

MINUTES

Faculty Senate Steering Committee
Wednesday, February 14, 2024, 3:30 p.m.
Altgeld Hall 225
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois

VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT: Arado, Boswell, Creed, English, Ito, Johnson (for Kreitzer), Kim, Marsh, McGowan

VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Kreitzer

I. CALL TO ORDER

Faculty Senate (FS) President **B. Creed** called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was verified.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Y. Ito moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **S. Marsh**. Motion passed.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 17, 2024, MINUTES

I. Kim moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **S. Marsh**. Motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. ITEMS FOR FS STEERING COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

A. Operating outside the academic year – discussion and recommendation

B. McGowan moved to approve the proposed amendment to go forward to Faculty Senate for consideration, seconded by **C. English**. Discussion included the following points:

- A question was raised regarding the Student Government Association (SGA) representative serving during the summer. In cases where the student graduates in spring, that student would no longer be an NIU student and, thus, ineligible to fill the FS Steering Committee seat. It was determined that,

per proposed Article 6.5.2, in this situation, the FS president would be allowed to work with SGA leadership to identify an alternate.

- A friendly amendment was proposed and accepted that language in proposed Article 6.5.3 be updated as follows: “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.”

Motion passed.

B. Academic calendar authority – discussion and recommendation

S. Marsh moved to approve the proposed amendment to go forward to Faculty Senate for consideration, seconded by **T. Arado**. Motion passed.

VII. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF FACULTY SENATE DRAFT AGENDA – attached packet

T. Arado moved to approve the draft FS agenda, seconded by **S. Marsh**. Discussion included the following points:

- Proposed amendment to FS Bylaws, Article 4.8.1.6, University Assessment Panel – Administration Representation, will be presented for a second reading and vote.
- Proposed amendment to FS Bylaws, Articles 3, 8 and 9, encompassing updates to the tenure and promotion system, as well as the inclusion of a process for clinical and research faculty promotion, will be presented for a second reading and vote.

A possible typographical error was pointed out at Article 8.3.1.1: Should “or Librarianship” really be crossed out? There was consensus that this was likely a clerical error, and the language in question will be restored.

- One Bob Lane Award nomination has been received and will be presented to FS for approval.
- Two presentations are anticipated:
 - Higher Learning Commission Report by Amy Buhrow, Assistant Vice Provost of Assessment and Accreditation
 - Budget Update – George Middlemist, Vice President for Administration and Finance, Chief Financial Officer

- Proposed amendment to FS Bylaws, Articles 3, 6 and 7, encompassing procedures by which the FS Steering Committee can act on behalf of Faculty Senate outside of the academic year and also acknowledging Faculty Senate's role in setting the academic calendar will be presented for a first reading, per FS Steering Committee approval in item VIII A and B above.
- Proposed amendment to FS Bylaws, Article 3.5, Social Justice Committee, will be presented for a first reading.
- Reports are anticipated from FS-UC Rules, Governance and Elections Committee, Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE, University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees, Baccalaureate Council, Student Government Association and Supportive Professional Staff Council.

Motion to approve the draft agenda per above discussion passed.

VIII. 2023-24 FS STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

Aug 30, Sep 27, Oct 25, Nov 15, Jan 17, Feb 14, Mar 20, Apr 17

IX. ADJOURNMENT

N. Johnson moved to adjourn, seconded by **T. Arado**. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.