

Northwestern University
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting
Library Forum Room - Evanston, Wieboldt 421 - Chicago
June 6, 2012

Paul Arntson, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 5:13 pm. There were 52 of 85 members in attendance, with 37 attendees in Evanston, 11 in Chicago and 4 via videoconferencing/phone. The quorum of fifty-one percent was met.

1. Welcome by Paul Arntson, Chair of the Faculty Senate

Paul Arntson welcomed everyone and briefly recapped the events from the year.

2. Approval of the minutes of the May 2, 2012 Faculty Senate Meeting

The minutes of the May 2, 2012 Faculty Senate Meeting were approved, pending additional changes, if any, be sent to Diana Snyder, Faculty Senate Administrative Coordinator.

3. Approval of Faculty Handbook

James Young, Associate Provost, and John Elson, Faculty Handbook Committee Chair, were in attendance to address any questions or concerns related to the current revisions to the Faculty handbook. Paul Arntson gave a brief historic overview of the revision process and how the progression has led to this current draft version that Senators will be voting on. A motion was made and seconded to approve the revised Faculty Handbook and the floor was opened for discussion. One Senator expressed a strong reservation to the medical evaluation policy as it is currently stated. John Elson and James Young spoke to the issue and explained the circumstance surrounding the decision to include the language as it currently stands. A lengthy discussion ensued.

A motion was made and seconded to amend the medical evaluation policy section in the handbook by adding the following statement: *To permit the access to such information to the faculty member in question and to limit the access to such information to those at the university with a need to know.* Faculty Senate members voted and the motion carried.

One Senator expressed concern over language in the *Proposals to External Agencies* section that was never revised but needs updating. After a brief discussion it was determined that this section is an issue indeed and needs to be revised. A motion was made and seconded to table the discussion, with strong recommendation that it gets picked up in the next round of negotiations. Faculty Senate members voted and the motion carried.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the revised Faculty Handbook, given the amendment that was approved. Faculty Senate members voted and the motion carried. Paul Arntson will send the approved revised Faculty Handbook and the amendment to the administration. Pending administration approval, the Handbook that will be in force will be sent electronically to the entire faculty body.

4. Election of Vice Chair for FY 2012-2013

Paul Arntson introduced Jerilyn Logemann, who was nominated for vice chair for FY2012-2013. Professor Logemann addressed the Faculty Senate by expressing her desire to serve and her commitment to increase central administration's awareness of faculty matters. Faculty Senate members unanimously elected Jerilyn A Logemann as vice chair for FY2012-2013.

5. Discussion of the "Creating a Culture of Diversity at Northwestern University" Petition

Mary Pattillo gave background information on the events leading up to the development of the diversity initiative, which is meant to support students who courageously spoke out against the culture of racism at Northwestern University, but were maligned for doing so. The "*Creating a Culture of Diversity at Northwestern University*" petition is meant to be an institutional response to both past and present incidents of racism and outlines concrete steps to take as a university community to begin to address these disturbing issues. As the faculty governing body, the Faculty Senate needs to be involved in the administration's efforts to correct these issues of diversity, so Mary Pattillo recommended that the Education Committee of the Senate work to ensure there is representation on the University Diversity Council, especially when curriculum changes related to diversity are being developed.

6. Formation of Non-tenured Standing Committee

Paul Arntson announced that members of the standing Governance Committee will work to generate a bylaw that has the formation of a standing committee about non-tenure track issues.

7. Approval of Standing Committee Chairs for FY 2012-2013

Approval of the Standing Committee Chairs has been postponed until FY2013.

8. Committee Reports

Paul Arntson asked each Chair to give a committee report.

Benefits: No report at this time.

Budget: No report at this time.

Cause: On behalf of Chair Robert Wallace, Laurie Zoloth reported that a new case has emerged.

Educational Affairs: Susan Lee will serve as chair of the Educational Affairs committee for FY2012-2013.

Faculty Rights and Responsibilities: No report at this time.

Governance: Chair Paul Arntson reported on the three action items for the committee: 1) Faculty Appeals Panel: develop bylaws and senate rules 2) Ombudsman program: update and revise 3) Revisit the current bylaws and revise if necessary.

Research Affairs: No report at this time.

Secure Faculty Survey: Chair Malcolm MacIver reported that the committee has begun the work of creating the survey.

Social Responsibility: In Chair Joshua Hauser's absence, Nora Francis reported that the committee continues to focus their attention on the living wage campaign initiative. Chair Hauser has emailed the administration to ask for administrative representation on the Social Responsibility committee to continue discussions.

9. Farewell and Thanks to Outgoing Senators

Paul Arntson thanked all of the outgoing Senators for serving on the Faculty Senate and for all of their hard work and participation. Chair Arntson encouraged Senators to run for re-election.

10. Reminder for Outgoing Senators: contact department/school to elect new representative

Paul Arntson reminded outgoing Senators to talk to their respective dean or department chair to ensure the vacancy is filled in a timely manner so the work of the Faculty Senate can continue successfully and without interruption.

11. Introduction and welcome: FY2012-2013 Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders

Paul Arntson presented Babette Sanders, Chair of the Faculty Senate for FY2012-2013. Paul will continue to service in an advisory role, as immediate past chair.

12. Possible topics for next year

Paul Arntson and several other Senators presented ideas for topics to be pursued in FY2012-2013. It is critical to continue to examine faculty rights and responsibilities violations at the school level, department level, and the administration level. The establishment of a Faculty Club needs to be revisited, as well as the issue of onsite daycare. Northwestern University needs to rebuild the AAUP chapter and continue building the Faculty Senate. Paul Arntson announced that NU is hosting the upcoming Fall CIC meeting taking place November 30th and December 1st. He strongly encouraged everyone to think about possible topics for this important gathering and also to consider attending.

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:54 pm.