

10-30-2013

## FS Minutes 2013-10-30

Northern Illinois University

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**FACULTY SENATE MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, October 30, 2013, 3 p.m.**  
**Holmes Student Center Sky Room**

**VOTING MEMBERS PRESENT:** Arado, Arriola, Azad, Bateni, Chandler, Chen, Clapp, Collins (for Hunt), Creamer, Crowley (for Ryan), Daniel, Deng, Downing, Feurer, Flynn (for Tonks), Gaillard, Henning, Koren, Lenczewski, Long, Looney, Mackie, Martin, McHone-Chase, Moremen, Newman, Novak, Patro, Pitney, Rodgers, A. Rosenbaum, Saborio (for Nissen), Sagarin, Schneider, Siegesmund, Slotsve, Staikidis, Tollerud (for Rheineck), VandeCreek, Wilson

**VOTING MEMBERS ABSENT:** Abdel-Motaleb, Bisplinghoff, Briscoe, Bujarski, Cripe, Fang, Farrell, Frank, Fredericks, Giese, Gupta, Hamayatsu (sabbatical), Hunt, Jones, Kapitan, Kolb, Kostic, Kowalski, Lee, Liui, Lopez, Middleton, Millis, Mogren, Mohabbat, Munroe, Naples, Nissen, Onyuksel, Plonczynski, Rheineck, Rollman, M. Rosenbaum, Ryan (sabbatical), Sirotkin, Thu, Tonks (sabbatical), Walker, Ward (for Hamayotsu)

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Armstrong, Bryan, Gebo, Haliczer, Klaper, Streb

**OTHERS ABSENT:** Clark, Falkoff, Hathaway, Small, Smith, Thompson, Waas

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

A. **Rosenbaum** called to order at 3:06 p.m.

**II. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

A. **Rosenbaum** noted three walk-in reports: 1) revised disability presentation; 2) University Benefits Committee report; 3) Committee on Resources, Space and Budgets report. **J. Novak:** moved to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by an unidentified member, motion passed.

**III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 2, 2013 FS MEETING**

T. **Arado** moved to accept the minutes, seconded by **S. McHone-Chase**. The minutes were approved as written.

**IV. PRESIDENT'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

A. NCAA graduation rate report – Matt Streb, Faculty Athletics Liaison

A. **Rosenbaum** introduced Matt Streb, faculty athletic liaison and representative to the Athletic Board to talk about the graduation rates of our athletes.

M. **Streb** reported the following:

- The NCAA has its own graduation rate called the GSR (graduate success rate). It's a better measure of graduation rate than the federal rate because we get credit for transfer students who graduate from our institution. Our GSR for the last cohort, for all sports is 85 percent which is the highest it's been since the NCAA has started tracking the GSR and is tied for the highest GSR rate in the Mid-American Conference with Miami of Ohio.
- Four of our sports: women's basketball, women's golf, gymnastics and men's tennis, have 100 percent graduation rates.
- Ten of our sports have graduation rates above the national average for their sport. And several of our sports that fall below the national average still have very strong graduation rates. For instance, women's tennis has a graduation rate of 88 percent. The national graduation rate is 92 percent so they're still doing very well.
- Our football GSR for the last group was 85 percent. That is the highest in the Mid-American Conference by 10 percent. If we were to rank our football program based on graduation rate, our football program would be ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the country of about 130 programs. Of the top 25 teams in the AP poll right now, we have the third highest graduation rate.
- Our student athletes are graduating at a higher percentage than our students, in general. If you just take the most recent six-year average, (2006-2012), the FGR (federal graduation rate) of our student athletes was 78 percent compared to 54 percent for the university as a whole.

**A. Rosenbaum** reported the following:

- Our first Faculty Club lunch was held October 24 with 28 attendees. The next Faculty Club lunch is November 19. The theme that day will be Asian Twist. It's \$10, for the three-course lunch with wine available at an extra cost. Make reservations with Pat by November 11.
- I also want to call your attention to the fact that we have our inauguration of the president on November 13. This will be an opportunity to hear firsthand what the president's plans are. The inauguration will take place in the Sandburg Auditorium November 13 at 3:00 and then there will be a reception in the Chick Evans Field House.
- Ray Alden has been reassigned as the vice president for international programs and international affairs. The president feels that one way to deal with our enrollment problem is to increase our number of foreign students and he has made some connections in China and is working to bring a number of students from China to NIU for either a semester or a year to increase their liberal arts, art, music, humanities training because apparently this person's feeling is that in China the emphasis is too much on STEM, sort of the opposite of what we have in the United States. The search committee for a new

provost has not yet been composed, but I've been assured that it will have strong representation of the faculty.

