

April 06, 2005

Faculty Senate meeting agenda: 04/06/2005

Faculty Senate, Northeastern University

Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, Northeastern University, "Faculty Senate meeting agenda: 04/06/2005" (2005). *Faculty Senate Meeting Agendas*. Paper 60. <http://hdl.handle.net/2047/d10004452>

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DATE: WEDNESDAY, 6 April 2005
TIME: 11:45 a.m. to 1:25 p.m.
PLACE: Raytheon Amphitheater (240 Egan)

and if necessary to complete the agenda:

DATE: THURSDAY, 7 April 2005
TIME: 2:50 p.m. to 4:25 p.m.
PLACE: 308 SN

Agenda:

- A. Approval of Minutes
- B. SAC Report (Professor Lowndes, written report only)
- C. Provost's Report (Provost Abdelal, written report only)
- D. Library Policies and Operations Committee Report (Professor Melachrinoudis)

WHEREAS the University is committed to a course of rising to become a top-100 research university through a policy of academic investment; and

WHEREAS the University Library plays a crucial role in the teaching, learning, and research mission of the University; and

WHEREAS the recent history of flat or erratic funding for the Library's collections will be viewed with disapproval by the NEASC accreditors in 2008; and

WHEREAS the Library now fails to meet both the standards for admission to the Boston Library Consortium, and the benchmarks set by its main comparator groups; and

WHEREAS the Library has pursued a prudent and cost-effective course of action in its use of funds to date; and

WHEREAS the collections of books, journals, and electronic databases available in the University Library already fall short of the needs of the academic community and are inadequate to support its research and teaching activities and aspirations; now, therefore,

1. BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate, endorsing both the goal of becoming a top-100 research university and the tactic of enhanced investment in the University's academic mission, supports the clear imperative to develop a robust operating budget for the Library during and beyond the period of the Academic Investment Plan.
2. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate supports, as part of this robust operating budget, the recommendation of the Library Policies and Operations Committee that the Library shall receive sufficient additional funding for that period specifically to offset the phenomenon of journal price inflation, thereby exempting it from the need for any additional reductions in the size of the collection of journal subscription base.
3. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate supports the recommendation of the Library Policies and Operations Committee that funding to improve the range and quality of the collections as a whole be made available in accordance with the Committee's proposed budget plan, including funding to enable access to the Web of Science citation database.
4. WHEREAS the Library is currently understaffed; cannot support the additional requests for research instruction by

the English, writing, and honors programs and the expanding research needs of the academic community; and cannot provide peer tutoring for large numbers of students requesting such services;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate supports the recommendation of the Library Policies and Operations Committee that there be no reductions in Library staffing, and that additional funding to address the Library's additional staffing needs be made available as detailed in the proposed budget plan.

5. WHEREAS the cost of technology to access information is increasing, and the complexity of the information environment requires that the Library increase its investment in the hardware and software necessary to provide that access;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate supports the recommendation of the Library Policies and Operations Committee that additional funding be made available to meet the Library technology requirements detailed in the proposed budget plan.

6. WHEREAS the Library does not provide adequate spaces for group learning, the use of digital media, and undergraduate research and instruction;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Faculty Senate supports the recommendation of the Library Policies and Operations Committee that additional funding be made available to address the Library facilities needs detailed in the proposed budget plan.

E. Stage II Final Report of the Special Committee on Academic Policy Committee 2004-05 University-wide General Education Proposal (Professor Herman)

BE IT RESOLVED That the Faculty Senate authorize that the Special Academic Policy Committee's Stage 2 General Education Report be sent to the Colleges with full-time undergraduate programs with a request that all Units with Undergraduate majors review the proposal, work out how their major programs might fulfill the proposed General Education requirements, and report back to the Senate's Academic Policy Committee on their solutions, problems, and implementation funding needs by the January 15th 2006. Based on this information, the Special Academic Policy Committee will make final adoption recommendations to the Senate for its consideration by the end of the Spring Semester 2006. If the General Education Requirements are then adopted (with appropriate resources provided) by the University, roll-out will begin with the class of 2012, entering the University as freshmen in September, 2007.

F. Graduate and Professional Student Government Association Proposal for a Common Activity Period for Graduate Students (Professor Herman)

BE IT RESOLVED That the Faculty Senate endorse the request by the Graduate and Professional Student Association to bar graduate as well as undergraduate courses from meeting during the Registrar-designated Student Activities Hours to permit graduate as well as undergraduate student activities to flourish on campus.

G. Proposed BS in Information Technology (Professor Peterfreund)

BE IT RESOLVED That the Faculty Senate approve the proposed Bachelor of Science degree program in the School of Professional and Continuing Studies as approved by the University Undergraduate Curriculum Committee on 3 March 2005.

H. Proposed Master of Architecture Program (Professor De Ritis)

BE IT RESOLVED That the Faculty Senate approve the proposed Master of Architecture degree program in the College of Arts and Sciences as approved by the Graduate Council on 10 January 2005.

I. Faculty Development Committee Report on Tenure Clock Adjustments (Professor Krishnamoorthy)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, as a result of a substantial and sustained child-care responsibilities related to the birth/adoption of a child, or significant responsibilities related to elder, spousal or partner, or dependent care, a faculty member who wishes to take a family responsibility-related leave and/or to request a one-year adjustment of the year in which s/he is considered for tenure in consequence of such family responsibilities may do so. The request for a tenure-clock adjustment must go through the chair/group leader, Dean, and Provost. A family care responsibility leave does not automatically result in a tenure-clock adjustment: such an adjustment must be requested in writing.

J. Question and Discussion Time (10 minutes)