



Northeastern University Faculty Senate

TO: All Full-time Faculty Members
FROM: Faculty Senate Agenda Committee
SUBJECT: Faculty Senate Meeting

The tenth meeting of the sixty second Faculty Senate will be:

Date: Wednesday, March 1, 2023

Time: 11:45 AM to 1:25 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING via Teams

Please note, the meeting will be recorded for the purpose of taking notes.

All Senators and Appointed Administrators have been sent an invite.

We ask all participants to start the meeting muted with the camera on.

For others who wish to participate, please email: FacultySenate@Northeastern.edu.

ONLY ELECTED SENATORS AND APPOINTED ADMINISTRATORS VOTE.

I. ROUTINE BUSINESS

- A. 2.15.23 minutes approved via consent agenda.
- B. SAC Report (Professor Gonyeau).
- C. Provost's Report (Provost Madigan).
- D. Questions and discussion.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

A. REVISION OF FACULTY SENATE BYLAWS (PROF. GONYEAU).

WHEREAS Mills College at Northeastern has been established as the tenth college of Northeastern University;

And WHEREAS the Faculty Senate of Northeastern University requires elected faculty from each grant awarding college to participate in its shared governance model;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Handbook section titled Faculty Senate Bylaws is updated as follows:

3. Composition

The Faculty senate comprises elected faculty members, the Provost, and six administrators who are full-time members of the faculty appointed by the President or their designee. There shall be no less than two elected faculty members from each degree granting college, with the total number of senators determined by two percent of the total number

of full-time faculty in each college rounded to the nearest whole number. Faculty members are elected by and from the full-time faculty of the degree granting Colleges.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT Section 3b of the Faculty Senate Bylaws be updated as follows:

The term of office for elected Senate members shall be two years, and run from July 1 of the first academic year to June 30 of the second academic year. In case of a vacancy during a term, a special election shall be held to select a member for the unexpired portion. A member may serve two successive full terms. A member who has just completed two successive full terms is eligible for reelection a year later. Full-time faculty members of the Senate shall be elected proportionately from the following degree-granting Colleges: Bouvé College of Health Sciences, College of Arts Media and Design, College of Computer and Information Sciences; College of Engineering, College of Professional Studies, College of Science, College of Social Sciences and Humanities, D'Amore-McKim School of Business, Mills College at Northeastern and the School of Law. Each of these Units shall have at least two Senate representatives, but those with larger faculties shall have correspondingly more representatives equivalent to two percent of the total full-time faculty of the degree-granting college. In the spring semester of every year, prior to the election, the Senate Agenda Committee will announce the number Senate seats to be given each College for the following year. Its determination shall be based upon the number of full-time faculty members in each of the Colleges on February 1.

[Please note that, during the Senate floor debate on an amendment proposal, the usual procedures in the most recent revision of Robert's Rules of Order for proposing amendments to any main motion shall apply, thus making advance notice not required.]

III. PRESENTATION:

DIANE LEVIN, UNIVERSITY OMBUDS

TRENDS IN FACULTY AND STAFF CONCERNS: SPRING 2023 UPDATE FROM THE OMBUDS OFFICE

IV. PRESENTATION:

TOM SHEAHAN, EXECUTIVE VICE PROVOST

UPDATE ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND PROCESSES

V. CONTINUING NEW BUSINESS:

B. REPORT ON GRADUATE COUNCIL BYLAWS. (WALEED MELEIS, VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION)

C. GRADUATE COUNCIL BYLAWS APPROVAL (WALEED MELEIS, VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION)

BE IT RESOLVED That the updated Graduate Council Bylaws replace the current Graduate Council Bylaws, as edited, and recommended by the Graduate Affairs Committee.

D. RENAMING GRADUATE COUNCIL (WALEED MELEIS, VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION)

BE IT RESOLVED That the “Graduate Council” be renamed the “University Graduate Curriculum Committee,” and the “Graduate Council Bylaws” be renamed the “University Graduate Curriculum Committee Bylaws,” as recommended by the Graduate Affairs Committee.

E. REPORT OF RESEARCH POLICY OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE (PROF. WAMAI)

F. REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE (PROF. COPELAND)

G. FINANCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE RESOLUTION (PROF. COPELAND)

WHEREAS the FAC conducted a thorough review of the Northeastern University retirement plan,

WHEREAS the NEU retirement plan currently has assets exceeding \$2B and nearly 9,000 participants, with two recordkeepers, *viz.* Fidelity and TIAA-CREF, and

WHEREAS FAC identified several potential areas of improvement related to the plan’s fund menu, fees, and quality of reporting to plan participants,

BE IT RESOLVED that NEU should implement several cost-saving actions including (1) negotiating a uniform dollar-per-participant record-keeping fee, (2) using lowest cost mutual fund share classes preferably those without embedded revenue sharing, (3) moving to a single record-keeper, and (4) prohibiting plan recordkeepers from soliciting or suggesting investment products outside the plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that (5) investment committee membership should be broadened to include participants with retirement plan expertise, and (6) to ensure all members have training in fiduciary responsibilities, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that (7) a plan participant committee should be established to review the plan annually and suggest improvements to the retirement plan, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that (8) participant education should be provided independent of recordkeeper-provided advice, and (9) communication and website design should be improved to better convey information to plan participants.