

Northwestern University  
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting  
Library Forum - Evanston, Wieboldt 421 - Chicago  
June 1, 2011

---

Paul Arntson, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 5:08 pm. There were 54 of 88 members in attendance, with 44 attendees in Evanston and 10 in Chicago.

**1. Welcome by Paul Arntson, chair.**

Paul Arntson welcomed everyone, made a few announcements, and highlighted several important agenda items.

**2. Approval of the minutes of the May 4, 2011 Faculty Senate Meeting**

The minutes of the May 4, 2011 Faculty Senate Meeting were approved unanimously as is, pending additional changes, if any, be sent to Diana Snyder, Faculty Senate Administrative Coordinator.

**3. Web streaming - attendance guidelines**

Paul Arntson announced the availability of web streaming for all future Faculty Senate meetings. At each Senator's request, a streaming link will be emailed to anyone who is not able to attend the meeting at either the Evanston or the Chicago venue. At this time, attendance via streaming will not count towards establishing a quorum for the purposes of voting, but this may be subject to change. During meetings, when a Senator who is using web streaming has a question or a comment, he/she can send an email to Diana Snyder, Faculty Senate Administrative Coordinator, who will pass it along to the Chair.

**4. Senate Rules for on-line deliberation and voting, and bylaw changes - 2nd reading**

Paul Arntson reported that the Governance standing committee has decided on a modified version of what was previously proposed at the May 4, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting regarding the Senate rules for on-line deliberation and voting, and bylaw changes. A discussion ensued and Senators gave feedback on the content of the current document as well as suggestions for ways to improve it. A motion was made, and seconded, to send the current document to the Governance standing committee for a rewrite based on the discussion points raised. The floor was opened for discussion, Faculty Senate members voted, and the motion passed unanimously. Senators were also asked to send the Governance committee additional thoughts and changes. The revised document will be available for Senate review and vote at the October 5, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting.

## 5. Committee Reports

Paul Arntson asked each Chair to give a committee report.

**Faculty Rights and Responsibilities:** Chair Wes Burghardt reported on the current state of the recent case involving Professor David Protes, including a recap of the actions taken by the committee and the Faculty Senate in the matter, David Protes' statement to the Faculty Senate, and the administration's response to the resolution concerning due process. Faculty Senate members discussed the matter in great detail.

The following motion was made and seconded:

*The Faculty Senate instructs the Faculty Handbook Committee to clarify the terms "suspension" and "minor sanction" in the Handbook's section on disciplinary procedures in order to ensure that it is not possible for a member of the faculty to be involuntarily relieved of all teaching duties, or publicly denounced by the University, without any right to appeal such actions.*

The floor was opened for discussion and a lengthy debate ensued. Faculty Senate members voted and the motion passed.

The following motion was made and seconded:

- 1. The Faculty Senate expresses its deep concern at the university's treatment of Professor David Protes.*
- 2. We disagree with Provost Linzer's characterization of the removal of David Protes from the classroom, removal from his research project, and denial of the right to enter his office or any Medill building, without the Dean's permission as a simple administrative matter. Who is in effect a suspension of his faculty role without due process.*
- 3. We are distressed that the administration publically attacked a faculty member through a highly negative press release.*
- 4. The Faculty Senate is also disappointed with the administration's perfunctory response to our resolution concerning the David Protes case.*
- 5. We request a meeting between President Schapiro and Provost Linzer and the Faculty Senate's Executive Committee to discuss these matters.*

The floor was opened for discussion and a lengthy debate ensued. Faculty Senate members voted and the motion passed.

**Social Responsibility:** Chair Joshua Hauser reported on the outcome of the two resolutions passed at the May 4, 2011 Faculty Senate meeting supporting the principles of a living wage at Northwestern

and calling on the university to convene a committee to further this principle. President Schapiro responded that Northwestern is willing to work with subcontractors to improve conditions and wages for workers, but the University did not plan to create a committee to implement a living wage. The Social Responsibility committee will remain persistent in the matter and follow up with the administration, asking President Schapiro for a meeting. The committee will return back to the Senate with an update as well as consideration of further resolutions.

#### **6. Faculty Senate biennial faculty survey**

Paul Arntson asked Senators to consider the establishing of a biennial faculty survey and encouraged everyone to look at the University of Michigan survey as a point of reference. The main priority is figuring out a fool proof way of making sure the survey is safe, confidential and truly anonymous. Although the Faculty Senate has the power to create the survey, the administration will be informed of the plans.

#### **7. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:59 pm.