

Hello everyone –

I hope this email finds you having a wonderful, relaxing weekend! The NSU Faculty Council met on Friday (September 6th) at 3:00 P.M. Below are some abbreviated highlights from the meeting. I hope these are useful to keep you well-informed of current happenings on the NSU Faculty Council. **Serving as your delegate for the College of Education is an honor and privilege.** Anytime you need something brought to the Faculty Council, just let me know. This was our first meeting for the year so we have many exciting opportunities ahead. Please feel free to contact me anytime! Have a wonderful weekend, Dr. Stephan Sargent

- **Guest Speaker:** Dr. Carla Swearingen, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs - Dr. Swearingen brought greetings from President Hanley who is hosting RUSO officials. Dr. Swearingen appreciates the work faculty and staff are doing across the three campuses in teaching, research, and service. She mentioned that she shared her goals at the opening meeting. Also, Dr. Swearingen was delighted to share that after a decade of decline, enrollment is up 4% overall, graduate programs are up 11%, International Programs are up 164%, and numbers at all campuses are up. We have 233 more students than last year at this time. Concurrent students fell slightly and retention has fallen marginally. Also, RUSO ([Regional University System of Oklahoma](#)) asked that we have a student to teacher ratio of 20:1. Last year we had a ratio of 16:1. They asked us to raise it by one student per year until we reach 20:1. This year we are at 17.5/1, surpassing NSU's first-year goal set by RUSO. Dr. Swearingen discussed plans for expansion of the Broken Arrow Campus. She also mentioned plans for growth in international programs, providing support for student success. NSU also already has ties with other countries and is considering recruitment in China and Japan in the near future.

- Introduction of Delegates – All delegates present introduced themselves to the group, sharing the colleges/programs they represent.

- **Old Business Items:**

- o None

- **New Business Items:**

- o Dr. Nathan Green expressed his gratitude to all delegates who have served on the Faculty Council and are no longer serving as their terms have expired. In particular, he noted that Dr. Sarah Burkhead Whittle has resigned as the Secretary/Treasurer of the NSU Faculty Council. Dr. Green expressed his extreme thanks for all she has done over the years. This leaves the Council without a Secretary/Treasurer. Dr. Green shared the responsibilities of this role and the selection process. Dr. Cheryl Van Den Handel was nominated and elected as the new Secretary/Treasurer.

- o All Faculty Council leadership positions will be open next year.
- o Committee positions from the Faculty Council are still in the process of being filled (the information came in late to Dr. Green last spring). Most committees will send letters of assignments. Dr. Green will also send a spreadsheet showing Faculty Council representatives serving on committees.
- o Homecoming (October 21st-26th) – this is the 100th homecoming for NSU. The Faculty Council needs at least one liaison to be part of their Steering Committee and multiple faculty to be involved. This is an especially special and important homecoming. Dr. Pamela Christol volunteered to serve on this committee as the liaison.
- o Dr. Green has had multiple requests for faculty to update their “Faculty Success” (formerly Digital Measures). The university uses this information to glean important data.
- o “Some Good News” – Dr. Green shared that he has a 3-month-old boy named Bennett! Also, Dr. Van Den Handel shared the Model UN has grown to include more schools and students.
- o Committees – The Faculty Council is involved with many other councils. Dr. Renee Cambiano shared that the purpose of the Academic Council was discussed and reviewed last year.

· **Important Dates:**

- o October 21st-26th --- NSU’s Homecoming
- o Next Faculty Council Meeting: Friday, October 4th at 3:00 P.M.