



Northeastern University Faculty Senate

TO: Faculty Senate.

RE: 1_28_26 Senate minutes.

Present: Professors Alexis, Auguste, Bai, Bhutta, Bloom, Carr, Chiou, Desnoyers, DiBattista, Di Credico, Eckelman, Godoy-Carter, Hamandi, Hand, Hinerman, Homan, Ingemi, Ivanova, Kahn, Kevoe-Feldman, Lamin, Lorette, Lykourinou, Magowan, Maheswaran, McGivney, Musselman, Orr-Skirvin, Passas, Rejtar, Shrivastava, Sivak, Sobral-Campos, Spahr, Spencer, Stefanik, Un, Walker J., Walker L., Young-Hong

Administrators: Winkelstein, Alshawabkeh, Auclair, Dyal-Chand, Isaacs, Jackson, Tsai.

Absent: (Professors): Bormann, Hill, Hodeghatta, Muzny, Parameswaran, Tjiptowidjojo.

Absent: (Administrators):

Call To Order: 11:45 a.m.

I. The minutes for the 12_10_25 Senate meeting were approved.

II. **SAC REPORT** (The SAC report has been posted to the Senate website.)

Senate Chair Dee Spencer, DMSB, reviewed the meeting agenda and speaking protocols.

- Announcements – welcome to new Mills senators, Professors MaGowan and Spahr.
- Since 12_10_25 Senate meeting, SAC has met 3 times, hosted one elected senators meeting, and met with the Provost once.

III. **PROVOST REPORT**

- The academic planning process continues and there will be opportunities for everyone's input.
- The Provost has met with many senate committees as they work on final reports for spring.
- Two weeks ago, Provost visited Oakland and Seattle campuses.
- Provost plans to meet with each college; has already met with CAMD.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

- Question around whether Northeastern has a snow day policy.
- There were questions around the spring final exam schedule that extends through Sunday, April 26th. This presents a conflict with some colleges that have celebrations on Saturday, April 25.
 - Provost has seen emails on this issue and is looking into it.
- Question around when the DMSB Dean search would begin.
 - The Provost will be meeting to discuss with SAC and hopes search begins soon.
- Concerns raised around communication to within the university. Faculty concerned that a change to the academic calendar affecting summer finals and a change to Banner were not communicated clearly to faculty and with sufficient advance notice.
 - The Provost will share concerns with the appropriate offices to make people aware of what does or doesn't make its way out to faculty.

- Concerns were raised about how budget cuts are impacting the University's core mission. Of particular concern is the high number of Dialogues of Civilization that have been cut.

IV. CURRICULUM ITEM:

ACADEMIC PROPOSAL: UNIVERSITY GRADUATE CURRICULUM COMMITTEE PROGRAM IN THE BOUVÉ COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES.

Professor Andrew Orr-Skirvin introduced Professor David Janero, BCHS.

Prof. Janero noted that prior to this proposal, there were four separate master's programs in various disciplines. The new program under consideration represents a consolidation. It is one unified master's program with four concentrations that better reflect what is demanded of our students in terms of their aspirations.

Prof. Orr-Skirvin made a motion to approve the program.

Prof. Spencer read the following:

BE IT RESOLVED That the University establish the Master of Science in [Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences, MS](#) in the Bouvé College of Health Sciences as approved by the University Graduate Curriculum Committee 7 January, 2026 (15-0-0).

Prof. Bhutta seconded.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

Prof. Lamin, DMSB, asked if this was a STEM program. Prof. Janero said the program did meet all the qualifications.

The vote on the resolution is PASSED: 44-0-1.

V. PRESENTATION:

PROVOST BETH WINKELSTEIN AND CHANCELLOR KEN HENDERSON.

UNIVERSITY UPDATE.

The Provost and Chancellor presentation is posted to the senate website.

Highlights of the presentation included:

- Information about the new academic plan – Human Agency in Age of AI.
- Challenges and opportunities presented by AI.
- Enrollment management metrics.
- Classroom updates.
- Overview of faculty awards and honors.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

In consideration of time and to accommodate another committee presentation, Senate Chair Spencer asked faculty if they were comfortable skipping the discussion segment for the presentation and instead asked faculty to forward any questions to her and she would share with the Provost and Chancellor. All faculty agreed.

**PRESENTATION:
FULL-TIME NON-TENURE-TRACK FACULTY COMMITTEE.**

**DIVYA CHAUDHARY, KHOURY.
KELLY HARRINGTON, COS.
ERICA HOMAN, COS.
NEIL MANIAR, BCHS.
JESSICA MAXWELL, BCHS.**

SURVEY RESPONSE SUMMARY: FACULTY CLIMATE CONCERNS.

Prof. Homan reviewed the results of the faculty climate survey. (The documents are posted to the senate website.) Approximately, 1/5 of the faculty responded to the survey. Respondents were predominantly non-tenure track faculty members relative to tenured and tenure track counterparts.

The survey that covered issues like promotions, satisfaction with the merit process, satisfaction with salary and healthcare benefits among others.

Due to lack of time the FTNTTFC presentation will continue at the 2_11_26 Senate meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

MOTION TO AMEND THE NOV. 19 FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES:

Prof. Dee Spencer read the following:

In Section C, DEPARTMENT NAME CHANGE FOR DEPARTMENT IN BOUVÉ COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES, strike out:

"BE IT RESOLVED That the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the Bouvé College of Health Sciences be renamed as the Department of Biomedical and Pharmaceutical Sciences."

And insert:

"BE IT RESOLVED That the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the Bouvé College of Health Sciences be renamed as the Department of Pharmaceutical and Biomedical Sciences."

Prof. Godoy-Carter seconded the motion.

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION:

There were no questions.

The vote on the resolution is PASSED: 35-0-0.

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Professor Heidi Kevoe-Feldman