

Northwestern University  
Minutes of the Faculty Senate Meeting  
Library Forum Room - Evanston, Wieboldt 421 - Chicago  
October 3, 2012

---

Babette Sanders, Chair of the Faculty Senate, called the meeting to order at 5:08pm. There were 44 of 66 members in attendance, with 30 attendees in Evanston, 8 in Chicago and 6 via videoconferencing. The quorum of fifty-one percent was met.

**1. Welcome by Babette Sanders, chair.**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders welcomed everyone and briefly introduced herself, Vice Chair Jerilyn Logemann, and Past Chair Paul Arntson. Chair Sanders encouraged everyone to contact her early and often, anytime there is a concern or a faculty issue arises. She welcomes general feedback, solicited and unsolicited.

Chair Sanders gave a brief overview of the Faculty Senate summer activities since the group last met in June 2012, including online learning discussions and positive interaction with the administration about moving forward to enhance shared governance.

**2. Approval of the minutes of the June 6, 2012 Faculty Senate Meeting**

A motion was made, and seconded, to adopt the minutes of the June 6, 2012 Faculty Senate Meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the minutes will be posted to the Faculty Senate website.

**3. Call to join a committee**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders briefly talked about the role of the standing committees and their importance to the success of the Faculty Senate and its core mission. In general, new initiatives are assigned to the appropriate committee structure where the work can be done, so being a member of a group is not only critical but required. She encouraged new Senators to review the list of committees and to email her and Diana Snyder, Faculty Senate Administrative Coordinator, their top two selections, as soon as possible. Returning Senators were encouraged to continue serving on their current committees, but were given the option to switch to another group if they choose to do so.

**4. Selection of Committee Chairs**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders announced the current Committee Chairs as well as the three vacancies, which were filled as follows. Donna Jurdy was nominated and has agreed to serve as Chair of the Benefits Committee. Hank Seifert has agreed to serve as Chair of the Cause Committee and Helen Thompson agreed to serve as Chair of the Budget Committee. The Chair of the Educational

Affairs Committee is Susan Lee. The Chair of the Faculty Rights and Responsibilities Committee is Wesley Roth Burghardt. The Chair of the Governance Committee is Paul Arntson. The Chair of the Research Affairs Committee is Jim Kyriacou. The Chair of the Secure Faculty Survey Committee is Malcolm MacIver, but this may change in the next few months. The Chair of the Social Responsibility Committee is Mary Pattillo. Babette Sanders will serve as the Chair of the Executive Committee.

## **5. Formation of Special Non-tenured Standing Committee**

Christiane Rey presented the proposal to establish a special Non-tenured Standing Committee. A motion was made, and seconded, to create a special committee representing non-tenured eligible faculty and issues specific to this group. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously. Christiane Rey has agreed to Chair the newly established special Non-tenured Standing Committee.

## **6. Committee Reports**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders asked each Chair to give a committee report.

*Benefits:* Former Benefits Chair, Jeri Logemann, gave a brief report on the two major items the committee focused on in fiscal year 2012, including childcare, and the sudden increase in the monthly healthcare contribution. Babette Sanders asked the committee to work with the Benefits Department to ensure people fully understand and are given plenty of notice about the implications of major Benefits changes, such as the upcoming changes to Flexible Spending resulting from a Government mandate. New Benefits Chair, Donna Jurdy, has agreed to address the matter.

*Budget:* There is a push within the Faculty Senate to revive the Budget Committee and its involvement in the decision making process for current and future University initiatives and general University budgeting. The former Budget Resource Allocation Committee (BRAC) was mentioned as a model in further developing the structure for the Budget Committee.

*Cause:* No report at this time.

*Educational Affairs:* Chair Susan Lee reported that there are two major areas the committee will be focusing on. First, they will look into a proposed requirement for a diversity course that would be university wide, which is being vetted by the Academics and Education working group that is a subcommittee of the Diversity Council. Second, they will investigate faculty's role in the decision making process related to distance learning and on-line education, including but not limited to compensation, what student groups are being identified for these courses, and the administration proceeding with program implementation independent of faculty input and feedback.

Senators shared their thoughts and experiences on the matter of distance learning and on-line education. Babette Sanders asked Senators to email her and Chair Susan Lee any additional information, comments, and concerns on the issue. One Senator asked why the Faculty Senate was

not involved in the decision making process from the beginning and that this needs to be addressed and fixed. Babette Sanders agreed, and will continue the conversation with the administration, holding them accountable to the commitment they made to enhance shared governance.

*Faculty Rights and Responsibilities:* Chair Wesley Roth Burghardt reported that this year the committee will work to codify practices and operations procedures for the Ombudsman program, which is under the auspices of the Faculty Senate.

*Governance:* Babette Sanders reported that the Governance Committee is currently working on several bylaw changes. Additionally, there is a proposal in the works for the establishment of a permanent Standing Faculty Handbook Committee. More information will be provided once the Governance Committee finalizes the details.

