

SAC Report, 3/18/20 Senate Meeting

SAC has met five times since the last Senate meeting, with two meetings including the Provost. Topics included COVID-19 contingency planning and handbook revision.

As part of the COVID-19 planning, SAC and Provost Bean have agreed that updating the Senate Bylaws to revise the original description of voting procedures (that generally requires multiple rounds of balloting and pre-balloting) constitutes a “simple updating of factual materials” that aligns voting processes with a global university that needs to use asynchronous online voting for search committee members and Senators. This “simple updating of factual materials” requires only approval of the Provost and SAC – and does not require balloting by all faculty as is required for substantive changes to the Bylaws. The new election procedure is shown in the [Faculty Senate Bylaws](#) module.

SAC and Provost Bean also agreed on the need for “simple updating of factual materials” in the Faculty Handbook’s “Appointments, Terms and Reappointments” module. Some of the material in two modules we just deleted (Research Faculty and Professors of the Practice) contained unique information about those appointments that needs to be available in the Handbook that is now available in the [Appointments, Terms and Reappointments](#) module.

SAC is in the process of staffing two search committees:

- Internal search for the Director of the School of Criminology and Criminal Justice, with Amy Farrell as the preferred candidate
- Broad search, both inside and outside Northeastern for the Senior Associate Dean and Director of the Graduate School of Education in the College of Professional Studies

Informational curriculum updates from the Graduate Council are:

- Name change of the CPS MPS to Applied Machine Intelligence (from previous name Enterprise Intelligence)
- Restructuring of the CPS MS Program in Regulatory Affairs
- Inactivation of the CPS MS in Technical Communication, with Technical Communication courses remaining active in other graduate degree programs and in the graduate certificate Computer Industry Writing (consisting entirely of Technical Communication courses)

Finally, we are sad to share the news of Arvin Grabel’s death. As noted by Jackie Isaacs, Arvin contributed so much to so many over his illustrious career. His many contributions to shared governance included three terms as SAC chair, in 1970, 1994 and 1995.