MINUTES – FS SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

**Wednesday, May 7, 2025, 3 p.m.**

**Altgeld Hall 125**

**Northern Illinois University**

**DeKalb, Illinois**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Liberty, Palese, Salimi, Slagstad (for Alex), Staikidis, Stalcup

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Alex,Atkins,Bohanon, Corpuz, McGowan, Vahabzadeh

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Creed, Elish-Piper, Sumner

**I. Call to Order**

Faculty Senate (FS) President **B. Creed** called to order at 3:02 p.m.

**II. Verification of Quorum**

A quorum was verified

**III. Adoption of the Agenda**

**B. Palese** moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by **S. Stalcup**. Motion passed.

**IV. Approval of the April 9, 2025, Minutes**

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

**V. Public Comment**

**VI. Unfinished Business**  
A. Learning from faculty about systemic issues – update

Ben Creed, FS President

Four listening sessions were held with approximately 30 faculty attending. The main themes and topics were shared. A survey was distributed to all new-to-NIU faculty, inclusive of those at the assistant professor rank and those who have been hired with in the last three years at the associate or full professor rank. This data will be considered by the FS, FS Social Justice Committee (SJC) and the FS president to guide action and efforts in the new academic year.

B. Reviewing FS Bylaws for inclusive language – update

Ben Creed, FS President

This will be part of the year-end report, which will be shared with the incoming FSSJC members in academic year 2025-26

C. Developing topic calendar for FSSJC in AY2025-26 – update

Ben Creed, FS President

The eight topics for consideration were discussed, with results from a survey rank ordering them, central to the conversation. The top three topics are: an academic equity report on student data, learning from college level work, and a faculty retention and progress report. The full results will be shared with the FSSJC members for academic year 2025-26 consideration.

**VII. Adjournment**

**L. Liberty** moved to adjourn, seconded by **K. Staikidis**. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.