

Report of the activities of the 2014-15 Faculty Senate

George Alverson, Secretary

The Secretary of the Faculty Senate is charged by the Faculty Handbook to make a report on the Senate's activities to the University faculty at the end of each academic year. Detailed agendas and minutes of each Faculty Senate meeting of the 2014-15 academic year are now available at <http://www.facultysenate.neu.edu/meetings/20142015>, so this current report is intended to be a brief summary of what I regard as the more notable of the topics covered by the 2014-15 Faculty Senate.

1 HEALTH PLAN/BENEFITS

[See minutes ([15-OCT-2014](#), [29-OCT-2015](#), [12-NOV-2014](#), and [21-JAN-2015](#)) for details.] A new benefits structure was introduced by the administration, which led to a series of intense discussions in the Senate. As a result of these discussions and also of SAC/Provost discussions, the proposed changes to dental and life insurance coverage were rescinded, while the change to the general health benefits was retained. The final meeting in this series noted that the Financial Affairs Committee had been given an additional charge by the SAC, to "review the existing benefit structure, analyze any changes proposed by the administration, propose possible changes, and determine the impact of proposed changes on faculty and staff." [The final FAC report is not yet available as of the current date.]

2 NU CORE RESTRUCTURING

[See minutes [08-APR-2015](#).] Following the discussion by the Senate in 2014 [ad hoc committee [whitepaper](#) and minutes of [29-JAN-2014](#)], a new ad hoc committee, co-chaired by Dean Uta Poiger and Professor Richard Daynard, was formed to create a proposal to update the Northeastern Core curriculum. A series of meetings was held throughout the academic year and the [resulting proposal](#) was brought to the Senate for approval, which followed after vigorous discussion.

3 FT NTT FACULTY

In the final meeting of the academic year, the Senate accepted the report of the Committee for Full-time non-tenure-track Faculty. This [report](#) raised some issues and made a number of recommendations that will need to be considered by the incoming Senate. Previously the Senate had [resolved](#) that the University establish new Teaching Professor titles for non-tenure-track faculty, equivalent to the existing Academic Specialist series of titles.

Respectfully submitted,
George Alverson, Secretary of the 2014-2015 Faculty Senate
21 August 2015