**Student Government Association Senate**

**Northern Illinois University**

**2:00 p.m. – Friday, *February 12th 2024***

**Holmes Student Center Sky Room**

**Public Streaming:** [**http://go.niu.edu/SGASenateLive**](https://niu-edu.zoom.us/j/82215987778?pwd=SlBtaEFiaG0xWmp0SWs4b0VZZVhpZz09)

***Members of the public wishing to give public comment, please submit an*** [***Intent to Speak***](https://cglink.me/2sZ/s54) ***form, no later than 11:59 pm, February 11th, 2024.***

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Verification of Quorum
3. Public Comments
4. Approval of Minutes
5. From February 9th, 2024

*Minutes are distributed electronically to the Senate.*

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Speaker’s Report
3. Special Report
4. Dr. Reneau
5. Office of the Speaker Report(s)
6. Committee Report(s)
7. Executive Branch Report(s)
8. Cabinet Report(s)
9. Old Business
10. New Business
11. SR55039: A resolution to add a calculation to make it easier for the next Board of Elections to determine the available seats for the spring election
12. SB55016: This Bill will give each college a minimum of two seats per college
13. SR55040: A resolution to recognize student organizations
14. SR55041: A resolution to confirm cabinet appointments
15. Good of the Order
16. Announcements
17. Adjournment

Please be advised that public comments will be limited to five (5) minutes per person, and that any one

topic may not be discussed for more than 15 minutes.

We acknowledge that we are on the traditional land of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami,

Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations.

**New Business**  **First Reading**

**Agenda Item:**  A   16 February 2024

**Author:** Seargent at arms Bereolos

**Sponsor:** Seargent at arms Bereolos

**ENROLLED SENATE Resolution** 55039

**Fifty-Fifth Session**

**Summary:**A resolution to add a calculation to make it easier for the next Board of Elections to determine the available seats for the spring election.

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, The board of Elections will be able to more effectively and efficiently determine the number of seats available for senate for the next session,

WHEREAS, This resolution will define the calculation used to determine the number of seats,

WHEREAS, This calculation will continue to work no matter how large or small the student population,

WHEREAS, Article IV, §1.B of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “The Senate

shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that the following Bylaws be amended to the following.

**ARTICLE III**

**QUALIFICATIONS FOR CANDIDACY**

**Section 1**

**Legislative Qualifications**

1. Senate voting seats shall be composed of the following constituents:
   1. The number of seats in the Senate at one time shall not exceed seventy-five (75) seats.
   2. The number of seats in the Senate at one time shall not be less than twenty (21) seats.
   3. Every Senate session should fill the following seats at minimum.
      1. Each of the NIU Colleges shall be represented by one student who occupies one (1) seat per college.
      2. Graduate students representing the Graduate School shall occupy one (1) seat.
      3. Students residing in any university provided housing shall occupy two (2) seats.
      4. Underserved student communities shall occupy seven (7) seats and shall be defined as any group of students who are protected classes under federal, state, or university nondiscrimination policies, with one to be allocated to a Graduate student.
      5. Students not representing any of the above categories shall occupy four (4) seats as University At-Large representatives. Students who are undecided on their major may also occupy these seats.
   4. A minimum of twenty percent (20%), rounded up to the nearest whole number seat, of the seats should be reserved for senators representing underserved communities.
   5. A minimum of twenty percent (20%), rounded to the nearest whole number seat, of the seats should be reserved for senators representing the university at large.
   6. A minimum of ten percent (10%), rounded up to the nearest whole number seat, of the seats should be reserved for senators representing university provided housing.
   7. The rest of the seats shall be reserved based on enrollment and housing data, gathered from the division of Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications from the most current enrollment data done by 31st of January, such that there is one seat for every one thousand (1000) students rounded to the nearest whole number seat.
   8. Calculation for determination of available seats for the upcoming session:
      1. Y=A+B+C+D
         1. Y: total number of senator seats
         2. A: Senator Seats for undergraduate colleges, college of law, and the two grad student seats
            1. A=(student population/1000)+Grad seats(2)+College of law(1)
         3. B: Underserved Communities: twenty percent of A multiplied by two with a minimum requirement of seven seats
            1. B=0.2(2A) as long as it is ≥7 if not then it will be seven seats.
         4. C: Students at large: twenty percent of A multiplied by two
            1. C=0.2(2A)
         5. D: University Provided Housing: ten percent of A multiplied by two
            1. D=0.1(2A)
         6. B, C, and D need to be rounded to the nearest whole number that is also equal or greater than the required percentage.
   9. All questions and disputes regarding the seat status of any candidate or student shall be directed to the Election Commissioner. Decisions of the Election Commissioner on the disputes referenced immediately above may be appealed to the Board of Elections.

