MINUTES
FS FACULTY RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, December 11, 2024, 3 p.m.**

**Altgeld Hall 225**

**Northern Illinois University**

**DeKalb, Illinois**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Arado, Brain, Campbell, Cefaratti (for Rajabi), Hartenhoff, Wang

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rajabi, Thomas

**I. Call to Order**

Faculty Senate Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee Chair **T. Arado** called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

**II. Verification of Quorum**

A quorum was verified.

**III. Adoption of the Agenda**

**C. Campbell** moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **Z. Wang.** Motion passed.

**IV. Approval of the October 24, 2024, Minutes**

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

**V. Public Comment**

**D. Valentiner** presented a public comment.

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

A. Continued discussion of meaning of academic freedom at NIU

Committee members were reminded of the charge to review NIU’s procedures relative to academic freedom and determine if they are still relevant or in need of updating.

Questions/issues raised at the last meeting were addressed:

* The decision reached through the grievance procedures for violation of academic freedom outlined in FS Bylaws Article 14 is final; there is no process for appeal.
* Resource people who might address the committee include: Ombudsperson Sandy Cox, Chief of Staff Matt Stret, Deputy General Counsel Greg Brady.
* The committee is not charged with reviewing freedom of expression, which is different than academic freedom.

 B. Identification of next steps

* Reach out to potential resource people.
* Review FS Bylaws Article 14.
* Continue seeking feedback from constituents.
* Meet monthly, 3:15-4:15 p.m., on the following spring semester dates: February 5, March 5, April 9, May 7.

**IX. Adjournment**

**L. Hartenhoff** moved to adjourn, seconded by **Z. Wang.** Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.