

**September 1, 2023**  
**Minutes**

The mission of the Northeastern State University Faculty Council is to promote communication and cooperation among the faculty and between the faculty and the administration. The Council serves as the faculty's collective voice in shared governance in order to achieve excellence in the academic endeavors of the university. Toward this goal, the Council seeks to enhance the university's pursuit and dissemination of knowledge by promoting and preserving academic freedom and integrity, encouraging creative inquiry, and recognizing scholarly achievement. The Council further serves to foster the professional development and economic well-being of the faculty ~ Adopted by the Council, February 6, 2004.

Meetings: First Friday of the Month - 3:00 - 5:00 pm

<https://nsuok.zoom.us/j/91383954220>

Call to Order: 3:00 p.m.

Quorum Check: A quorum was present. Members, guests, and leadership members provided introductions of themselves.

Guests (Time is typically set aside for guests who wish to address the council):

- Dr. Rod Hanley, President of Northeastern State University
  - He shared greetings and background information about himself and the positions previously held. As a former Faculty member, he believes and supports the role of Faculty and academic freedom in higher education.
    - Questions were asked about his plan for bringing more attention to the Broken Arrow campus. He recently met with Broken Arrow city leaders and will also plan on officing there more in the future. He is a strong proponent of shared governance from past experiences.
- Dr. Carla Swearingen, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
  - Shared welcome and thanks for all that faculty do as the “backbone of the university.” Transparency is one of her values and she invites questions or concerns at any time.
  - Popcorn with the Provost invitations have been sent to all faculty via email. These events will be small groups of faculty and will be informal in nature.
  - A reminder that the Center for Teaching and Learning is now NSU Online.
  - Newly formed Center for Faculty Excellence. This will focus on faculty professional development, will be completely faculty-led, have a director, and two faculty fellows (one in TQ, one in BA), and will include a budget for events. Dr. Swearingen will continue to lead New Faculty Orientation and Community and Collaboration Day until a director is named. Later in September a task force will form with all academic areas represented and this group will help select a director (½ time position) and the two faculty fellows, which will be given a stipend, but will formally begin in Spring 2024. If interested, please contact Dr. Swearingen.
  - \$2.17 million was received from the state legislature for Faculty salaries and benefits. Stipulations: not to be used for across the board raises for Faculty, but to address critical workforce areas and disciplines severely below market. The Cabinet decided to focus on the latter. CIP codes are based on the areas in which faculty teach and were sent to all Deans to make sure these were correctly assigned. These were then aligned with 2022-2023 CUPA data, compared to national numbers of other Carnegie, Master-level institutions, which totaled 632 institutions. The CUPA data was then applied to a spreadsheet and Faculty members who were not at 88% of CUPA from their base salary received a raise. (82%/221 NSU Faculty members received raises; 18%/49 faculty members did not). All Deans have received letters to distribute to Faculty regarding whether they did/did not receive a raise. This did not impact adjunct faculty members, but Dr. Swearingen knows this need is present.
  - Conversations are taking place in Cabinet meetings with a strong focus on ways to increase enrollment and retain currently enrolled students.

**Faculty Council**

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Approval of Minutes: <https://offices.nsuok.edu/facultycouncil/Minutes.aspx> - A motion and second were made. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

Approval of Agenda: A motion and second were made. There was no discussion. The motion passed.

Old Business Items:

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New Business Items:

- [Delegate communication cohorts](#)
- Committee assignments
  - All-campus committee assignments are in progress and faculty will be notified of this from the President's office soon.
  - Faculty Council subcommittees (below) were explained and updated. For those interested in helping with HawkTalks or Healthy Campus, please let Dr. Green know.
  - Dr. Cambiano shared news from the Academic Council about how Checkbox is sunsetting. Erik Harris from NSU Online is available to help if Faculty need assistance in exporting data. Chalk & Wire is also sunsetting and assessment reports will move to a Microsoft Word document. If students are listed in Blackboard who are not enrolled in classes, please contact NSU Online.
- SGN - Some Good News
  - Delegate Rink will receive the John Cotton Dana Special Library Association Lifetime Achievement Award on September 6.

Committee and Standing Reports (as needed):

- Faculty Welfare Committee: Dr. Renée Cambiano
- Faculty Awards Committee: Dr. Nathan Green
- Ad hoc Strategic Plan Committee: Dr. Nathan Green
- Ad hoc Budget Committee:
- HawkTalks:
- University Committee Report
  - [Enrollment Correction Committee](#): Dr. Das Bradoo
  - [Faculty Development](#): Dr. Sapna Das-Bradoo
  - [Faculty Research](#): Dr. Dianne Kirk and Dr. Fariba Ehteshami
  - [Healthy Campus](#): Dr. Cheryl Van Den Handel
  - [Strategic Planning](#): Dr. Nathan Green
  - [University Advising](#) : Tom Rink
- University Committee Reports by Dr. Nathan Green and Dr. Renée Cambiano

Important dates

- President Hanley Community Welcome Receptions
  - September 11: 4:00-6:00 ([Tablequah](#))
  - September 14: 4:00-6:00 ([Broken Arrow](#))
  - September 18: 4:00-6:00 ([Muskogee](#))
- September 24-30: [NSU Homecoming Week](#)
  - For those interested in partnering with alumni for a Teach-In opportunity, look for information next week. President Green has been in touch with Mr. Daniel Johnson and together they will connect Faculty members with interested Alumni.

Meeting adjourned at 4:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sarah Burkhead Whittle