PUBLIC NOTICE AND AGENDA

University Council
Wednesday, March 31, 2021, 3 p.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois

All University Council members will receive an Outlook invitation to this Teams meeting. Others wishing to join the meeting, please send your request to Pat Erickson at pje@niu.edu.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

IV. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 24, 2021 MINUTES – Pages 3-5

V. PUBLIC COMMENT

VI. NIU PRESIDENT LISA FREEMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. ITEMS FOR UNIVERSITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

A. Budget report
   President Lisa Freeman
   Provost Beth Ingram
   CFO Sarah Chinniah

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

IX. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed amendment to NIU Constitution, Article 6.1.1, Definition of University Faculty – Pages 6-7
   SECOND READING/VOTE

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Ombudsperson Penultimate Year Review/Recommendation – Page 8
   Katy Jaekel, Chair, Ombudsperson Review Committee

B. Advancing Administrative Efficiency – Update
   Chris McCord, Senior Advisor to the Vice President, Administration and Finance
XI. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – Linda Saborío – report

B. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – report
   Natasha Johnson, Catherine Doederlein, Kendall Thu
   Katy Jaekel, Sarah Marsh, Greg Beyer

C. Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – no report
   Therese Arado, Chair

D. Student Government Association – report
   Antonio Johnson, President
   Bradley Beyer, Speaker of the Senate

E. Operating Staff Council – Natasha Johnson, President – report

F. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Catherine Doederlein, President – report

XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Policy Library – Comment on Proposed Policies (right-hand column on web page)
B. Minutes, Academic Planning Council
C. Minutes, Athletic Board
D. Minutes, Baccalaureate Council
E. Minutes, Board of Trustees
F. Minutes, Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
G. Minutes, Comm. on the Improvement of the Undergraduate Academic Experience
H. Minutes, General Education Committee
I. Minutes, Graduate Council
J. Minutes, Honors Committee
K. Minutes, Operating Staff Council
L. Minutes, Supportive Professional Staff Council
M. Minutes, University Assessment Panel
N. Minutes, University Benefits Committee
O. Minutes, Univ. Comm. on Advanced and Nonteaching Educator License Programs
P. Minutes, University Committee on Initial Educator Licensure
Q. UC 2020-21 dates: Sep 9, Oct 7, Nov 4, Dec 2, Jan 27, Feb 24, Mar 31, Apr 28
   All 2020-21 UC meetings will be held via Microsoft Teams. The Teams meeting link and
   the agendas will typically be sent via email on the Friday preceding the UC meeting.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT
MINUTES
University Council
Wednesday, February 24, 2021, 3 p.m.
Microsoft Teams Meeting
Northern Illinois University
DeKalb, Illinois

All University Council members will receive an Outlook invitation to this Teams meeting. Others wishing to join the meeting, please send your request to Pat Erickson at pje@niu.edu.

Full transcript


VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT: Cripe, Narayanan

OTHERS PRESENT: Barnhart, Blazey, Boston, Bryan, Edghill-Walden, Elish-Piper, Falkoff, Gregory, Heckmann, Hendricks, Henry, Hulseberg, Hunt, Jensen, Klaper, McEvoy, Meyer, Miner, Moyer, Oxenard, Rhode, Saborío, Thu, Wesener Michael, Williams, Wright, Yates

I. CALL TO ORDER

Provost B. Ingram called the meeting to order at 3 p.m.

II. VERIFICATION OF QUORUM

A quorum was verified.

III. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

L. Garcia moved to adopt the agenda, seconded by T. Arado. Motion passed.

IV. APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 27, 2021 MINUTES – Pages 3-5

T. Arado moved to approve the minutes, seconded by C. Doederlein. Motion passed.

V. PUBLIC COMMENT
VI. ITEMS FOR UNIVERSITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

A. Campus Planning in Support of University Priorities
   John Heckmann
   Associate Vice President Facilities Management and Campus Services

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

VIII. REPORTS FROM COUNCILS, BOARDS AND STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Faculty Advisory Council to the IBHE – Linda Saborio – report

B. University Advisory Committee to the Board of Trustees – report
   Natasha Johnson, Catherine Doederlein, Kendall Thu
   Katy Jaekel, Sarah Marsh, Greg Beyer

C. Rules, Governance and Elections Committee – no report
   Therese Arado, Chair

D. Student Government Association – report
   Antonio Johnson, President
   Bradley Beyer, Speaker of the Senate

E. Operating Staff Council – Natasha Johnson, President – report

F. Supportive Professional Staff Council – Catherine Doederlein, President – report

IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

X. NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed amendment to NIU Constitution, Article 6.1.1,
   Definition of University Faculty – Pages 6-7
   FIRST READING

