



Northeastern University Faculty Senate

TO: FACULTY SENATE
FROM: Secretary, Faculty Senate
SUBJECT: Minutes, March 1, 2023

Present: Professors: Avalon, Caracoglia, Carr, Chiou, Di Credico, Godoy-Carter, Gonyeau, Hertz, Jaeggli, Kitagawa, Krishnamoorthy, Landsmark, Lin, McSherry, Molnar, Musselman, Oet, Rappaport, Rawson, Rolland, Sivak, Smith, Spencer, Strange, Toledano Laredo, Van Pelt, Willey

Administrators: Madigan, Hackney, Isaacs, Mynatt, Reid, Wadia-Fascetti

Absent: (Professors) Cisewski, Folmar, Marano, Moore, Nieves, Vollmer

(Administrators) Seshan

CALL TO ORDER: 11:45 a.m.

I. **SAC REPORT:**

(The SAC report has been posted the Senate website.)

- Prof. Gonyeau noted that since the last senate meeting SAC has met twice and SAC has met with the Provost's office once.
- The work of the Senate's standing committees continues.
- He noted a program suspension in CAMD. The MS-CPLD: Creative Practice Leadership, MS. The purpose of the suspension is to allow to critically examine issues in the current MS in Creative Practice Leadership (CPL) within the College of Arts, Media, and Design (CAMD), and consider what remedies are possible, or otherwise to move eliminate the program with the possibility of folding this degree as a track or concentration into another degree.
- Prof. Gonyeau led a quick test of using the polling function in Teams for voting.
- Once the revised Senate bylaws are approved, the Senate Office will be reaching out re: faculty senator elections for the next academic year.
- Plans are in place for renovations to provide for gender neutral facilities at the Marino Center and Cabot Cage.
- Prof. Gonyeau reviewed again the process for making amendments to the Senate Bylaws noting that the Bylaws changes automatically go into effect unless disapproved by the Board of Trustees within 90 days.

II. **PROVOST REPORT:**

Provost Madigan announced that David De Cremer will serve as the new Dunton Family Dean of the D'Amore-McKim School of Business, effective July 1, 2023. He comes from the National University of Singapore (NUS) Business School. He is a Belgian national. His work is at the intersection of business, technology, data and human literacy.

The Provost said they have launched a series of events on experiential learning -- Global Perspectives on Experiential Learning. The idea of the events is to stimulate scholarly learning around experiential learning which is centrally important to what we do at Northeastern. The next one is on April 14.

In regards to impact engines, Amy Carroll has joined from Brown University to oversee the impact engine enterprise. When faculty have impact engine ideas, step one is to speak with Amy. She will conduct a webinar on March 23rd to discuss the proposal process. Can read about this on the impact engines website: <https://impactengines.northeastern.edu>.

Noting that on Tuesday, Feb. 28, a call for volunteers for commencement went out, the Provost encouraged everyone to consider doing that.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

There were no questions.

III. NEW BUSINESS:

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

Prof. Gonyeau read the following proposed changes to the Faculty Senate Bylaws.

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.]

DISCUSSION:

Prof. Gonyeau said they had already received 2 secondary amendment requests. The first of which is to change and update the College of Computer and Information Sciences to the Khoury College of Computer Sciences.

The second is the change in the paragraph on 3. Composition, the second sentence*the total number of full-time faculty in each college* to the total number of full-time faculty equivalents ~~faculty~~ in each college.

Prof. Gonyeau said they can take each of these amendments first and then can have additional amendments as proposed.

Prof. David Smith proposed changing the typo in the second Whereas clause. Changing ...from each grant awarding college to each ~~grant~~ degree granting ~~awarding~~. Sr. Vice Provost Franko seconded this change.

On the first proposed secondary amendment to update the name of Khoury College of Computer Sciences, there were no additional questions.

The vote to approve the amendment PASSED: 27-0-0.

On the second proposed secondary amendment to change wording in the second WHEREAS statement: ~~grant~~ degree granting ~~awarding~~, there were no questions.

The vote to approve the amendment PASSED: 30-0-0.

On the 3rd secondary amendment which was a change to the language that talks about - *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* changed to *the total number of senators determined by two percent of the total number of full-time faculty equivalents in each college rounded to the nearest whole number.*

Prof. Gonyeau said that based on discussions in the elected senator meeting a suggestion was made to modify this language to modify this language to what it says now: *the total number of senators determined by two percent of the total number of full-time faculty equivalents in each college rounded to the nearest whole number.*

Prof. Gonyeau said this was a great suggestion from SAC's perspective as it relates to faculty with joint

appointments and having a percentage of their full-time faculty equivalent position in multiple colleges. And as it seems the University is hiring more joint appointments, that this might have an impact on how the number of senators for each college is determined. It was thought that using the FT faculty equivalents might be a more precise way to determine the number of senators.

Sr. Vice Provost Franko asked if SAC was saying in order to have 1 FT equivalent in a college that would equal 2 50% appointments? If you had two jointly appointed faculty. Is that correct? Prof. Gonyeau said that was correct. And that the other 50% would go to the other college that they have the joint appointment with.

Sr. Vice Provost Franko said this will be a puzzle to make sure we get all the percentages correct. She said we will have to work through UDS and Workday to get the numbers right.

Prof. Gonyeau said they had already reached out to UDS to confirm that they had the capability to provide that level of detail. We have heard a tentative affirmative.

