

10-31-2012

## FS Minutes 2012-10-31

Northern Illinois University

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**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, October 31, 3 p.m.**  
**Holmes Student Center Sky Room**

**Disclaimer:** These minutes should not be taken as a verbatim transcript but rather as a shortened summary that is intended to reflect the essence of statements made at the meeting. Many comments have been omitted and, in some cases, factual and grammatical errors corrected. The full verbatim transcript is available online at the University Council Web site under Faculty Senate / Agendas, Minutes & Transcripts.

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Arado, Bateni, Briscoe, Cappell, Chen, Chung, Ciallella (for Nissan), Collins, Creamer, Cripe, Daniel, Deng, Downing, Fang, Frank, Gaillard, Gupta, Hamayotsu, Henning, Koren, Kostic, Kowalski, Lenczewski, Lin, Long, Mackie, Martin, McHone-Chase, Naples, Novak, Onyuksel, Parker, Patro, Rosenbaum, Ryan, Sagarin, Siegesmund, Sirotkin, Slotsve, Smith, Tollerud (for Rheineck), Tonks, VandeCreek, Ward, Wilson (for Goldblum), Zahay-Blatz

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Abdel-Motaleb, Allori, Azad, Bisplinghoff, Byrd-Calvo, Carpenter, Chandler, Coles, Farrell, Feurer, Fredericks, Goldblum (on sabbatical), Houze, Jones, Kapitan, Kolb, Lee, Lopez, Middleton, Mirman, Mohabbat, Munroe, Nissen, Pitney, Plonczynski, Poole, Rheineck, Rollman, Thu, Von Ende, Walker (on sabbatical)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Armstrong, Bryan, Haliczzer (for Peska), Harris (for Quick), Klaper, Latham, Sunderlin

**OTHERS ABSENT:** Freedman, Peska, Prawitz, Small, Snow, Streb, Waas

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order at 3:08 p.m.

**II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**A. Rosenbaum:** The first item is the adoption of the agenda. We have one walk-in item. The walk-in item goes under VIII. E. and it is the report from our Resources, Space and Budgets Committee. I need a motion to adopt the agenda with one walk-in item.

**J. Kowalski:** Moved. **J. Novak:** Second.

**A. Rosenbaum:** Any changes to the agenda? I want to point out to you that in today's agenda we have an executive session under Item IX. And that is because we are going to be discussing personnel issues that relate to the presidential search and to the composition of the faculty representation on the search committee.

The agenda was approved with the addition of the one walk-in item without dissent or abstention

### **III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 3, 2012 FS MEETING** (distributed electronically)

**A. Rosenbaum:** Next item is the approval of the minutes of the October 3 Faculty Senate meeting. These were distributed electronically to you.

**G. Slotsve:** Moved. **J. Kowalski:** Second.

The minutes of the October 3 meeting were approved without dissent or abstention.

### **IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A. Rosenbaum:** I am going to keep my announcements relatively short today because I want to leave as much time as possible for our activities.

One thing I do want to call your attention to is that on this year's ballot there is an item that's identified as HJRCA 49. This is a constitutional amendment. We are an apolitical body so I can't tell you how to vote for it. I can tell you that the Annuitants Association and people who are working within our retirement system seem to be opposed to this constitutional amendment. We posted this on blackboard and if you go to the online, electronic agenda, you'll have a link there to HJRCA 49. Essentially what this does is it requires a three-fifths vote of the legislature to increase or improve the retirement benefits. So it doesn't say anything about decreasing them I don't think, it's just if they want to improve the retirement benefits, then it takes a three-fifths vote as compared to what it is now which I believe is a simple majority.

**J. Kowalski:** I am not a lawyer but by my reading of the last section of that amendment is that it's intended to give a green light to the legislature to make future changes to the nature of our pension and/or sort of supplemental types of compensation, healthcare, etc. or COLA adjustments, that type of thing. It's a little bit unclear but that seemed to be to me the implication of that last section.

**A. Rosenbaum:** The other thing that people seem to be concerned about is: We now have a two-tiered retirement system. This second tier, that affected employees who are more recent to the university, is really not a very favorable plan and the hope would be at some point that it could be improved or changed. This will make it that much harder to improve or change the tier two retirement plan for those employees of the university and elsewhere in the state that came in under that system. So, I would encourage you to read this for yourselves and decide whether or not you think this is a good idea.

We are starting to experiment a little with our longer range plan of going paperless as we talked about the last time, so we have the agenda up on the screen there.

### **V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION**

## VI. CONSENT AGENDA

## VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

- A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – [report](#) – Page 3  
[MAP 102](#) (also posted to FS Blackboard)

**S. Armstrong:** This one will actually be pretty short because there wasn't a lot of content to this last meeting. Really no updates beyond last month's from IBHE staffing angle. They are still working on replacing Blankenburger. There was one new item from IBHE and that is this addition of certificates for short programs. I'm not entirely clear on whether and how that will affect us at the four- year institutions, but IBHE is now taking over those one-year certificate programs. So I'll keep you updated as to the implications for us. There's also the MAP 102 PowerPoint which is posted on our Senate Blackboard site. That was just a continuation of discussion about MAP funding, where it's going, and the need for MAP funding in order to meet the 60 x 25 goal that's been set by the state. The rest of the time really we talked a lot about the Amendment 49 which has already been raised and if anyone is interested in additional details about what was said, I do have more detailed minutes from the FAC to IBHE, I'd be happy to share those.

