The regular monthly meeting of the Northwestern University Faculty Senate was held on January 10, 2018 at James L. Allen Center’s McCormick Auditorium in Evanston, with videoconferencing to the Chicago campus in Wieboldt Hall 421. A number of Senators participated remotely. President Robert Hariman called the meeting to order at 5:07 p.m. A quorum was present, and the President noted the electronic approval of the November minutes.

The President welcomed the Senate and gave a report. Items covered included the November luncheon for senators and the Board of Trustees; recommendations for the search committee for a new director of the Buffett Institute; appointment of a Senate member to the Policy Review Committee; a handout for faculty on library resources for reducing student textbook costs; reports made and pending on University policy reviews, and a letter to President Schapiro on the proposed federal tax on graduate student tuition; and topics covered in regular meetings with the administration.

The President then introduced Provost Jonathan Holloway. Provost Holloway noted his intention to speak before the Faculty Senate annually. He then spoke on his priorities as provost and on the University’s response to a pending budget deficit. Following his speech, Provost Holloway answered questions from Senators.

The Governance Committee presented a resolution for second reading to amend Article IV, Section 2 of the Bylaws. The following was the resolution in question:

“Resolved, That the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate be amended as follows:

Article IV, Section 2: Strike out “five business days before the regularly scheduled meetings” and insert “forty-eight (48) hours before the scheduled call to order of regularly scheduled meetings.”

A modification of the text would be as follows:
Article IV Meetings:

Section 2: The agenda (order of business) for the meetings must be conveyed to the Faculty Senate five business days before the regularly scheduled meetings. The agenda (order of business) for special meetings must be sent to the Faculty Senate at least one day in advance of the meetings. The agenda (order of business) will include names of non-Senators who are permitted to address the Senate. Other non-Senators wishing to address the Senate must receive the approval of a majority of Senators present in order to do so.”

A vote on the resolution was held. All forty-nine Senators in attendance voted in favor of the resolution (the resolution has since passed based upon email responses from Senators who were not able to attend in person).

The President and Senator Micaela di Leonardo then introduced the Director of Student Enrichment Services, Kourtney Cockrell. Ms. Cockrell explained the role of her office in the University, particularly with regard to first-generation college students. She took questions following her presentation.

Senator Claudia Swan informed the Senate about the Provost’s Advisory Council on Women Faculty. Senator Swan asked her fellow Senators to sign-up for - and alert their fellow faculty members of the opportunity to sign up for - the Pipeline for Advancement focus groups scheduled during Winter Quarter 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Jared Spitz
Administrative Coordinator