



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

The fifteenth meeting of the sixty fourth Faculty Senate will be:

Date: Wednesday, April 23, 2025
Time: 11:45 AM ET to CLOSE OF BUSINESS

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.
For other faculty who wish to participate, please click on the link below.

Supporting curriculum documentation is embedded in curriculum program proposal name. Click on program name. You will be brought to Courseleaf.

I. ROUTINE BUSINESS

- A. SAC REPORT (PROFESSOR HEIDI KEVOE-FELDMAN).**
- B. PROVOST'S REPORT (PROVOST MADIGAN).**
- C. QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION.**

II. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE (PROF. LOUISE WALKER)**
- B. RESOLUTION OF THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE (PROF. LOUISE WALKER).**

RESOLUTION #1:

WHEREAS the Academic Freedom Committee provides a valuable service to the university by helping it live up its "responsibility to foster a community that protects and supports free expression"³;

WHEREAS the Academic Freedom Committee was created in February 2025 and submitted its report in April 2025, the committee's work should continue next year;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Academic Freedom Committee be reconstituted for AY 2025-26.

³ Faculty Handbook, Module on Academic Freedom, Statement on Free Expression (April 2025).

C. RESOLUTION OF THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE (PROF. LOUISE WALKER).

RESOLUTION #2:

WHEREAS the Statement on Free Expression benefits the university community by articulating Northeastern University's approach to free expression as bounded by respect and civility;

WHEREAS the final sentence is sufficiently broad that it might lead to undue restrictions on free expression;

BE IT RESOLVED that the sentence be edited as follows, and sent for review to the

Office of General Counsel, (open to friendly amendments for editing):

"This statement on free expression is neither intended to contravene Northeastern's long-standing policy regarding academic freedom, nor imply acceptance of discrimination on the basis of protected categories or other forms of communication or action that violate *already-established, formal* university policy."

D. RESOLUTION OF THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE (PROF. LOUISE WALKER).

RESOLUTION #3:

WHEREAS policy 617 recognizes both U.S. and U.K. labour law exceptions to the policy on demonstrations;

WHEREAS Northeastern University has network campuses in Canada to which policy 617 would be applied;

BE IT RESOLVED that Faculty Senate suggest, to the Office of General Counsel and the Policy Oversight Committee, that the language of policy 617 be amended to name the Canada Labour Code alongside other noted labour law exceptions.

E. RESOLUTION OF THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE (PROF. LOUISE WALKER).

RESOLUTION #4:

WHEREAS it is NUPD policy to confirm identity of persons on campus by requesting masks be removed for identification;

WHEREAS doxxing (a relatively new practice of publicly revealing private or threatens to chill free expression;

WHEREAS the new practice of online targeted harassment (aka doxxing) can endanger the physical safety of community members;

WHEREAS anti-doxxing services exist;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate ask HRM to investigate the possibility of adding a new “anti-doxxing” voluntary benefit for the November 2025 open enrolment benefits season.

F. RESOLUTION OF THE ACADEMIC FREEDOM COMMITTEE (PROF. LOUISE WALKER).

RESOLUTION #5:

WHEREAS Northeastern University has a “long-established and pervasive collegial decision-making process”⁴ that is key to the University’s excellence;

WHEREAS shared governance depends on collegial collaboration between faculty and administrators;

WHEREAS the committee found room to improve shared governance;

BE IT RESOLVED that next year the Ad Hoc Committee on Shared Governance be run.

⁴ As described in a “friend of the court” brief submitted to the Supreme Court by Northeastern University (with The Johns Hopkins University, New York University, and The George Washington University): *National Labor Relations Board, Petitioner, v. Yeshiva University. Yeshiva University Faculty Association, Petitioner, v. Yeshiva University.*, 444 U.S. 672 (1980). *Amicus Brief*. 17 July 1979, pg. 2.

G. ACADEMIC PROPOSAL: UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA AND DESIGN. (PROF. SPENCER).

RESOLUTION #6:

BE IT RESOLVED That the University establish the Master of Business Administration in [Business Analytics](#) in the D’Amore McKim School of Business as approved by the University Graduate Curriculum Committee 2 April 2025 (16-0-0) .

