

Northwestern University  
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting  
Pancoe Auditorium - Evanston, Wieboldt Hall 421 - Chicago  
March 4, 2015

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The Faculty Senate meeting of March 4, 2015 took place on the Evanston Campus in Pancoe Auditorium and on the Chicago Campus in Wieboldt Hall 421. President Stephen Eisenman called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM. There were 52 of 80 members in attendance, with 33 attendees in Evanston, 10 in Chicago, and 9 participating off-site. The quorum of fifty-one percent was met. Also in attendance were Board of Trustees Chair William Osborn, Associate Provost Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Assistant Provost for Faculty Cathy Grimsted, and Northwestern University General Counsel Stephanie Graham.

**1. Welcome by Stephen Eisenman, President**

President Stephen Eisenman welcomed Senators and made the opening remarks.

**2. Question and Answer Session with NU Board of Trustees Chair, William Osborn**

President Stephen Eisenman introduced guest speaker William Osborn, Chair of the Northwestern University Board of Trustees, who comes each year to speak with the Faculty Senate about important University matters of interest to the Faculty and to discuss the state of the University. Chairman Osborn responded to a variety of questions that were sent in advance of the meeting as well as those from members of the Senate in the audience. The questions and comments focused on global warming; cost of living higher than Faculty raises; expanding campuses globally; the Qatar Campus; ethnic and socio-economic (class) diversity at NU; CTEC's; NU student attendance at football games; and a variety of other important issues and topics.

**3. Presentation of proposed Handbook revisions by representatives of Senate Handbook Committee, Associate Provost Lindsay Chase-Lansdale, Assistant Provost for Faculty Cathy Grimsted, and NU Counsel Stephanie Graham**

Associate Provost Lindsay Chase-Lansdale talked about her commitment to making sure the Faculty Handbook is revised on an ongoing basis and kept current, having it become part of the culture to make changes, big or small.

She highlighted the following proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook:

1. In the spirit of collaborative engagement, the first page of the Handbook now reads that it is a collaboration between the Faculty Senate, Faculty, and the Administration.
2. Addition of "The University Community" section on the first page, which gives an overview of "lofty" goals embraced by all.
3. General accessibility: language is clearer and more accessible.
4. Disciplinary Process: clarified what Faculty rights are during disciplinary proceedings.

5. Clarification of Faculty appeals process
6. Title IX Regulations

President Steven Eisenman remarked that that Faculty Handbook is the closest things to a contract that Faculty have, therefore he encouraged Senators to carefully review the proposed changes and the Handbook generally. Senators were asked to send comments and suggestions.

#### **4. President's Report/Remarks, Stephen Eisenman**

##### *A. Executive Committee Meeting Update:*

A written report was submitted and is included in the meeting materials of today's Senate meeting.

##### *B. NUQ Report:*

President Eisenman updated the NUQ report based upon corrections and recommendations from Provost Dan Linzer and several Faculty members. Senators were encouraged to read the revised report and send additional suggestions and or comments. Once finalized, the report will be published.

##### *C. Evanston, global warming initiative: [www.greenerevanston.org](http://www.greenerevanston.org):*

President Eisenman talked about Evanston's global warming initiative and announced that the City is looking for Faculty members who are interested in participating in their panel to help further the efforts of the City. Interested Senators should visit [www.greenerevanston.org](http://www.greenerevanston.org) to sign up.

##### *D. COIA conference with Senate COIA representative Jeannie Herrick:*

The purpose of the recent Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics (COIA) conference was to review policies of the Universities regarding big money sports. COIA representative and Senator Jeannie Herrick explained that the group, which was formed in 2002, is a coalition/alliance of Faculty Senates and has 63 members, all from Division 1 Schools, whose main concern is the reform of sports, particularly big money sports in Division 1 schools. Further, she stated that the COIA is a volunteer organization with budgetary and staff needs. She remarked that Northwestern University should stay in the COIA for the following reasons:

1. It allows NU to participate in the discussion and to hear what other Faculty Senates are thinking.
2. The COIA has the potential to be a strong voice in the discussion, which NU should be a part of.
3. If/when the best practices document is produced, it will be a good tool to evaluate where NU stands vis-a-vis best practices.

It became very apparent to Senator Herrick that the COIA representative can be most effective by linking the Faculty Senate to the CAR Committee.

## **5. Standing Committees Update**

### *A. Budget Committee Resolution:*

*Senator and Chair of the Budget Committee, Ezra Getzler, presented the following motion which was adopted unanimously:*

*Whereas Northwestern University is a non-profit institution held in the public trust;*

*Whereas higher education has traditionally been a central route for upward mobility in the United States;*

*Whereas increasing socio-economic diversity is both in the interest of the university and of a democratic civil society;*

*Whereas inequality has increased over the last three decades in this country, leading to substantial divergence in the preparation and resources of students;*

*Whereas Northwestern has made progress in recent years in increasing access to Northwestern for low-income students;*

*Be it resolved that the Faculty Senate supports the efforts of President Schapiro and the Northwestern University Administration to increase access for low-income students;*

*Be it further resolved that the university should ensure that financial aid packages for Pell Grant-eligible students are consistently competitive with those offered by peer institutions;*

*Be it further resolved that the university should subsidize academic, extracurricular, and professional development opportunities to enable full participation by all students in the life of the university regardless of income;*

*Be it further resolved that the university should raise additional funds specifically earmarked to support low-income student access to Northwestern without compromising financial aid for middle income students;*

*Be it further resolved that the administration should implement policies to ensure that by 2020, or sooner, no fewer than 20% of Northwestern undergraduates are Pell Grant-eligible.*

Chair Ezra Getzler gave a special thank you to Associate Professor Huey Copeland for all of his work on putting the motion together.

## **6. Vice President for 2015-2016 -- Call for Nominations and Self-Nominations**

President Stephen Eisenman encouraged Senators to nominate themselves or other senators to serve as Vice President. This Senator will then become the President of the Senate in the year that follows. He informed Senators that the President receives a \$5000 salary increase for the presidency year, a \$5000 research budget, one course relief and funds for additional administrative support.

## **7. Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,*

*Diana Snyder*

*Administrative Coordinator*