***This act is ordered to take effect starting in the 56th Session***

**New Business**  **First Reading**

**Agenda Item:**  B   16 February 2024

**Author:** Seargent at arms Bereolos, Senator Guerrero

**Sponsor:** Seargent at arms Bereolos

**ENROLLED SENATE BILL** 55016

**Fifty-Fifth Session**

**Summary:** This Bill will give each college a minimum of two seats per college.

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, This bill will allow each college to have two seats at minimum,

WHEREAS, The rest of the seats based on student population will be distributed to the rest of the colleges based on size,

WHEREAS, Article IV, §1.B of the Student Government Association Constitution states that, “The Senate

shall have the power to create and amend the SGA Bylaws”

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate enact that the bylaws be amended to the following.

**Section 1**

**Legislative Qualifications**

1. Senate voting seats shall be composed of the following constituents:
   1. The number of seats in the Senate at one time shall not exceed seventy-five (75) seats.
   2. The number of seats in the Senate at one time shall not be less than twenty (21) seats.
   3. Every Senate session should have available ~~fill~~ the following seats at minimum.
      1. Each of the NIU Colleges shall be represented by at least ~~one~~ two students who occupy~~ies~~ ~~one~~ two (~~1~~ 2) seats per college.
      2. Graduate students representing the Graduate School shall occupy one (1) seat.
      3. Students residing in any university provided housing shall occupy two (2) seats.
      4. Underserved student communities shall occupy seven (7) seats and shall be defined as any group of students who are protected classes under federal, state, or university nondiscrimination policies, with one to be allocated to a Graduate student.
      5. Students not representing any of the above categories shall occupy four (4) seats as University At-Large representatives. Students who are undecided on their major may also occupy these seats.
   4. A minimum of twenty percent (20%), rounded up to the nearest whole number seat, of the seats should be reserved for senators representing underserved communities.
   5. A minimum of twenty percent (20%), rounded to the nearest whole number seat, of the seats should be reserved for senators representing the university at large.
   6. A minimum of ten percent (10%), rounded up to the nearest whole number seat, of the seats should be reserved for senators representing university provided housing.
   7. The rest of the seats shall be reserved based on enrollment and housing data, gathered from the division of Enrollment Management, Marketing and Communications from the most current enrollment data done by 31st of January, such that there is one seat for every one thousand (1000) students rounded to the nearest whole number seat.

***This act is ordered to take effect starting in the 56th Session***

**New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: C** 16 February 2024

**Author:**  Deputy Speaker English , Clerk Corpuz

**Sponsor:** Deputy Speaker English, Clerk Corpuz

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 55040**

**Fifty-Fifth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to recognize student organizations.

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, the Organization Oversight Committee has granted the below student organizations temporary recognition and;

WHEREAS, the Senate has the Responsibility to approve of official recognition for student organizations;``

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby grant official Student Government Association to;

1. Child Life Association

***This act is ordered to take immediate effect.***

**New Business First Reading**

**Agenda Item: D** 16 February 2024

**Author:**  Speaker Hensley

**Sponsor: Speaker Hensley**

**ENROLLED SENATE RESOLUTION 55041**

**Fifty-Fifth Session**

**Summary:** A resolution to confirm cabinet appointments

**Legislation:**

WHEREAS, Part I, Article III, §4.A of the Student Government Association Bylaws states that “The Student Government Association Cabinet is created by the President and exists for the purpose of assisting the president in the performance of their duties and responsibilities”; and

WHEREAS, Part I, Article III, §4.B states that “All Directors shall be appointed by the President or Vice President and confirmed by the Senate”; and

WHEREAS, President Olivia Newman has appointed Z’Nyah Johnson to serve as Chief of Staff; and

WHEREAS, “Only the Senate shall have the power to authorize a person to be paid from student fee monies”;

THEREFORE, the students of Northern Illinois University represented in this Senate hereby approve of Z’Nyah Johnson to serve as Chief of Staff.

***This act is ordered to take immediate effect.***