Prof. Godoy Carter asked what would be the alternative? Prof. Gonyeau said the original language was that it was the number of FT faculty in each college. Typically, that would be wherever the majority appointment was it would be counted as the FT faculty member in that college.

Prof. Smith said he supports the amendment going forward but is worried about the ambiguity of *2% of the total number of full-time faculty equivalents in each college rounded to the nearest whole number.*

He said if he is reading it correctly it is the output of the 2% calculation that is rounded to the nearest whole number not the output of the FTE calculation that is rounded to the nearest whole number.

Prof. Gonyeau said that was the intent and said if there was a way to clarify this, they were open to suggestions.

Prof. Smith said it should be the total # of FTE in each college multiplied by 2% and rounded to the nearest number.

Prof. Rolland said she thought if we put a comma after each college that might sort out the issue.

Prof. Smith said he thought that made it less ambiguous.

Prof. Koticha said his suggestion was to add after 2% (rounded to the nearest whole number).

Prof. Rappaport said as an engineer he had to mention if it is 2% rounded to the nearest whole number you get 2% rounded to 0. So that *rounded to the nearest whole number* should follow the number of senators.

Prof. Gonyeau broke out the text to show a couple of options:

Choice #1 Original:

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 equivalents** ~~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.

Choice #2 Prof. Rappaport's suggestion:

with the total number of senators determined by two percent (rounded to the nearest whole number) of the total number of full-time faculty equivalents faculty in each college.

Choice #3 Prof. Koticha suggestion:

with the total number of senators determined by two percent (rounded to the nearest whole number) of the total number of full-time faculty equivalents faculty in each college.

(These are modifications to the original secondary amendment.)

Prof. Gonyeau said we are getting a slate of changes together now. And he asked if there were any other iterations of this? There were none.

The Senators voted on each option. Prof. Rolland clarified that senators consider which option they want and only votes yes for one.

The vote on Choice #1 FAILED: 8-19-2.

The vote on Choice #2 FAILED: 9-19-0.

The vote on Choice #3 PASSED: 21-8-1.

Prof. Gonyeau asked if there were any other edits to the now revised resolution.

Prof. Gonyeau said this was the first resolution:

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 (rounded to the nearest whole number) determined by two percent of the total number of full-time faculty equivalents in each college. Faculty members are elected by and from the full-time faculty of the degree granting Colleges.

And this was the second resolutions:

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, Khoury College of Computer Sciences, ~~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.

Prof. Gonyeau said since there were no other questions, he called for the vote on the first resolution.

The vote on the first resolution PASSED: 30-0-0.

Prof. Gonyeau asked if there were any secondary amendments to the second resolution.

Faculty members noted a number of places where equivalents should be added to full-time faculty. They also noted a number of places where language should be added or changed to indication degree granting colleges and schools OR degree granting colleges or schools. He noted that in the following sentence, full-time faculty should be changed to full-time faculty equivalents.

The first secondary amendment is the changing of the nomenclature of the degree granting colleges and schools OR degree granting colleges or schools PASSED: 26-0-1.

The last second amendment updating language to full-time faculty equivalents PASSED: 28-0-0.

The revised second resolution:

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 and schools: Bouvé College of Health Sciences, College of Arts Media and Design, Khoury College of Computer 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 degree granting colleges and schools 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 equivalents of the degree granting college or school. In the spring semester of every year, prior to the election, the Senate Agenda Committee will announce the number of Senate seats to be given to each degree granting college or school for the following year. Its determination shall be based upon the number of full-time faculty equivalents in each of the degree granting colleges or schools on February 1.

Vote on the edited version of the second resolution PASSED: 29-0-0.

IV. PRESENTATION:**DIANE LEVIN, UNIVERSITY OMBUDS**

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

(The presentation has been posted to the Senate website.)

The Ombuds reviewed the scope of her work and the big trends of people coming to her office. She noted that her case load has continued to be robust. She said she doesn't turn anyone away as she tries to connect them to the appropriate resources. Diane Levin noted that top faculty and staff concerns included institutional Values, Ethics, and Standards, Organizational Climate and Leadership, Hierarchical Relationships.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

Prof. Caracoglia thanked Diane Levin for her work.

He asked what was Diane's opinion is the situation at the university stationery or is it improving?

Diane Levin said in terms of questions around organizational climate, employee retention, expectations for leadership, there is a lot of effort on these issues. But we are huge enterprise. It takes time to identify problems, to define solutions and then implement them.

Change takes time with such a large-scale organization. There is a renewed sense of purpose in respect to these issues. It helps the Ombuds the more people who come forward.

Diane added that she is happy to come to unit meetings to discuss the role of the Ombuds office.

Prof. Spencer said we hear the same pattern over and over again. She said she knows this culture of fear persists. She asked is there more focused attention on these issues due to the people coming forward or is it the leadership coming forward to deal with the issues?

Diane said it is both. Diane is hearing a sense of commitment – that we are all in this together.

V. PRESENTATION:**TOM SHEAHAN, EXECUTIVE VICE PROVOST**

UPDATE ON ACADEMIC PROGRAMS AND PROCESSES

The presentation has been posted to the Senate website.

Vice Provost Sheahan reviewed the members of his team and their various projects.

VI. D. RENAMING GRADUATE COUNCIL.

WALEED MELEIS, VICE PROVOST FOR GRADUATE EDUCATION reading the following:

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.

QUESTIONS:

There were no questions.

The vote to rename 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 PASSED: 23-1-0.

The meeting adjourned at 1:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by

Prof. Michelle Carr
Senate Secretary