*Research Affairs:* Chair Jim Kyriacou reported that the three major objectives for the committee for this year are to revise the outdated guidelines for investigators in scientific research, to investigate the new conflict of interest policy, and to proceed in the creation of a research survey.

*Secure Faculty Survey:* There was no report at this time, but Babette Sanders gave a brief overview of the Committee's charge to develop, implement, and evaluate a biennial faculty survey.

*Social Responsibility:* Chair Mary Pattillo reported that the committee will hold its first meeting in the Fall.

*Executive Committee:* The Executive Committee will meet with the administration on Monday, November 5, 2012, 10:00am in Hardin Hall on the Evanston Campus. All Standing Committee Chairs are invited, and strongly encouraged, to attend the meeting.

## **7. Faculty Shared Governance: Faculty Senate inclusion in new initiatives**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders reported that the Faculty Senate leadership has met with the administration and will continue to meet on a regular basis in an effort to enhance shared governance. The administration has already shared several hot issues of major importance that will be addressed in the near future. One of the collective goals with the administration for this year, and generally as the Faculty Senate moves forward, is that whenever there is a new committee being formed on campus, or there is a currently structured committee that needs faculty representation, the Senate will be asked to participate and whoever serves will serve as a representative of the Faculty Senate. This arrangement with the administration is designed to ensure the Faculty Senate is included and has a voice in many more university initiatives.

The first initiative the administration has reached out to the Faculty Senate about is membership in the University Parking Committee. One of the items this committee will be looking into

is the upcoming loss of 250 parking spaces on the north end of campus due to construction plans. Chair Sanders asked Senators to email Diana Snyder, Faculty Senate Administrative Coordinator, as soon as possible if they are interested in serving on the Parking Committee, or know of someone in their department who might be interested in serving and would be willing to report back to the Senate. Senators inquired on whether or not the Parking Committee would, or could, address secured covered parking for bicycles. Babette Sanders will solicit the answer and report back to the Senate.

#### **8. Board of Trustees Meeting: Nov. 9th 12-1:30pm, Allen Center Atrium Dining Room**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders announced the upcoming Board of Trustees meeting taking place on November 9, 2012 from 12-1:30pm in the Allen Center Atrium Dining Room on the Evanston Campus. She gave a brief historical overview of the relationship between the Faculty Senate and the Board of Trustees and explained the structure and purpose of the upcoming meeting. Chair Sanders shared the proposed topic of discussion, which is Innovation in the Classroom, and gave Senators an opportunity to make comments and give feedback. Several individuals voiced their concerns over the current selection process for the discussion topics, as well as the ever decreasing meeting length. The Senate will devise a long-term strategy that addresses both of these issues for future BOT meetings.

The discussion topic was approved by most of the Senators. A suggestion was made for the Senate to engage the Board of Trustees in a dialogue where Senators understand what the Board Members mean by innovation, and Senators can then help them define it further. This will ensure that innovation is not just defined in terms of technology or in terms of competing in the marketplace of post-secondary education. The Senate's most innovative and most creative compelling work might be accomplished by feeding the notion of an ongoing dialogue by engaging the Board of Trustees in a rich dialogue at the November 9 meeting.

#### **9. Honorary Degree Presentation at November FS Meeting**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders announced that the Honorary Degree Committee will present this year's nominees at the November 7, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting and Senators should be prepared to vote at the conclusion of the presentation. For reasons of confidentiality, materials will not be distributed ahead of time, but will be available approximately thirty minutes before the meeting on both the Chicago and the Evanston campuses for review prior to the presentation.

#### **10. CIC Meeting**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders announced that Northwestern University will be hosting the 2012 CIC Faculty Governance Leadership Conference taking place November 30 and December 1 at the Norris Center on the Evanston Campus. When the agenda is finalized it will be sent out to the Senate. If Senators are interested in attending any of the discussion sessions, they should email Diana Snyder, Faculty Senate Administrative Coordinator.

**11. Assembly Meeting: Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> 4:30-6:00pm**

Faculty Senate Chair Babette Sanders reminded everyone about the upcoming Faculty Assembly meeting taking place on Monday, December 3, 2012 from 4:30-6:00pm in Evanston at Pancoe Auditorium (Pancoe-NSUHS Life Pavilion Abbott Auditorium Room 1101, ground level) and in Chicago at Hughes Auditorium in Lurie.

**12. New Business**

A Senator voiced concern over a recent email received from the administration about Prentice Women's Hospital and the desire on the part of the administration to tear down the building and to build another facility. The email was sent without clear representation of what the issues were and there was no discussion about the historic character of the building's architect, Bertrand Goldberg. The biggest concern is that administration misrepresented the faculty and the faculty voice. Babette Sanders will work with Vice Chair Jeri Logemann and Past Chair Paul Arntson to draft a letter to the administration addressing the concerns.

**13. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:00 pm.