

# Northeastern University

## Faculty Senate

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1

### SENATE NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

The Faculty Senate, together with the Administration of the University, has the responsibility of maintaining and improving the academic standards of the University and making the functioning of the University more effective and harmonious. It also coordinates activities among the various College faculties as well as those that involve both the administration and faculty of the University. For more information, please visit

[faculty.northeastern.edu/senate](https://faculty.northeastern.edu/senate).

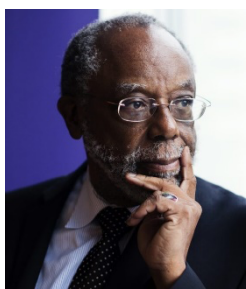
Your Faculty Senators



Photo by Ruby Wallau for Northeastern University

## 2022-23 Senate Accomplishments and New 2023-24 Representatives

Last year's Faculty Senate concluded its service with a total of 35 resolutions reviewed and approved. Of these, ten authorized new or revised academic programs and seven involved amendments to the Faculty Handbook. Faculty committees also made recommendations in areas ranging from academic technology and library resources to climate justice actions and global education opportunities.



For 2023-24, Ted Landsmark, Distinguished Professor of Public Policy (CSSH), takes the gavel as chair of the Senate Agenda Committee. Yingzi Lin, Professor of College of Engineering (COE), will serve as SAC secretary. SAC will continue to invite faculty to make use of the [Faculty Senate Concern Form](#) launched last year to bring issues to our attention for further investigation. Among issues raised so far this year, SAC has followed up on questions about faculty contract language (see below), the effects of the Supreme Court ruling on affirmative action, and emergency preparedness.

This year's SAC members wish to express our appreciation to outgoing SAC chair Michael Gonyeau, Clinical Professor of Pharmacy (Bouvé), for his leadership over the past two years, and to our dedicated support staff, Executive Assistant Joan Collins and Administrative Assistant Jonella Esposito.

## Upcoming Senate Meetings

All faculty are welcome to attend the virtual meetings of the Faculty Senate.

Contact [facultysenate@neu.edu](mailto:facultysenate@neu.edu) to receive a Teams invitation.

Fall 2023 meetings  
(11:45am -1:25 pm ET):

- October 18
- November 1
- November 15
- December 6



President Auon will make his annual address to the faculty at our November 1 meeting.

**Please join us!**

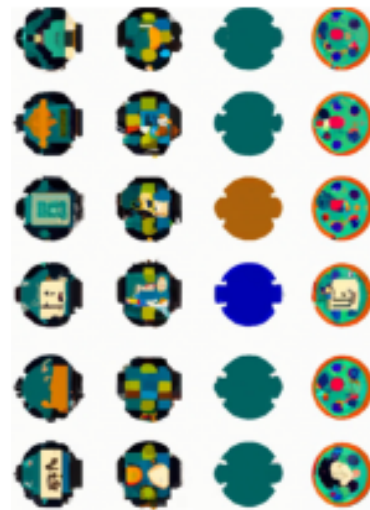
# Northeastern University

## Faculty Senate

### Faculty Committee Appointments and Charges

SAC is grateful to all faculty who responded to the call for 2023-24 committee volunteers last spring. We appreciate everyone's willingness to contribute their time, energy, and ideas. With the goal of balancing committee memberships along the lines of continuing and new members, representation across colleges and disciplines, and both tenure-track and non-tenure track faculty, we have invited 67 faculty members to serve on the 13 appointed standing committees established in the Faculty Handbook. Updated lists of committee memberships and their charges for the year are being posted at [faculty.northeastern.edu/senate/committees](https://faculty.northeastern.edu/senate/committees). Further appointments to ad hoc and search committees are expected throughout the year.

A common focus of this year's charges is the implementation of the One Faculty policy adopted in principle in 2019, which called for "minimizing the differences (with the obvious exception of tenure) in the rights and responsibilities between the various classifications of full-time faculty." Several committees will examine progress toward equity in areas such as representation, resources, and advancement opportunities available to full-time non-tenure-track faculty.



### Global Network and Faculty Keep Growing

At the September 13 Faculty Senate meeting, Provost David Madigan reported on the university leadership retreat held in Boston on August 29. The retreat was attended by around 300 faculty and administrators from all 13 campuses in the Northeastern University global network. Presentations and discussions focused on opportunities that the growth of the network brings. Provost Madigan noted that Northeastern added 264 full-time faculty positions in 2022-23, including 95 on the tenure track. About half of the tenure-track positions represented joint appointments across departments, schools, or colleges. With a similar number of new faculty positions expected in 2023-24, the administration is working to encourage earlier consultations with affected departments for potential joint appointments.



Founders Day on October 3 will mark Northeastern's 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, with commemorations planned on many campuses.

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### Faculty Concern Resolved: Part-time Contract Terms

SAC received a faculty concern regarding part-time faculty contracts. The concern involved Northeastern having two versions of the part-time contracts, one for online faculty and another for on-ground faculty in Boston, that contained different language regarding syllabi distribution. The Provost's office confirmed that the online contract template should align with the on-ground template, and these templates will be sent to College Deans for their online faculty.



### Helpful Mental Health & Well-Being Resources

Also at the September 13 Faculty Senate meeting, Deb Franko, Senior Vice Provost for Academic Affairs, provided an overview of ongoing efforts to support mental health and well-being in our university community.

Additional relevant resources are listed here:



For students/helping students:

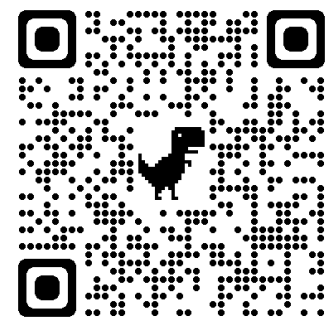
- [Northeastern University Health and Counseling Services](#)
- [Find@Northeastern for students](#)
- [We Care for students](#)
- [Faculty Guide: Supporting Student Mental Health](#)
- [OPEN: Alcohol and other Drug and Sexual Violence Services](#)
- [Center for Spirituality, Dialogue, and Service](#)
- [Disability Resource Center](#)

For faculty/staff:

- [NU Mental Health resources for faculty/staff](#)
- [Faculty Resources](#)
- [HR Wellness resources](#)
- [NU Ombuds for faculty/staff](#)
- [NU Employee Assistance Program](#)

### Faculty Senate Concern Form

In our ongoing commitment to fostering a collaborative, inclusive, and welcoming university environment, the Faculty Senate invites members of the faculty to make use of the Faculty Senate Concern Form. This confidential platform allows faculty members to submit concerns anonymously, related to our global university community. To share a concern, please visit the Faculty Senate website at <https://faculty.northeastern.edu/senate/forms> or scan the QR code here. Thank you for your continued engagement in making our university a place of excellence.



Faculty Senate Concern Form