H. ACADEMIC PROPOSAL: UNIVERSITY UNDERGRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS, MEDIA & DESIGN. (PROF. CARR).

RESOLUTION #7:

BE IT RESOLVED That the University establish the Bachelor of Fine Arts in [Film and Media Production](#) in the College of Arts, Media & Design as approved by the University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee 6 November 2024 (17-0-0) .

I. ACADEMIC PROPOSAL: UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REACTIVATION OF A PROGRAM IN THE BOUVÉ COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES (PROF. MOLNAR).

RESOLUTION #8:

BE IT RESOLVED That the University reactivate the Master of Science in [Health Data Analytics, MS-Online](#) in the Bouvé College Of Health Sciences as approved by the University Graduate Curriculum Committee 2 April 2025 (16-0-0) .

J. ACADEMIC PROPOSAL: UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE REACTIVATION OF A PROGRAM IN THE OFFICE OF THE PROVOST. (PROF. KEVOE-FELDMAN).

RESOLUTION #9:

BE IT RESOLVED That the University reactivate the Master of Science in [Artificial Intelligence, MS-Align](#) in the Office of the Provost as approved by the University Graduate Curriculum Committee 2 April 2025 (15-0-0) .

K. ACADEMIC PROPOSAL: UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE PROGRAM IN THE OFFICE OF THE PROVOST. (PROF. KEVOE-FELDMAN).

RESOLUTION #10:

BE IT RESOLVED That the University establish the Master of Science in [Product Management](#) in the Office of the Provost as approved by the University Graduate Curriculum Committee 19 March 2025 (15-0-0) .

L. REPORT OF THE ACADEMIC POLICY COMMITTEE (PROF. ALEXIS).

M. APC RESOLUTION (PROF. ALEXIS)

RESOLUTION #11:

WHEREAS, effective leadership within academic units influences faculty morale, productivity, and retention, thereby affecting institutional stability and success;

WHEREAS, faculty perspectives are a valuable resource for improving administrative leadership, promoting collaboration, and addressing workplace challenges;

WHEREAS, Resolution 23 (4/24/19; approved 5/7/19) affirmed the value of incorporating faculty feedback in the evaluation of administrative appointees whose actions significantly affect faculty;

WHEREAS, the institution currently lacks a consistent process for faculty to provide structured feedback on many administrators to whom they report;

WHEREAS, the Faculty Senate's Fall 2024 survey identified widespread concerns regarding transparency, fear of retaliation, and the lack of formal mechanisms for leadership evaluation;

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Faculty Senate charge the Academic Policy Committee (APC) to collaborate with faculty governance bodies in each college to develop and implement a confidential, standardized process for collecting annual faculty feedback on administrative appointees not already reviewed through the Administrator Evaluation Oversight Committee (AEOC), including senior associate deans, associate deans, unit heads (as defined by each college), and other administrators with significant oversight of faculty;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that each college shall administer the survey annually, with results provided to the administrator's supervisor and shared with faculty within the respective college.

N. REPORT OF THE FACULTY HANDBOOK COMMITTEE (PROF. DRANSFIELD).

O. FACULTY HANDBOOK RESOLUTION (PROF. DRANSFIELD).

RESOLUTION #12:

WHEREAS The Faculty Handbook module entitled "Patent and Copyright" includes both the University Patent Policy, adopted in 1995, and an Interim Copyright Policy, last revised in 1982; and

WHEREAS faculty are deemed Authors of all Traditional Academic Works and Pedagogical Works created by them, such that ownership of all rights in and to such Traditional Academic Works and Pedagogical Works resides solely with the faculty member who creates them; and

WHEREAS definitions of Pedagogical Works were not included in the Faculty Handbook

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Faculty Handbook module on "Instructional Media" should be deleted and replaced with the following module, "Pedagogical Works":