**A. Rosenbaum:** Any questions for Sonya? So it sounds like we have a little bit more material on the HJRCA 49 and I guess if you read all the material you might find some good things about it or you might find a lot of bad things about it. So you might want to read up on it.

- B. Student Association – Delonte LeFlore, President, and Austin Quick, Speaker – report

**A. Rosenbaum:** Next report is from the Student Association. We will have a brief report from Chad Harris who is reporting in place of Austin.

**C. Harris:** Okay, I just want to touch on two policies: the grievance policy and the plus/minus policy. Where we're at with the grievance policy as far as I know is we're researching through other school systems to get their input and how the system that they've put in place works.

The plus/minus system: I brought in a resolution that we just passed in senate this past Sunday, SAR44025, I believe, if you look on the Student Association website it should be up there as well. And that's pretty much the students of the senate urging the university to stop their actions towards going forward with plus/minus system. That was something that we passed on Sunday and Mike Theodore it and we just want you guys to take that into account when you're redoing the system.

**A. Rosenbaum:** Okay, that's it? Anybody have any questions for Chad?

- C. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Kerry Freedman and Andy Small – no report

- D. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Alan Rosenbaum and Greg Waas – no report
- E. BOT Legislation, Audit, and External Affairs Committee – Todd Latham and Rosita Lopez – no report
- F. BOT – Alan Rosenbaum – no report

### **VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES**

- A. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Brad Cripe, Chair – no report
- B. Academic Affairs – Charles Cappell, Chair – no report
- C. Economic Status of the Profession – Debra Zahay-Blatz, Chair – no report
- D. Rules and Governance – Ibrahim Abdel-Motaleb, Chair – no report
- E. Resources, Space and Budgets – Jim Wilson, Liaison/Spokesperson – report – [October 12, 2012](#) meeting and [October 18, 2012](#) meeting – walk-in.

**J. Wilson:** Yes, real briefly, two documents here: The first one reflects our actual meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> and I would draw your attention to item 5 which gives a breakdown of monies owed to NIU; \$12 million from the past year, \$30 million for the current fiscal year. Also owed are \$9.5 million from MAP funding and this represents a \$51 million shortfall which is actually an improvement apparently from last year at this time.

Next, just to highlight a couple of things with our meeting with President Peters and Provost Alden. Among our ongoing concerns is the issue of security and safety and that was our main purpose in meeting this time with President Peters. And he pretty much delimited what our scope of interest should be. Basically focusing on resources rather policy and he gave quite a lengthy list of various things where resources were allocated to all types of things like policing and private security since 2/14; new safety measures implemented in the new residence halls and additional security to late night ride program and so on. You can see the list there and he also reiterated the \$51 million monies owed to us. The budget does take into account \$20 million shortfall due to lower enrollment. That was planned for. We are still looking for the number of retirements so we can do some planning on that end, and funding for capital projects will be more likely to rebound rather than the general revenue funding

**A. Rosenbaum:** Okay, does anyone any questions for Jim? Jim, is it correct to say that the president is optimistic about us receiving the funding by December 31?

**J. Wilson:** Yes.

- F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Therese Arado, Chair – no report

## **IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**A. Rosenbaum:** Okay, if there are no other questions, we are going to need a motion to go into executive session. I need a motion.

**G. Slotsve:** Moved. **J. Novak:** Second.

The motion to enter executive session was passed without dissent or abstention.

**A. Rosenbaum:** We have to ask all non-voting members of the senate to leave. Pat Erickson and Ferald Bryan were allowed to remain for purposes of taking notes and consultation on parliamentary issues.

A. Presidential Search

## **X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

## **XI. NEW BUSINESS**

## **XII. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

## **XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

- A. [Minutes](#), Academic Planning Council
- B. [Minutes](#), Admissions Policies and Academic Standards Committee
- C. [Minutes](#), Athletic Board
- D. [Minutes](#), Campus Security and Environmental Quality Committee
- E. [Minutes](#), Committee on Advanced Professional Certification in Education
- F. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Improvement of Undergraduate Education
- G. [Minutes](#), Committee on Initial Teacher Certification
- H. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Academic Experience
- I. [Minutes](#), Committee on the Undergraduate Curriculum
- J. [Minutes](#), General Education Committee
- K. [Minutes](#), Honors Committee
- L. [Minutes](#), Operating Staff Council
- M. [Minutes](#), Supportive Professional Staff Council
- N. [Minutes](#), Undergraduate Coordinating Council
- O. [Minutes](#), University Assessment Panel
- P. [Minutes](#), University Benefits Committee
- Q. [HJRCA 49](#), Constitutional Amendment

## **XIV. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm.