Report of the activities of the 2015-2016 Faculty Senate
Robert N Hanson, Secretary

The secretary of the Faculty Senate is charged by the Faculty Handbook to make a report on the Senate's activities to the University faculty at the end of each academic year. Detailed agendas and minutes of each Faculty Senate meeting during the 2015-16 academic year are available at http://www.northeastern.edu/facultysenate/meetings/2015-2016/ so that this current report is to be a summary of what I considered to the more notable topics or achievements covered by the 2015-16 Faculty Senate.

1. **Increased faculty participation in Senate-related activities.**

   [See minutes (30-Sep-2015, 21-Oct-2015, 4-Nov-2015, 18-Nov-2015, 27-Jan-2016, 6-April-2016, 20-April-2016, 27-April-2016] Ten Standing Committees of the Senate were staffed and charged by October. In addition to the Standing Committees, dean (2) and chair (4) search committees, Excellence in Teaching and Klein Lectureship committees were also staffed.   Representatives from the faculty were selected to serve on the Provosts advisory committee on NSF compliance, various Academic Planning Committees, and the PhD Task Force. As a result, over 200 members of the faculty were involved in Senate-related activities. This was a significant increase in faculty engagement compared to what had been observed in recent years. This resulted in a number of reports and resolutions emanating from the various committees. The reports and resolutions can be found on the Faculty Senate website. Moreover, the Senate Agenda Committee reached out personally to faculty in seeking their involvement in Senate committee work as well as during Faculty Senate elections.

   2. **Equity and merit raises.**

   [See minutes of 9-Dec-2015, 17-Feb-2016] One of the charges to the Financial Affairs Committee (FAC) involved examination of the allocation of funds between the merit and equity pools. Resolutions were generated by FAC that addressed the promotion and raise (merit and equity) pools, its ratio, as well as RCM transparency issues. The resolutions were debated during two sessions in the Senate and passed. [The report and resolutions are posted on the Faculty Senate website.]

   3. **Full time Non-Tenure Track Faculty (FT NTTF) Committee**

   [See minutes of 27-April-2016] A major undertaking during the academic year was the work done by the FT NTTF committee, which continued the charges developed the previous academic year and expanded upon those by introducing the sense of One Faculty, and what it implies. This

groundwork will guide the committee when it considers FT NTTF participation in in University governance. The thrust of this committee was to develop a process for integration of the full-time, non-tenure-track faculty with the tenured/tenure track faculty. In the last meeting the Committee submitted its report and introduced resolutions on moving to "one faculty," utilizing one grievance process for all full time faculty members, on instituting protections against retaliation and on developing processes for promotion and reappointment. [The report and resolutions are posted on the Faculty Senate website.]

4. **Enrolment and Admissions Policy Committee.**

    [See minutes of 27-April-2016] The EAPC submitted its report and proposed three resolutions which addressed enhanced transparency regarding how admissions goals are set and the process by which students are admitted. They also addressed the issue of declining/increasing enrolments across colleges.

5. **Other Senate Committee reports and resolutions.**

    [See minutes of 6-April-2016, 20-April-2016, 27-April-2016] The Library Policy Oversight Committee (LPOC) presented its report and three resolutions to the Senate. The focus of the Committee's actions was to enhance data research management, to increase communication regarding library resources across the campus and to recommend an increase in financial support for those resources. The *Ad hoc* HERI committee submitted its report and two resolutions to promote dissemination of the HERI information and to address issues raised by the HERI report. The Faculty Development Committee (FDC) submitted its report and two resolutions which addressed the issues of "tenure on entry" and promoting increased minority hiring. The Information Technology Policy Committee (ITPC) submitted its report and four resolutions. Those resolutions addressed issues related to purchase and integration of software tools for grant management, apprising faculty of the availability of software, and the establishment of a cybersecurity committee.

Respectfully submitted,
Robert N Hanson, Secretary of the 2015-2016 Faculty Senate
August 18, 2016