The regular monthly meeting of the Northwestern University Faculty Senate was held on November 8, 2017 at Scott Hall’s Guild Lounge 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 5:04 p.m. A quorum was present, and the President noted the electronic approval of the October minutes.

The President welcomed the Senate and explained that he would give the President’s report after two presentations by guests of the Senate.

The President then introduced Edward Malthouse from the Honorary Degrees Committee. Professor Malthouse presented the 2017-2018 honorary degree nominees. The Senate discussed the nominees and then voted.

Following the vote, the Senate heard a report from the Sustainability Council. Brad Sageman, Kathia Benitez, and Eric Masanet presented the Strategic Sustainability Plan and the thought process behind many of the initiatives and recommendations from the Sustainability Council. Senators asked various questions about the implementation and feasibility of the Sustainability Plan. The Senate congratulated the efforts of the Sustainability Council to make Northwestern emission-free by 2050.

The President then gave his report to the Senate. He reminded Senators about the upcoming luncheon with the Board of Trustees and spoke about logistics for the meeting.

The Governance Committee presented a resolution for first reading to amend Article IV, Section 2 of the Bylaws. The proposed amendment would reduce the minimum time allotted for distribution of the agenda for regular Senate meetings from five business days to 48 hours.
The President entertained a motion to allow two non-Senators from the History department to present a resolution on non-tenure eligible faculty unionization. The motion was seconded and approved. The Senate then discussed the resolution. Following discussion, a motion was made to send the resolution to the Non-Tenure Eligible Committee for timely review and consideration. The motion was seconded and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:26 p.m.

Jared Spitz
Administrative Coordinator