1. Definitions

- a. **Original Work of Authorship** refers to works of authorship that fall within the Copyright Act of 1976, 17 U.S.C. § 101 *et seq.*
- b. **Pedagogical Work** means teaching material(s), which are not Directed Works, created by faculty primarily for instruction of university students, and include, but are not limited to, syllabi, curricula, exams, sample exam answers, course materials, lecture notes, slide decks, individual illustrations, video clips, audio clips, class exercises, class assignments, case studies, recorded lectures, and recorded classes.
- c. **Directed Work** means any Original Work of Authorship agreed upon in writing between the university and faculty author(s)/creator(s), the creation of which is (i) based on a specific request by the university and (ii) which is supported by Significant Use of University Administered Resources.
- d. **Significant Use of University Administered Resources** means the use of university facilities, equipment, funds, personnel, and other resources that exceeds what is customarily and currently provided to similarly situated colleagues of an author in the author's department or to similarly situated students enrolled in the same course or college. The following examples are intended for guidance purposes only and do not exclude other uses that may be considered significant:

- (i) Use of specialized services or facilities such as equipment, production facilities, service laboratories, studios, specialized computing resources or facilities, wherein fees normally required for access or use are waived.
- (ii) Use of financial or other support, including reduction in levels of teaching, service, or other typical university activities (e.g. course load, student advising responsibilities, department meetings, office hours, administrative responsibilities) for the creation of an Original Work of Authorship that exceeds the typical supplemental pay and offloading from regular duties.
- (iii) Use of university personnel (including secretarial, clerical, and administrative staff) and research assistants beyond the level customarily provided to all university faculty and departments.
- (iv) Use of university proprietary property that serves as a significant basis for the resulting Original Work of Authorship.
- (v) The university shall not consider use of facilities, equipment, funds, personnel and other resources to be significant if the university makes them generally available to the university community, provided that such use is not in excess of the amount normally provided.

2. Use of Pedagogical Works

The decision to use Pedagogical Works in any form resides with the individual faculty member responsible for the instructional sequences under consideration and the faculty member's department.

3. Objectives and Content

The objectives and content of Pedagogical Works for courses and programs are the responsibility of the faculty member developing the instructional sequences and the faculty member's department. Suggestions, criticisms, and major revisions may be proposed by university faculty or staff members outside of the faculty member's department, but only in an advisory capacity.

4. University Support for Pedagogical Works and Directed Works

The University may withhold or, after reasonable notice, withdraw its support from the development, production, or implementation of an instructional method, device, or system whose design its authorized officials consider inadequate to achieve the proposed objectives or to carry the proposed content.

5. Academic Credit

Decisions concerning the award of academic credit (how much, if any) for courses offered by means of various Pedagogical Works are the responsibility of the faculty of the College in which the students are enrolled.

6. Authorship and Attribution

Appropriate authorship or other credits should be given to any faculty or staff member who substantially assists the development or production of Pedagogical Works.

7. Ownership of Pedagogical Works

In accordance with US Copyright laws, ownership of Pedagogical Works which are not Directed Works resides with the faculty author(s), who hereby grant to the University a non-exclusive, limited, royalty-free, non-transferrable, and non- sublicensable license for reasonable academic use for the not-for-profit educational purposes of the University during the author's employment by the University, and, for up to six months after the author(s) separation from the university, of the following Pedagogical Works: syllabi, curricula, and class assignments. Reasonable academic use includes permission from the author(s) to use such course materials, but not to publish or commercialize them. The author(s) hereby grant to the University a non-exclusive, perpetual, irrevocable, royalty-free, non- transferrable, and non- sublicensable license to keep copies of Pedagogical Works in any format for archiving purposes only.

8. Ownership of Directed Works

Unless otherwise stated by written agreement, Directed Works developed with Significant Use of University Administered Resources are the property of the university. A written agreement must be executed between the University and the cooperating faculty before the development of the Directed Work. The purpose of such agreements should be to facilitate the free flow of ideas and information and the maximum utilization of such Directed Works. The agreement should address the following where relevant:

- a. the portion of the normal academic load of the faculty member to be committed to the project;
- b. authorship or other credits;
- c. arrangements for the sale, lease and gratuitous lending of the media;
- d. royalty payments from net income derived from the marketing of the media;
- e. provisions for subsequent use, revision, or withdrawal of the media; and
- f. provisions for arbitration of unresolved issues.

P. REPORT OF SHARED GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE (PROF. HOMAN).

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