

Apr 4, 2025
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 pm

Quorum Check: Have a quorum 18 participants, 15 delegates

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

- Dr. Arthur Wendorf, Director of the Center for Faculty Support & Advancement - [AI in the Classroom Tool](#)
Created a custom GPT, uploaded a preprogrammed ChatGPT, which will load 6 scenarios and assist in teaching with A.I. Help for faculty to use best practices with A.I. There are 12 different micro-credentials, including this one, to come soon. Can log in with your Google NSU.
- Jerol Skinner, Executive Director of NSU Online - ADA website compliance
Trying to figure out where the University stands right now. Training discussions are taking place. No guidelines are available for faculty yet. By April 2026, we have to be in compliance. It's an impossible task to be ready in a year's time. As content creators in our classes, we are responsible for ADA compliance on Blackboard and face-to-face. Ally on Blackboard is there to help us. Jerol provided a basic pdf. Request a Master Shell for courses. Make the changes in the Master Shell and then copy them out of your Master Shell. Regarding tools, we don't know exactly how many pages must be reviewed. We don't have to go back and redo everything. We have to fix our videos in Echo360 to comply. Have to check the auto-transcripts for accuracy. Keep notes on everything we do as we retool. Education is collaborating with Jerol. Two parts: Publicly accessible sites and Blackboard, which is password protected. Does that give us a priority list for handling public-facing websites first? Jerol says that it's not unreasonable. No process has yet been defined. Who is going to be responsible for what is still in process? Dan Mabry's wheelhouse. Priority 2 should then be Blackboard. DOJ is expecting total conversions. So document your processes. Maybe there are just some simple processes that we need to catch. Is that the little speedometer? There's more help than that. When we write a Word document, there are formatting things we can do to make the documents compliant. Tom Rinks suggests <https://wave.webaim.org/>. Look under Course Tools in Blackboard. The Accessibility Report. Link to content rather than embedding it. If we link out to a text, we are probably not responsible for its accessibility compliance. You can send the documents to Jerol's office, and they will fix it for you. Microsoft and Google documents don't play well together. The directive is for websites and online courses. We talked about Community and Collaboration Day as a training opportunity. When will we have the resources to help those without the content knowledge? Quality Matters training is a resource. Blackboard Help is also a resource. Microsoft and Adobe have help for formatting. What role does the ADA play in this? Dr. Self is on the committee and will report to the Disabilities Office.

Approval of Minutes: <https://offices.nsuok.edu/facultycouncil/Minutes.aspx> Stephan moves, Courtney seconds. Approved

Approval of Agenda: Stephan moves, Pam seconds. Approved.

Old Business Items:

- Faculty Council Officer Elections - current terms end in July. Elections are this month. Nathan has a series of nominees. We are discussing the nominees. Nathan is not running for office, and he will run this election and then destroy the ballots. It is a simple
- [NSU Online Policies and Procedures](#) - Appendix B: They have had all the meetings with the consultant and they haven't heard anything back. Currently apparently, there is no product. Renee will speak with [Cari Keller](#). There hasn't been a vote on a policy.
- ADA compliance task force: Discussed with [Jerol Skinner](#). See above. There's a lot to do here. Don't panic. We just need to move forward.

New Business Items:

- Employee Appreciation Week - Coffee and Cookie tables. Thank you to Courtney for serving on the committee. Monday, April 14, from 8:30 to 10:30 in the Gazebo. Muskogee 15th 8³⁰ - 11, and Broken Arrow 16th 8 am to 11 am.
- Thank you. From 2019 onwards, he was Vice President and then President for a total of six years. He is grateful for the role.

Committee and Standing Reports (as needed):

- Faculty Welfare Committee: Dr. Renée Cambiano
- Faculty Awards Committee: Dr. Nathan Green
- Budget Oversight Committee: Dr. Nathan Green
- HawkTalks:
- University Committee Report
 - [Enrollment Correction Committee](#): Dr. Das Bradoo
 - [Faculty Development](#): Dr. Sapna Das-Bradoo
 - [Faculty Research](#): Dr. Rick Wallace and Dr. Deborah Petrik
 - [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

- April 17th, Employee Appreciation - during working hours 2 pm to 4 pm
- April 18th, Circle of Excellence Luncheon - Results finalized at 3 pm today.
- July 29th - NSUOCO Ribbon Cutting

Ended: Adjourned 4:37 pm