



# Faculty Senate

@ Northwestern State University



## NSU Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes – *January 22, 2019*

*3:30 p.m. in the Cane River Room, Student Union*

- **Call to Order.**

Reynolds 3:32 p.m.

Welcome to new member: Karen Walker (Replacing Katrina Jordan), Rondo Keele (replacing T. Davina McClain)

- **Approval or Correction of the Minutes** from November 27, 2018.

Motion: Hyams, Goleman. Corrections from Poehl and Reynolds. Vote was unanimous to accept.

- **Reports from Standing Committees.**

- Executive Council (Thomas Reynolds, Chair)

- Leadership Team, Strategic Planning Team, and Other Updates
  - SACS COC reports due on 2/1/2019
  - SACSCOC conference NSU received all clear—no more monitoring reports until 5-year review in 4 years; strategic budget planning is open for submissions.
- SGA Resolution on Hiring Situation
  - SGA hiring bill was overturned in the fall. SGA President asked that we have some policy where students are invited and asked for feedback to aspects of hiring.
- Interfolio Updates. This is the replacement for TaskStream. Roll-out in late spring. Will be more customized than TaskStream. Administrators can access faculty information. Full implementation during Fall 2019. Graduate Faculty applications and tenure/promotion materials are possible.
- Textbook Policy Information. New textbook policy: system mandated a reduction in costs across the system (for NSU \$1M), some came from our new vendor, some from core course textbook commitments and repeat rentals. If a course is included in this new plan, its students will now prepay for textbooks with a textbook fee or can ‘opt out’ and the fee rescinded (according to a faculty senate rep). You should NOT have any restrictions on academic freedom: what textbook you use is at your discretion.
- ULS For Our Future Conference. Plan to attend. Hope that some submitted proposals to speak.

- Committee on Committees (John Dunn, Chair)

- No report

- Faculty Standards Committee (Terrie Poehl, Chair)

- Sabbatical Policy and Procedure
  - No report but will have update for February FS meeting.



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- **Reports from Select Committees.**
    - *Ad hoc* committee for Policy on Administrators Returning to Faculty Status (Davina McClain, Chair)
      - Waiting for update from provost.
  - **Unfinished (Old) Business.**
    - Academic Honesty Policy Proposed Update (John Dunn)
      - Reynolds described a 12<sup>th</sup> item added to the Academic Honor Code list regarding copying and sharing information. The statement is from Jason Powell's syllabus.
      - Motion: Braun, Goleman
      - Unanimous
  - **New Business.**
    - Policy Proposal for Student Input in Faculty Hiring Decisions (Reynolds)
      - Reynolds document. Upshaw suggested a catch-all phrase at the end of the statement. Christensen suggested that it become part of the handbook rather than a resolution.
      - Motion: McFarland, Goleman
      - Vote: 1 abstention, 3 nays, rest OK.
    - Exam Schedule (Reynolds)
      - If the Faculty Senate can propose a better exam schedule for the fall, that proposal is welcome. Agreement that we need to pursue it; Reynolds created an ad hoc committee to research the exam schedule and draft a proposal. Exams have to be 2.5 hours to meet required hours.
      - Faculty Senate may propose a valuable alternative for Fall 2019.
      - Ad hoc committee Chair Dr. Riall. Contact her if you are interested in becoming a member of the committee.
      - Shared Textbook Concerns: Is this a broader concern or limited to one department? If limited to one department, then we don't have a cause to address the problem.
  - **Announcements and Discussion.**
    - Discussion of Commencement Speaker
      - Reynolds told of concerns by several people regarding the Fall 2018 commencement. He will investigate if a commencement committee exists. Concerns were raised about the content of the Fall Commencement address, which transformed into a political and religious speech. Dr Maggio was unaware that the speech would turn out that way and assures Fac Senate that future speakers will be reminded about the purpose of the speech and
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expectations about its content. Discussion: is there a mechanism for the Faculty Senate to vet speakers? Not presently. What about SGA? Commencement Committee? Thomas will investigate if/where Faculty Senate is represented relating to commencement speakers. Center for Inclusion and Diversity is taking action on general campus-wide invocation religiosity and exclusion issues.

- Frank Hall is assessment director. He would like a mission statement. Reynolds distributed a suggested mission statement for the Faculty Senate

Motion: Sinclair, Goleman

Vote: unanimous

## o **Adjourn.**

Motion: Keele, Upshaw

Meeting adjourned at 4:47 p.m

REMINDER: Departments should elect one Senator for every 10 full-time faculty members or fraction thereof (for example, 27 full-time faculty members would be represented by 3 Senators. Announcements of new senators should be emailed to Senate Secretary, Terrie Poehl, [poehl@nsula.edu](mailto:poehl@nsula.edu). **The next scheduled meeting is February 26, 2019.**

Join us on WebEx: <https://nsula.webex.com/join/reynoldst>



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## Faculty Senators in Attendance:

### Leadership Team:

Thomas Reynolds  
John Dunn  
Terrie Poehl  
Paula Christensen

### Senators:

Nancy Alexander (WebEx)  
Michael Antoon  
Kathy Autrey  
Erik Braun  
Brittany Broussard  
Xinjia Chen  
Patricia Clark (Proxy)  
Elaine Eaton  
Benjamin Forkner  
Leah Forsyth  
Brett Garfinkel  
Wanda Goleman  
Ken Green  
Tommy Hailey  
Keicia Hawkins  
Adam Hudlow  
Deborah Huntington  
Collier Hyams  
Kwon Chan Jeon  
Dean Kostantaras  
Sarah McFarland  
Jennifer Michael (WebEx)  
Leigh Ann Myers  
Jason Powell  
Robyn Ray (WebEx)  
Robert Richoux  
Rebecca Riall  
Dean Sinclair  
Kathleen Tate (WebEx)  
Danny Upshaw  
Karen Walker  
Shannon Wall-Hale  
Mary Zapczynski (WebEx)