MINUTES – FS SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, March 5, 2025, 3 p.m.**

**Altgeld Hall 125**

**Northern Illinois University**

**DeKalb, Illinois**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Alex, Atkins,Corpuz, Liberty, McGowan, Palese, Salimi, Staikidis, Stalcup, Vahabzadeh

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Bohanon

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Abreu,Creed, Elish-Piper, Johnson, Skuzinski

**I. Call to Order**

Faculty Senate (FS) President **B. Creed** called the meeting to order at 3 pm.

**II. Verification of Quorum**

A quorum was verified.

**III. Adoption of the Agenda**

**T. Atkins** moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **B. McGowan**. Motion passed.

**IV. Approval of the February 5, 2025, Minutes**

**B. McGowan** moved to approve the minutes, seconded by **S. Stalcup**. Motion passed.

**V. Public Comment**

**VI. Items for FS Social Justice Committee Consideration**

1. Academic Center Representation

Christina Abreu, Director of the Center for Latino and Latin American Studies

Laura Johnson, Acting Director of the Center for Nonprofit and NGO Studies

Thomas Skuzinski, Director of the Institute for the Study of Environment, Sustainability and Energy

A presentation was shared by three directors of the research centers/institutes with degree programs. The presentation included information about the roles the centers/institutes play on campus, the number of faculty associated with the centers, the number of students engaged in their programming, and relevant information related to how they are both similar to, and different from, departments and schools. Discussion focused on considerations of representation in the Faculty Senate and, in the future, on standing committees of the Faculty Senate.

**VII. Unfinished Business**

A. Learning from faculty about systemic issues – update

Ben Creed, FS President

An update on these efforts was shared along with additional resources. There are three areas for survey question development – FSSJC members were asked to engage in one of them.

B. Reviewing FS Bylaws for inclusive language – update

Ben Creed, FS President

No discussion on this topic; will pick up next meeting.

**VIII. New Business**

**IX. Adjournment**

**L. Liberty** moved to adjourn, seconded by **B. Palese**. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.