

October 3, 2025
Draft 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 via [Zoom](https://nsuok.zoom.us/j/87447165513) (Meeting ID: 874 4716 5513)
<https://nsuok.zoom.us/j/87447165513>

Call to Order:.

The meeting was called to order at 3:03 PM.

Quorum Check (need eleven (11) delegates to reach quorum):
The quorum was established via an online poll in zoom.

Officer Present: President Cambiano, Vice-president Green-Nagle, and Secretary Rink.

Delegates Present (twelve [12]): Dr. Pamela Christol (BA Delegate), Dr. Rick Wallace (College of B&T Delegate), Dr. Rene Moquin (College of B&T Delegate - elected to replace Dr. Cuellar – will verify with B&T), Mr. Austin Beard (College of Science & Health Professions Delegate), Ms. Courtney Helm (Library Delegate), Ms. Jannette DeMary (Library Delegate), Dr. Stephan Sargent (College of Education Delegate), Dr. Christopher Malone (College of Liberal Arts Delegate), Dr. Rebekah Doyle (College of Liberal Arts Delegate), Dr. Alex Cole (College of Liberal Arts Delegate), Dr. Alison Moore (College of Liberal Arts Delegate), Dr. Jenna Lighthizer (College of Optometry Delegate), and Dr. Jonathan Janzen (College of Optometry Delegate).

Guests Present: Ms. Mitzie Miller (College of Science and Health Professions), Dr. Tery DeShong (College of Liberal Arts), Dr. Kailey Perry (College of Science and Health Professions), Dr. Jillian Plum (College of Education), Mr. Brandon Martin (Library), and Chris (guest).

Approval of Minutes: September 3, 2025 [Minutes](#) (Delegate Vote)

There was a motion and a second to approve the minutes of the September 5th meeting. The motion was voted on and passed.

Approval of Agenda: (Delegate Vote)

There was a motion and a second to approve the agenda. There was discussion on a delegate replacement (Dr. Rene Moquin to replace Dr. Kimberly Cuellar as the delegate for the College of Business & Technology); Dr. Moquin reported that he was elected during a department meeting following the departure of Dr. Cuellar. President Cambiano will confirm this with the Dean of the College of Business & Technology.

The motion was voted on and passed.

Old Business Items:

President Cambiano reported that due to the lack of a quorum (due to a special event for Senate Bill 701 on the Broken Arrow campus).

- **Welcome, New Delegates and Protocol**

President Cambiano welcomed all of the new (as well as existing) delegates and read from the Faculty Council Bylaws, Section 4.13 regarding delegates roles and responsibilities. Mentioned Dr. Sargent as a good example with how he shares his notes from meetings and solicits feedback from his colleagues.

“Delegates should represent the voices of the faculty and communicate Faculty Council activities back to them. Delegates should actively seek out the multiple perspectives of the faculty they represent. Delegates should be engaged with the business of Faculty Council. As such, they should have regular attendance, active participation and they should strive to provide service by membership on various committees and task forces.”

Dr. Cambiano charged the delegates with getting feedback from the faculty of their college and/or reporting feedback from their colleagues back to the council. The Faculty Council Leadership (Dr. Cambiano, Dr. Green-Nagle, and Mr. Rink) meet on the Tuesday before the Faculty Council meeting each month to have a discussion

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and set the agenda; if you have items or issues for the council, please get them to the leadership by the Monday prior to the Faculty Council meeting and the Council leadership will figure out how to address the issue (faculty welfare, etc.). Vice-president Green-Nagle chairs the Faculty Welfare Committee and they will investigate issues and bring back to the leadership to either provide a report to the council on the issue, or ask for guidance from the council if it is an issue the committee is unable to resolve. If the council is unable to resolve an issue, the council can put forth a resolution to either the President of the University, or the Cabinet. This is a transparent way to show that the Faculty Council has a concern on a particular issue.

Regarding our not having guests at the start of the Faculty Council meetings this year: to give the council the time for better dialogues. We are not just here to disseminate information, we need to have critical discussion on issues, etc. These types of discussions help us strengthen our university.

Broken Arrow Campus (2024-2026)

- Dr. Pamela Christol

College of Business and Technology (2024-2026)

- Dr. Kimberly Cuellar
- Dr. Rick Wallace

Gregg Wadley College of Science & Health Professions (2024-2026)

- Dr. Cheyanne Olson
- Dr. Lucas Foster
- Dr. Deborah Petrik
- Mr. Austin Beard

Library (2024-2026)

- Ms. Courtney Helm
- Ms. Jannette DeMary

Muskogee Campus (2025-2027)

- Dr. Julie Estes

College of Education (2025-2027)

- Dr. Stephan Sargent
- Dr. Jericho Hobson
- Dr. Sara Haas
- Dr. Alexandra Meyers Ellett

College of Liberal Arts (2025-2027)

- Dr. Christopher Malone
- Dr. Rebekah Doyle
- Dr. Alex Cole
- Dr. Alison Moore

College of Optometry (2025-2027)

