graduate commencement will be held on the Saturday that is the last day of final examination week. Undergraduate commencement will be held on the next day, which is the Sunday immediately following final examination week.

2. Instruction in the spring semester will begin on the second or third Monday in January that falls between January 11 and 17, unless this date coincides with Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday (the third Monday in January). In such an event, instruction will begin on the Tuesday following Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday. The spring semester will conclude on a Thursday that falls between April 30 (April 29 in some leap years) and May 6. The Friday immediately after the last day of classes will be Reading Day.

University Honors Day will be included in the academic calendar so as to occur each spring on the second Sunday prior to Reading Day (two weeks before the end of the spring semester). In those years when this date is also Easter Sunday, University Honors Day will be scheduled on the third Sunday prior to Reading Day.

Final examinations for the spring semester will begin on the first Saturday after Reading Day and continue Monday through Friday of the next week. Graduate commencement will be held on the Friday that is the last day of final examination week. Undergraduate commencement will be held on the next day, which is the Saturday immediately following final examination week.

3. Fall and spring semesters will formally begin one week prior to the beginning of classes and conclude within one week after final examinations. When classes start on Monday, August 22, faculty meeting week will be adjusted to take place from Tuesday to Friday, August 16 to 19, in order to comply with nine-month faculty contracts (which begin August 16 and conclude May 15).
4. Summer session will begin on the sixth Monday after final examinations of the spring semester and conclude on a Sunday, eight weeks later. Some academic departments may offer limited enrollments in workshops, field trips, or other classes during the four weeks prior to the traditional start of the summer session.
5. Student-faculty vacation periods and holidays will include:

~~Election Day – during years when a general election is held (every two years), occurring on the Tuesday next after the first Monday in the month of November, within November 2 to November 8.~~

Thanksgiving – the Wednesday prior to the fourth Thursday through Sunday

Period between Christmas and New Years – university usually closed

Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday – the third Monday in January

Spring recess – the ninth week after the beginning of classes, Sunday - Sunday

Memorial Day – observed the last Monday in May

Juneteenth – one day only, observed on Friday when June 19 occurs on Saturday and observed on Monday when June 19 occurs on Sunday

Independence Day – one day only, observed on Friday when July 4 occurs on Saturday and observed on Monday when July 4 occurs on Sunday

Labor Day – the first Monday in September

6. The academic calendar for the College of Law will conform to the student-faculty vacation periods and holidays in section 5, as amended from time to time, but may otherwise vary from the above guidelines and principles.

These guidelines will provide the necessary 35 days between the end of pre-registration in the fall and the first day of registration in the spring; provide the requested one-week recess between the end of the summer session and the first contract day for faculty in the fall; and allow early access to the summer job market in May for NIU students.

*Approved by the University Council April 12, 1978; revised and approved on May 2, 1979; revised and approved on May 2, 1984; revised and approved on March 9, 1988; revised and approved March 20, 1996; revised and approved March 18, 1998; revised and approved February 12, 2003; revised and approved February 16, 2011; revised and approved February 22, 2012; revised and approved April 3, 2013; revised and approved by Faculty Senate February 23, 2022.*



## Proposal to Amend 2023-24 Academic Calendar

### Academic Calendar for 2023-24

The NIU 2024 holiday schedule includes the Independence Day holiday on Thursday, July 4, 2024, and an administrative closure day on Friday, July 5, 2024. In order to align with the NIU 2024 holiday schedule, it is proposed to add the administrative closure day of Friday, July 5, 2024, to the 2023-24 academic calendar. While most summer session classes do not typically meet on Friday, there are some, particularly cohort programs, that do meet on Friday. As a result, the advice is to amend the 2023-24 academic calendar to avoid potential confusion.

### ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2023 – 2024

<b>FALL SEMESTER 2023</b>		
August 21-25	Monday - Friday	Faculty meetings
August 28	Monday	Classes begin
September 4	Monday	Labor Day (university closed)
November 22	Wednesday	Thanksgiving break begins
November 27	Monday	Classes resume
December 9	Saturday	Classes end
December 11-16	Monday - Saturday	Final examinations
December 16	Saturday	Fall graduate commencement
December 17	Sunday	Fall undergraduate commencement
<b>SPRING SEMESTER 2024</b>		
January 8-12	Monday - Friday	Faculty meetings
January 15	Monday	Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday (university closed)
January 16	Tuesday	Classes begin
March 10-17	Sunday - Sunday	Spring recess
March 18	Monday	Classes resume
April 21	Sunday	Honors Day
May 2	Thursday	Classes end
May 3	Friday	Reading Day
May 4, 6-10	Saturday, Monday - Friday	Final examinations
May 10	Friday	Spring graduate commencement
May 11	Saturday	Spring undergraduate commencement
<b>SUMMER SEMESTER 2024</b>		
June 17	Monday	Classes begin
June 19	Wednesday	Juneteenth (university closed)
July 4	Thursday	Independence Day (university closed)
July 5	Friday	Administrative closure (university closed)
August 11	Sunday	Summer session ends