



NEW FACULTY ORIENTATION

# Shared Governance at Northeastern University

August 18, 2026

# About the Faculty Senate

*The Faculty Senate is the highest faculty governance body in the University.*

Together with the Administration, the Senate **maintains and improves** the academic standards of the University and makes its functioning **more effective and harmonious.**

# What the Faculty Senate Does

Six core responsibilities defined in the Faculty Senate Bylaws



## **Sets academic standards**

Acts as a coordinating body to establish mutually satisfactory academic goals and standards among the Colleges.



## **Is consulted on faculty matters**

Consulted on all policies, proposals, and problems of faculty concern, including new colleges, campuses, and departments.



## **Acts on curriculum recommendations**

Serves as the final faculty body to deliberate and act upon recommendations from university curriculum committees.



## **Initiates recommendations**

Initiates consideration and recommendation on any matter of faculty concern.



## **Advises the University**

Undertakes legislative and advisory functions referred to it by the President and/or the Board of Trustees.



## **Connects faculty and leadership**

Provides communication between the university faculty and the administration.

# Senate Agenda Committee (SAC)

The elected leadership team that runs the Faculty Senate

*The Faculty Senate is led by the elected 6-member Senate Agenda Committee.*

- **Chair**
- **Secretary**
- **4 At-Large Members**



SAC meets weekly throughout the year, including over the summer, to run the Faculty Senate.

## SAC Responsibilities

- **Set the agenda for all Faculty Senate meetings**
- **Staff all standing and ad hoc committees**
- **Provide a consistent channel between faculty and administration**
- **Meet bi-monthly with the Provost and Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs**
- **Represent faculty on university-level committees**
- **Meet with the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees**

# 2026–2027 Senate Agenda Committee

Meet your Faculty Senate leadership team



**Dee Spencer**

**SAC Chair**  
**D'Amore-McKim**



**Cecelia Musselman**

**SAC Secretary**  
**CSSH**



**Adeel Bhutta**

**At-Large Member**  
**Khoury**



**Peter Desnoyers**

**At-Large Member**  
**Khoury**



**Krystal Hinerman**

**At-Large Member**  
**Bouvé**



**Aatmesh**  
**Shrivastava**

**At-Large Member**  
**Engineering**

# Faculty and Administration: Shared Mission

Priorities the Senate and University leadership work toward together



**Institutional health & sustainability**



**Academic excellence in teaching, research  
& service**



**Student success and support**



**Strong leadership at all levels**



**Meaningful work and professional  
fulfillment**



**Faculty empowerment and recognition**



**Enhanced communication and  
collaboration**

# Faculty Senate Logistics

How, when, and where the Senate meets

OPEN TO ALL FACULTY

## Full Faculty Senate

 Twice per month via Teams

Wednesdays, 11:45 AM – 1:25 PM

- Provost's report at every meeting
- Curriculum, academic plan & special interest presentations
- Senate committee reports
- All faculty welcome to attend
- Voting restricted to senators and appointed administrators

SENATORS ONLY

## Elected Senators

 Once per month via Teams

Wednesdays, 12:00 – 1:00 PM

- Restricted to elected senators

 Meeting link requests: [facultysenate@northeastern.edu](mailto:facultysenate@northeastern.edu)

# Faculty Senate Composition

Who sits in the Senate, and how they get there

**45**

## Full-Time Faculty

- Elected by their colleges to 2-year terms
- Representation based on full-time faculty count in each college
- The Senate Agenda Committee (SAC) is elected from this group

**1**

## Provost

- A member of the Faculty Senate, per the Faculty Senate Bylaws

**6**

## Administrators

- Appointed by the Provost

# 2026–2027 Senators

Elected representatives by college

## BOUVÉ COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Christopher Cesario  
Krystal Hinerman **SAC**  
Connie Lorette  
Andrew Orr-Skirvin  
Marketa Rejtar  
Sarah Young-Hong

## COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA AND DESIGN

Samantha Boehm  
Clareese Hill  
Eileen McGivney  
Mark Sivak

## COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Debra Auguste  
Matthew Eckelman  
Laurent Lessard  
Bala Maheswaran  
Jeffrey Ruberti  
Aatmesh Shrivastava **SAC**  
Jake Walker

## COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

Jacques Alexis  
Umesh Hodeghatta

# 2026–2027 Senators

Elected representatives by college

## D'AMORE-MCKIM SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

John Bai

Paul Chiou

Anna Lamin

Dee Spencer **SAC CHAIR**

## KHOURY COLLEGE OF COMPUTER SCIENCES

Adeel Bhutta **SAC**

Peter Desnoyers **SAC**

Wolfgang Gatterbaur

Alden Jackson

Felix Muzny

## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE

Amy DiBattista

Evan Dummit

Johanna Farkas

Paul Hand

Erica Homan

Jennifer Ingemi

Tom Kelley

## COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES & HUMANITIES

Natalie Bormann

Isabel Sobral Campos

Cecelia Musselman **SAC SECRETARY**

Nikos Passas

Louise Walker

Moirä Zellner

# 2026–2027 Senators

Elected representatives by college and appointed members

| SCHOOL OF LAW                 | APPOINTED MEMBERS |                                                |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| Jonathan Kahn                 | Thomas Sheahan    | <i>Interim Provost</i>                         |
| Victoria McCoy Dunkley        | Carmen Sceppa     | <i>Dean, Bouvé College of Health Sciences</i>  |
|                               | Ben Knapp         | <i>Dean, College of Arts, Media and Design</i> |
|                               | Dave Thurman      | <i>Dean &amp; CEO, Seattle Campus</i>          |
|                               | Michael Jackson   | <i>Sr. Vice Provost, Academic Programs</i>     |
|                               | Jane Amidon       | <i>Senior Vice Provost, Network Academics</i>  |
|                               | Akram Alshawabkeh | <i>Interim Sr. Vice Provost, Research</i>      |
| MILLS COLLEGE AT NORTHEASTERN |                   |                                                |
| Kim Magowan                   |                   |                                                |
| Dean Morier                   |                   |                                                |

# Faculty Senate Website

Your hub for senate activity, all in one place



**faculty.northeastern.edu/senate**

## Comprehensive information about:



### Elected Senators

Full roster of current senators by college



### Committees

Standing and ad hoc committee membership



### Meeting Agendas & Minutes

Records from every senate meeting



### Resolutions

Formal actions taken by the Senate

# Faculty Handbook

Five modules covering university governance and faculty rights



[faculty.northeastern.edu/handbook](https://faculty.northeastern.edu/handbook)

1

## Governance

- Faculty Senate statement & bylaws
- Dismissal proceedings
- Faculty discipline & grievance procedure
- Non-retaliation protections

2

## Appointments, Promotion & Tenure

- Rights & responsibilities
- Performance expectations & compensation
- Appointments, tenure & promotion
- Sabbatical & leaves of absence

3

## Rights in Teaching & Research

- Academic freedom
- Patent & copyright
- Pedagogical works
- Conflict of commitment/interest

4

## Personnel Policies

- Faculty workloads
- Presence at the university
- Outside professional activities
- Retirement

5

## Academic Organization

- Faculty Advisory Board & bylaws
- The college faculties
- Evaluating university administrators

# Other Useful Resources

Additional references worth bookmarking



## Student Handbook & Academic Catalogue

[catalog.northeastern.edu/handbook](https://catalog.northeastern.edu/handbook)

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- Academic policies and procedures
- Undergraduate and graduate catalogues
- Student policies and code of student conduct



## University Policies Website

[policies.northeastern.edu](https://policies.northeastern.edu)

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- All university-wide policies
- Location-specific policies

# How Can You Get Involved?

Make your voice heard, even if you're not a senator



## Talk to your senators

Discuss important topics with your senators and make your opinion known.



## Respond to our fall survey

Each fall, we send a survey to collect faculty opinions on important topics.



## Speak up at meetings

You do not have to be a senator to contribute at Faculty Senate meetings. Raise your hand and you will be recognized to speak.



## Reach out directly

We address every concern we receive and respect confidentiality requests when necessary.



[facultysenate@northeastern.edu](mailto:facultysenate@northeastern.edu)

# How Can You Get Involved?

Be active — join a committee



*Senate Standing and Ad Hoc Committees work on critical university-wide topics. Volunteer to serve on one that you are genuinely interested in.*

Each spring, we send a survey for committee volunteers.

Committee members for the next academic year are selected from these survey responses.

**10**

**Standing Committees**

**4**

**Ad Hoc Committees**

# Senate Standing Committees

Ten standing committees will carry out the Senate's ongoing work this year

**1 Senate Agenda Committee**

**SAC**

**2 Academic Policy**

**APC**

**3 Administrator Evaluation and Oversight**

**AEOC**

**4 Belonging**

**5 Faculty Development**

**FDC**

**6 Faculty Handbook**

**7 Financial Affairs**

**FAC**

**8 Research Policy Oversight and Information  
Technology Policy Committee**

**9 University Graduate Curriculum**

**UGCC**

**10 University Undergraduate Curriculum**

**UUCC**

# Senate Ad Hoc Committees

Formed for specific, time-bound purposes



## Shared Governance

Supports collaborative decision-making between faculty and administration.



## TRACE

Reviews and advises on teaching evaluation processes.



## Resolution Implementation

Tracks follow-through on resolutions passed by the Senate.



## Grievance

Committees uniquely constituted for each individual grievance filed.



# Questions?

**We're glad you're here. Welcome to the Northeastern faculty community!**