

MINUTES

FACULTY SENATE

Wednesday, November 29, 2023, 3 p.m.

Altgeld Hall Auditorium, 2nd Floor

Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, Illinois

[Full transcript](#)

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Akst, Arado, Barrett, Bohanon, Books, Boswell, Brain, Campbell, Corpuz, Creed, Demir, Duffin, English, Finch, Fotovat, Guzman, Hartenhoff, Ito, Johnson, Jong, Kim, Kreitzer, Liberty, Luo, Marsh, McGowan, McKee, Mellon, Montana (for Atkins), Nesterov, Nyunt, Porter, Qin, Rajabi, Rossetti, Salehinia (for Vahabzadeh), Salimi, Scanlon, Sharp, Slotsve, Swedlow, Vahedian, Valentiner, Van Wienen, Wang, Whedbee, Xie

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Atkins, Chomentowski, Graves, Harris, Lampi, Martinez, Naples, Ross, Ruetsche, Sirotkin, Staikidis, Vaezi, Vahabzadeh

OTHERS PRESENT: Bryan, Elish-Piper, Falkoff, Fiala, Flynn, Hughes, Middlemist, Perry, Pitney, Saborío, Silva Tovar, Sumner, Swingley

OTHERS ABSENT: Cripe, Ferguson, Jaekel

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

T. Arado moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **D. Valentiner**. Motion passed.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE NOVEMBER 1, 2023, MINUTES

T. Arado moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **S. Marsh**. Motion passed.

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 and selected academic calendars and to recommend that General Election Day be designated as an administrative closure day on University Holiday Schedules

E. Nesterov moved to approve the proposal, seconded by **B. McGowan**. Voting on the motion was intended to take place using Turning Technologies clickers, however, the software program malfunctioned. **M. Van Wienen** moved to use voice vote, seconded by **D. Valentiner**. The motion to use voice vote passed. The motion to approve the proposal passed by voice vote.

IX. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

- A. Supreme Court Decision on Affirmative Action and its Impact on NIU
Bryan Perry, Vice President and General Counsel
- B. Academic Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: It's All in the Name
Carol Sumner, Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer
Jade Silva Tovar, Assistant Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
Joe Flynn, Executive Director Equity and Inclusion

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 – 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 – report
- E. Social Justice Committee – no 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
- J. University Benefits Committee – report
Cynthia Campbell, FS Liaison

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

D. Valentiner moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:16 p.m.