



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

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The fourth meeting of the sixty-fifth Faculty Senate will be:

**Date: Wednesday, October 22, 2025**

**Time: 11:45 AM to 1:25 p.m. ET**

**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. CALL TO ORDER.**

APPROVAL OF 10\_8\_25 MINUTES.

**II. REPORTS**

- A. SAC REPORT (PROFESSOR DEE SPENCER).**
- B. PROVOST'S REPORT (PROVOST WINKELSTEIN).**
- C. QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION.**
- D. CURRICULUM ITEM:**

**UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE PROGRAM IN THE COLLEGE OF ARTS,  
MEDIA AND DESIGN (PROFESSOR HEIDI KEVOE-FELDMAN)**

BE IT RESOLVED That the University establish the [Master of Fine Arts in Design](#) in the College of Arts, Media and Design as approved by the University Graduate Curriculum Committee 8 September, 2025 (18-0-0)

**III. PRESENTATION:**

**SATYA DATTAGUPTA CHIEF ENROLLMENT OFFICER, EXECUTIVE VICE CHANCELLOR &  
SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE PRESIDENT**

**ENROLLMENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE FALL 2025**

**IV. CONTINUED BUSINESS:**

**RESOLUTION (PROFESSOR LOUISE WALKER):**

**Resolution for a Public Commitment to Defend Core Principles of Northeastern University**

WHEREAS the Northeastern University faculty supports the President, Provost, Office of General Counsel, and senior leadership in protecting and upholding the University's constitutional rights to academic freedom, institutional independence, and its mission to advance human knowledge through research, undergraduate, graduate, and professional education;

WHEREAS universities in the United States face the potential conditioning of federal funds on their enforcement of unconstitutional restrictions on academic freedom, free speech, and free inquiry;<sup>[1]</sup>

WHEREAS all members of the Northeastern University community have an equal right to freedom of speech and conscience and to participate in the life of the University;<sup>[2]</sup>

WHEREAS Northeastern University faculty seek to support the University administration in defending the University's constitutional rights, core principles, and members of its community by litigation and with all legal means;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate calls on the University leadership, through the Office of the President, to publicly commit to adhere to the following principles:

To positively affirm the full rights of transgender employees of the University, the right of all University community members to self-determine their sex for purposes of all educational programs and activities, the University's commitment to prohibit discrimination based on sex, inclusive of gender identity, in all facets of university programming and services including sex-segregated spaces, and to disclaim unlawful restriction of speech, conscience, and human dignity on matters of sexual orientation or gender identity;

To use its legal resources as necessary to defend the freedom of speech, conscience, and academic freedom of citizen and non-citizen members of the Northeastern University community equally, and in all areas of scientific, legal, political, economic, social, artistic, and humanistic inquiry;

To use its legal resources and litigation as necessary to uphold academic freedom and institutional independence as core values of the University and its mission.

<sup>[1]</sup> In addition to the arbitrary withholding of federal funds from several universities without due process, Executive Order 14168 [“Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government”](#) (January 20, 2025) directs federal agencies to stop funding institutions that do not adhere to a specified definition of sex and gender, and the [“Compact for Academic Excellence in Higher Education”](#) seeks to restrict federal funding to institutions of higher education that commit to the same specified definition of sex and gender, in addition to restricting institutional and individual speech in a range of other ways.

<sup>[2]</sup> In deciding for the plaintiffs in [American Association of University Professors v. Rubio](#) (September 30, 2025), Judge William G. Young of the United States District Court of Massachusetts stated “This case—perhaps the most important ever to fall within the jurisdiction of this district court—squarely presents the issue whether non-citizens lawfully

present here in [the] United States actually have the same free speech rights as the rest of us. The Court answers this Constitutional question unequivocally ‘yes, they do.’ ‘No law’ means ‘no law.’”

## V. NEW BUSINESS

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