

2017-2018 Year-End Committee Report

Committee:	Faculty Handbook
Charge:	revises the Northwestern University Faculty Handbook, which constitutes the contract between the faculty and the University.
Chair:	Lois Hedman
# of Meetings:	6 - all meetings were phone calls on BlueJeans

Completed Business and/or Accomplishments

1. The Committee worked with the Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee to review 3 policies and provide recommendations to Karen Halverson Cross in the Provost 's office. These policies were further refined by the Policy Review Committee based on additional input from other stakeholders.
 - a. Non-Retaliation - final version now available online
 - b. Demonstration and Disruption – currently under community review
 - c. Sexual Misconduct - currently being worked on by Office of Equity

Unfinished/Continuing Business

1. The Committee worked with the Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee and the Provost's office to revise the Disciplinary and Appeals processes in the Handbook. Despite months of work, we were unable to arrive at a version that could be voted on at the June, 2018 Senate meeting. Jennifer Cole and I asked for additional feedback from faculty by July 15, 2018 that we will send to Provost's office. The Provost's office has solicited the same from the Deans. Based on this feedback the Provost's office plans to create a draft for the Senate to view early in the fall of 2018 with the intention for the Senate to vote on it in October Senate meeting.

New Business for Next Year

1. We received a lot of feedback on aspects of the Handbook other than the Disciplinary and Appeals processes. Addressing these issues should be on the list for the handbook committee in the 2018-1019 academic year. However, my recommendation is to use this feedback as starting point for a conversation with the Provost office to agree on joint Handbook revision priorities for the academic year and to communicate these priorities to the Deans in the fall.
2. Another priority for the committee and the Provost's office should be to write down the process for revising the Handbook.
3. A third priority for the committee and the Provost's office should be to create an archive of the versions of the handbook.