MINUTES
FS FACULTY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES COMMITTEE

**Thursday, October 24, 2024, 12:30 p.m.**

**Altgeld Hall 125**

**Northern Illinois University**

**DeKalb, Illinois**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Arado, Brain, Campbell, Mills (for Wang), Novak (for Hartenhoff), Thomas

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Hartenhoff, Rajabi, Wang

**I. Call to Order**

Faculty Senate (FS) Faculty Rights and Responsibilities (FRR) Committee Chair **T. Arado** called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

**II. Verification of Quorum**

A quorum was verified.

**III. Adoption of the Agenda**

 **C. Campbell** moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **J. Novak.** Motion passed.

**IV. Approval of the November 6, 2023, Minutes**

**D. Brain** moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **C. Campbell**. Motion passed.

**V. Public Comment**

**VI. Items for FS Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee Consideration**

A. NIU definition of academic freedom

B. Initial review of [FS Bylaws, Article 14](https://www.niu.edu/university-council/faculty-senate/bylaws/index.shtml#article14), Grievance Procedures for Violations of Academic Freedom

The committee members engaged in a discussion of academic freedom on the NIU campus, including its definition and procedures related to academic freedom challenges.

The committee will engage their constituents to gather additional information related to the interpretation and application of academic freedom at NIU.

Members were encouraged to speak to their constituents on several topics:

* Are there times when NIU’s academic freedom policy has been inadequate?
* What do we say academic freedom is, and are we living up to it at NIU?

The committee will look at FS Bylaws Article 14 for sufficiency. Recommendations, if any are needed, will be made for improving the process.

**T. Arado** will share additional resources with the committee members following the meeting.

**P. Erickson** will research when the last time FS Bylaws Article 14 was amended.

**VII. Unfinished Business**

**VIII. New Business**

**IX. Adjournment**

**J. Novak** moved to adjourn, seconded by **C. Campbell**. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.