AGENDA:

1. Welcome by Stephen F. Eisenman, interim chair. “Shared University Governance in a National Perspective” – 10 minutes

2. Discussion and approval of procedures for elections. In accordance with the bylaws, the Senate must elect a Chair and Vice Chair who will also fulfill the role of the Secretary.

The Governance Committee of the former GFC has proposed the following procedures: upon conclusion of tonight’s meeting, members will, between Jan. 13 and Jan. 26, submit to Diana (d-snyder@northwestern.edu) nominations and self-nominations for the two positions. The names must be accompanied by a brief statement indicating the nominee’s ability and willingness to serve. (The statement will be posted on-line for review by members.) At the beginning of the February meeting, nominees will be given five minutes each to address the Senate and answer questions. Following the statements, senators will vote on site. The person with the highest number of votes will be the Chair. The candidate who receives the second largest number of votes will be elected Vice Chair. The Committee also proposes that the terms for each office end on September 1, 2012, upon which time, the Vice Chair will become the Chair, and a new election will be held for the Vice Chair. – 30 minutes

3. Discussion and approval of procedures for establishment of committees.

In accordance with the bylaws, the Governance Committee of the former GFC has proposed: that during the three weeks between the January and February meetings, members indicate to Diana their first three preferences for committee assignments. Following the Feb. meeting, the new Chair and Vice Chair will appoint senators to the committees. Each committee will be instructed to meet as soon as possible but no later than the March meeting and elect its chair (See list of committees below, and examples of issues they may address.) – 30 minutes

4. Creation of Ad-Hoc Committee to Revise Faculty Handbook: A Call for Volunteers. – 15 minutes

5. Faculty Club. – 5 minutes

6. Adjournment. Time for greeting and socializing. – 20 minutes

Please visit the Faculty Senate Website at http://www.northwestern.edu/faculty-senate
Committees -

- Benefits Committee – sample issues: salaries, health, education and other benefits including childcare

- Governance Committee – sample issues: establishing and revising senate rules, proposing changes to bylaws, seeking release time for Senate Chair and establishing the Senate budget

- Research Affairs – sample issues: concerns about IRB, relations with other educational and research institutions.

- Social Responsibility – sample issues: Living Wage proposals, investment ethics

- Budget -- sample issues: overall allocation of resources, performance of endowment, payout from endowment

- Faculty Rights and Responsibilities – sample issues: faculty authority over teaching program and curricula, faculty and student teaching loads and schedules, oversight responsibilities for our new Ombudsperson program

- Executive Committee (consists of Senate Chair and Vice Chair and all chairs of standing committees) – sample duties: staff committees, periodically meet with central administration, approve substitute members and substitute chairs (in cases of illness or faculty leaves of absence), function as a rapid-reaction Senate

- Committee on Cause (membership created only when needed) – sample issues: academic integrity, disciplinary issues, resolve disputes between and among faculty and administrators