B. Approval of the Chief Human Resource Officer Search Committee structure –
   Page 8

   T. Arado moved to approve the CHRO Search Committee structure, seconded by L.
   Garcia. Motion passed.

   Yes – 22
   No – 0
   Abstain – 0

XI. NIU PRESIDENT LISA FREEMAN’S ANNOUNCEMENTS
XII. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Policy Library – Comment on Proposed Policies (right-hand column on web page)
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XIII. ADJOURNMENT

T. Arado moved to adjourn, seconded by B. Beyer. Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m.
Proposed amendment to NIU Constitution, Article 6.1.1

Definitions of various research and teaching employees at NIU are not consistently articulated in the NIU Constitution, NIU Bylaws, and BOT Bylaws and Regulations. This clarifies and defines the four categories providing a foundation for the use of these terms in NIU Bylaws and Faculty Senate Bylaws, and provides guidance for colleges and departments.

Article 6: Faculties, Standing Committees, Councils and Boards of the Faculty and Administration

6.1 The University

6.1.1 Definitions of University Faculty

The university faculty shall consist of all full time staff members holding the ranks of professor, associate professor, assistant professor, instructor, or clinical faculty. The instructional and research core of the university shall consist of five categories of members hereinafter referred to as: 1) tenure track faculty, 2) instructional faculty, 3) clinical faculty, 4) research faculty, and 5) limited term faculty. The definitions of each category below serves to inform shared governance rights and responsibilities.

6.1.1.1 Tenure Track Faculty

The tenure track faculty of the university includes the tenure/tenure eligible faculty of the university who have appointments as professor, associate professor, assistant professor, departmental chairpersons and professional librarians other than the dean of the University Libraries. Also included are part-time faculty who hold positions at Northern Illinois University in conjunction with positions at an external affiliate institution as approved by the provost.

6.1.1.2 Instructional Faculty

The instructional faculty of the university includes instructors, adjuncts, lecturers, associate lecturers, and assistant lecturers. This would also include faculty with a limited contractual relationship with the university, including part-time and non-compensatory faculty.

6.1.1.3 Clinical Faculty

The clinical faculty of the university includes all persons with appointments as clinical professor, associate clinical professor, assistant clinical professor and clinical instructor. The primary responsibilities of faculty in this category are clinical supervision or clinical instruction, oversight or delivery of professional services to individual patients or clients.
6.1.1.4 Research Faculty
The research faculty of the university will include all persons with appointments as research professor, associate research professor, and assistant research professor and include other appointments that are focused on research, scholarly, and technical activities.

6.1.1.5 Limited-Term Faculty
Other faculty positions include those that have limited-term appointments, including adjuncts, visiting faculty, post-doctoral fellows and other affiliated faculty. These positions may be engaged in the research, teaching or engagement missions of the university, but with time-limited association with the university and minimal roles and privileges.
Date: March 31, 2021

To: Dr. Lisa Freeman, President

From: Dr. Katy S. Jaekel
Associate Professor, Higher Education
Chair, University Council Ombudsperson Review Committee

Cc: Ms. Sarah Klaper, Ombudsperson

Re: Penultimate-Year Ombudsperson Review Committee

It is my privilege to inform you regarding the penultimate-year evaluation of Ms. Sarah Klaper, the university ombudsperson, and the recommendation of the Ombudsperson Review Committee.

Article 11.5.2 of the NIU Bylaws articulates that in the beginning of the penultimate year of an incumbent’s term of office, if the ombudsperson wishes to be considered for reappointment, a comprehensive review shall be conducted. In the Fall 2020 semester, Ms. Sarah Klaper expressed the desire to be reappointed for another term, and therefore, an Ombudsperson Review Committee was established as per NIU Bylaws article 11.5.2 which followed the guidelines in Article 11.5.2.2(A):

“When the ombudsperson wishes to be considered for another term, the committee shall conduct a review of the ombudsperson's performance in office, using the operative job description for the office as a guide. The committee shall provide appropriate opportunities for input from members of the university community. Upon conclusion of its review, the committee shall make its recommendation regarding reappointment to the University Council, and such recommendation shall be subject to University Council approval. The University Council-approved recommendation shall then be communicated to the president prior to the end of the penultimate year of the ombudsperson’s term.”

The Ombudsperson Review Committee conducted a university-wide survey during the Spring 2021 semester to receive input in accordance with Article 11 of NIU Bylaws, and the ombudsperson’s 2019-2020 annual report was shared with all participants along with the survey. Along with survey responses, the review committee reviewed Ms. Klaper’s previous performance evaluations as well as past annual reports. It is clear from the results of the penultimate-year evaluation survey and the review of annual reports, Ms. Klaper is performing her role as NIU’s ombudsperson exceptionally well. Therefore, the Ombudsperson Review Committee recommends Ms. Sarah Klaper to be reappointed to another term to serve as NIU’s ombudsperson.

If you have any questions or need any additional information on the review committee’s feedback, please feel free to contact me at kjackel@niu.edu.

Your Future. Our Focus.