- As a member of the CIO search committee, I would be very much interested in hearing feedback from faculty on what are faculty's main concerns regarding a new chief information officer. And so you can feed that back either by calling me, sending me an e-mail or sending it through George Slotsve who is our representative on CFAC.
- We are working to set up a pension discussion with legislators. We are partnering, as we voted to do, with the Operating Staff Council and with the SPS Council and we are now in the process of trying to make those arrangements. We have reserved the Sandburg Auditorium for November 20, 12:00 to 1:30, however, we have not yet gotten commitments from legislators, one of the reasons being that we have not yet sent out invitations to them, as we need to make sure that the administration approves of us inviting them to campus.

## V. ITEMS FOR FACULTY SENATE CONSIDERATION

A. Accessibility Statements and Syllabus Inclusion – Greg Long – [updated report](#) – walk-in

**A. Rosenbaum** introduced Greg Long, chair of the Presidential Commission on Persons with Disabilities. Faculty Senate has heard from Greg before; he's on the University Council and Faculty Senate as well.

**G. Long** reported that this past January, the Graduate Council and the Undergraduate Coordinating Council passed the syllabus policy that says we have an expectation that every course have a syllabus and one of the components within the syllabus should be an ADA statement or accessibility statement.

An informal survey of his disabilities class revealed that 77 percent of all syllabi collected from those students included the accessibility statement, but he would like to see that figure approach 100 percent. Within a department, it's not at all unusual to have some courses with it, some courses without it, even within sections of the same of the course. So when you're talking about some of the larger classes that have multiple sections, some of the sections will include the accessibility statement, some will not.

Long proposed that the Faculty Senate recommend to University Council a policy change that an accessibility statement be required content for all syllabi.

**A. Rosenbaum** noted that the syllabus policy is found in the Academic Policies and Procedures Manual (APPM) and it requires that you have a syllabus but what goes into that is left to the discretion of the faculty member although there are suggestions as to what you should put in it both for your own protection and for the protection of students. At present, there is nothing in the policy that is specifically required.

After much discussion, **G.Long** made a motion to require all syllabi to contain an ADA/accessibility statement. **H. Bateni** was second. The motion was approved by the following vote:

- 1 – YES – 27
- 2 – NO – 9
- 3 – ABSTAIN – 1

It will be brought forward at the next University Council meeting.

## **VI. CONSENT AGENDA**

## **VII. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

### **A. FAC to IBHE – Sonya Armstrong – [report](#) – Pages 8-9**

**S. Armstrong** reported that the FAC to the IBHE has been discussing in the larger Faculty Advisory Council, and also specifically in the public universities caucus, what topics to try to address this year. There are a lot of important topics, they are trying to prioritize, trying to determine what topics they can actually have an impact on. Armstrong welcomes input from faculty on this topic.

### **B. Student Association – Rebecca Clark, Director of Governmental and Academic Affairs – no report**

### **C. University Benefits Committee – Deborah Haliczzer, Chair and Therese Arado, FS-Committee on the Economic Status of the Profession Liaison – [report](#) – walk-in**

### **D. Haliczzer reported the following:**

- The dependent audit because this is something that's going to affect all employees who are insuring dependents come January. Employees will be asked to produce required documentation that they should be, and are eligible, to insure their dependents. The benefits committee very appropriately asked HR to provide detailed explanations of what sort of documentation is going to be required. For instance, they were told anecdotally that some of the annuitants were asked to provide tax documentation to prove that people are their tax eligible dependents. So they are going to look at what the annuitants have had to do and give more detailed explanation to our members and our employees here so that you're not sending information you shouldn't be sending.
- The Faculty Senate resolution on pensions was discussed at the UBC meeting and the committee supported this resolution.
- The UBC has voted to support the proposed Pension Reform Forum with legislators coming to campus to discuss this topic.