- Dr. Jenna Lighthizer
- Dr. Jonathan Janzen

- **Grievance Committee Members**

College of Business and Technology (2024-2026)

- Dr. Jon Shapiro
- Dr. Sanchari Ghosh

Gregg Wadley College of Science and Health Professions (2024-2026)

- Dr. Dragos Albinescu
- Dr. Ernst Bekkering

College of Education (2025-2027)

- Dr. Sohpie Burch
- Dr. Beth Melles

College of Liberal Arts (2025-2027)

- Dr. Adam Langsam
- Mr. Chris Murphy

College of Optometry (2025-2027)

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- Dr. Matt Krein
- Dr. Sarah Krein
- Coffee and Cheesecake with Tom, Beth and Renee
Your faculty council leadership wants to provide a space outside of zoom where faculty can gather and have conversation; this allows us to get a pulse about what's going on from a faculty perspective. This semester we have planned to have one on each campus.
 - Broken Arrow - October 13, 2025 - 12:30 - BALB 105
 - Muskogee - November 4, 2025 - 1:00 - ADMIN 128
 - Tahlequah - November 20, 2025 - 1:00 - LIBRARY L101
- Faculty [Handbook](#) and [One](#) Page with revisions (**Delegate Vote**)
Even though the Faculty Council has not yet voted on the new Handbook (with revisions for 2025), it is currently on the website. Some of the due dates for tenure and promotion have already passed and President Cambiano had a conversation with Provost Swearingen about it. There was a miscommunication on if the Faculty Council had approved the handbook at an earlier date, and it had not. What is here is a revised handbook with one-page explanation. Dr. Ferrell chaired this effort along with his committee. It is the Faculty Council's duty to review and approve the Faculty Handbook, and while it is a little out of order, we (the Faculty Council) still needs to follow through and approve the handbook with revisions. There was a motion and a second to accept the handbook and revisions as posted. Discussion: the question was posed to President Cambiano "are you comfortable with the changes?" President Cambiano responded that she was comfortable with the changes. The motion was voted on and passed. President Cambiano will pass along to Academic Affairs that the Faculty Handbook and its revisions have been accepted and approved by the Faculty Council.

New Business Items:

- November Meeting Discussion on the article [What We Mean by 'Shared Governance'](#). Reflect on and share thoughts about shared governance.

President Cambiano has already had a brief conversation with the Provost about shared governance and Dr. Swearingen has agreed to have an open forum next month to discuss what shared governance is from the Academic Affairs perspective. We will then have a discussion at our December Faculty Council meeting about the above article and your thoughts on shared governance from the faculty perspective. This was generally received as a good idea. It would be good to know how shared governance is being defined by the various stakeholders. During her conversation with the Provost, President Cambiano was candid and straightforward about the perception that morale was down and had an extended conversation about how to increase morale.

There was a good bit of discussion on the "shared governance" topic. There was some additional discussion on how shared governance plays into program evaluation (which programs get cut, etc.). Are there conversations or dialogue. Mandates are generally clear, but there needs to be discussion. There was discussion about understanding roles, and communication. Concerns that these types of decisions (keeping or cutting programs) are being made in a vacuum. Is the right communication getting to where it needs to be? How are decisions and information being disseminated (top-down)? President Cambiano will look into this and report back at the next meeting.

President Cambiano is working on a second forum before the end of the semester and will reach out with more information once it is fully fleshed out.

Information Items

Please share these items with your colleagues.

- Homecoming - October 26-November 1, 2025
- Homecoming Trivia on October 28th at 6:00 p.m. in the UC Ballroom (Sign Up [Link](#))
College of Education has a truck in the Homecoming parade every year and they hand out books. If you wish to participate/help out this year (walk in the parade, hand out books), let President Cambiano know.

Committee and Standing Reports:

- Faculty Welfare Committee: Dr. Beth Green-Nagle
- University Committee Reports
 - Enrollment Correction Committee: Dr. Das Bradoo



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- Faculty Development:
 - Faculty Research:
 - Healthy Campus: Dr. Cheryl Van Den Handel
 - University Advising: Mr. Tom Rink
 - University Curriculum Committee: Dr. Maria Gray
 - Banner Operations Committee: Dr. Luke Foster
 - Athletics:
 - Publication Board:
 - Student Conduct Appeals: Dr. Deborah Petrik, Dr. Stephan Sargent, Dr. Jericho Hobson, Dr. Janaki Iyer, Dr. Chris Malone.
- University Committee Reports by Dr. Renée Cambiano
 - Academic Council – has not met.
 - Budget Oversight Committee – has not met.
 - Retention Committee – has not met.
 - Strategic Planning – has not met.
 - Faculty Awards Committee – has not met.

Any announcement?
None.

President Cambiano again mentioned to reach out to your faculty council leadership, President Cambiano, Vice-president Green-Nagle, or Secretary Rink, if you need us.

Adjournment:
There was a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 3:42 PM.