D. Computing Facilities Advisory Committee – George Slotsve – [report](#) – Pages 10-11

**G. Slotsve** reported the following:

- Last spring ITS underwent an assessment review. The final report has been made and Slotsve believes it will be delivered to the Board of Trustees committee on November 7. After it's been presented to the Board of Trustees, the report will be publically available. At that time, Slotsve will let Pat Erickson know where it is posted so that we can provide a link on to the Faculty Senate website.
- ITS has changed the network rates. A number of departments have 10 megabyte connections, although a 100 megabyte connection is available at a substantially higher price. ITS has now lowered the price of the 100 megabyte connections so you might want to think of upgrading to achieve quicker communication. Contact ITS.
- Cloud computing is coming. In general, this probably is a good thing, though some researchers might have projects where computing security is very important. The security component of cloud computing might be an issue in those cases. As part of reducing costs, either the college or the university, more than likely the university as a whole, eventually will go to university-wide software licensing, which means some of the software that you have will probably be available in the cloud and X number of people will be allowed to use that software simultaneously. So you may not have software sitting on your own portable machines any longer. It's also been suggested that we may be moved toward university-wide data licensing as well. If you've got a data license, it's often the same rate whether the department owns the data or the university owns the data, but for who can use the data and access the data, it does matter.
- Each college does have a representative on CFAC. If you're having ITS-related issues, contact your college representative or Slotsve so the issues can be brought up at committee meetings.

E. BOT Academic Affairs, Student Affairs and Personnel Committee – Dan Gebo and Andy Small – no report

F. BOT Finance, Facilities, and Operations Committee – Alan Rosenbaum – no report

G. BOT Legislation and External Affairs Committee – Deborah Haliczzer and Rosita Lopez – no report

H. BOT Compliance, Audit, Risk Management and Legal Affairs Committee – Deborah Haliczzer and Alan Rosenbaum – no report

I. BOT Ad Hoc Committee on Sponsored Research Activity and Technology Transfer – Greg Waas – no report

J. BOT – Alan Rosenbaum – no report

## VIII. REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – Brad Cripe, Chair – no report

B. Academic Affairs – Sarah McHone-Chase, Chair – no report

C. Economic Status of the Profession – George Slotsve, Chair – report

1. Resolution on Pensions

[Original](#) Version – Page 12

[Revised](#) Version – Page 13

**A. Rosenbaum** reminded the senators that this item was held over from last month. It is the resolution on pensions that we were working with for the Council on Illinois University Senates.

**G. Slotsve** called everyone's attention to the proposed resolution on pensions. His committee heard from approximately 12 to 15 people who commented on the original version. Also, they reviewed the October 2 meeting transcript to see what the comments were. They tried to re-write it in a way that reflects some of the concerns that people had. Slotsve thanked the committee for their help on re-writing the resolution. The final committee vote on the revised version was nine in favor, and one abstention. He confirmed Haliczzer's earlier comment that the revised version also was reviewed by the University Benefits Committee.

**G. Slotsve** moved the revised pensions resolution. **W. Creamer** was second.

**A. Rosenbaum** added that he thinks the revised resolution is a much improved version of the original; it reads better and is a stronger statement. He commended the committee for its work. The motion passed by the following vote:

1 – YES – 32

2 – NO – 0

3 – ABSTAIN – 2

The approved resolution will be sent to the Council of Illinois University Senates (CIUS).

D. Rules and Governance – Robert Schneider, Chair – no report

E. Resources, Space and Budgets – Jim Wilson, Liaison/Spokesperson – [report](#) – walk-in

**J. Wilson** reported that the committee met with President Baker, as well several members of his cabinet, on October 25. The committee is evaluating what its role might be in shaping the budget.

F. Elections and Legislative Oversight – Joe Flynn, Chair – no report

**IX. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**X. NEW BUSINESS**

**XI. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS FROM THE FLOOR**

**XII. 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

**XIII. ADJOURNMENT**

**J. Wilson** moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by **G. Long**, motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.