



## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, February 28, 2013 - Taylor 306

**In attendance:** Speaker Pro Tempore: Lubert; Accounting: Louwers; Art & Art History: Welter; Biology: Cocking; Chemistry: DeVore; Comm. Studies: Smilowitz; Comp Info Sci and Mgt Sci: Simmons; Computer Science: Grove; Early ELED & Reading: Sullivan; Economics: Jerome; Engineering: Harper; English: Rankin; Finance & Business Law: Hamilton; Foreign Languages: Regalado Lopez; Geology: Johnson; Health Sciences: Burnett; History: McCleary; Hosp., Sports & Rec MGT: Shonk; ISAT: Benton; Justice Studies: Robinson; Kinesiology: Nye; Lib & Ed Tech: Mungin; Management: Stark; Mathematics and Statistics: VanWyk; Media Arts & Design: Leidholdt; Music: Gibson; Nursing: Knopp; Philosophy & Religion: Piper; Physics: Giovanetti; Political Science: Lubert; Psychology: DuVall; Social Work: Poe; Sociology/Anthropology: Spear; Theater & Dance: Sherrill; Writing Rhetoric & Tech Comm: Lunsford. **Guests –** Provost: Benson; Vice Provost: Gonzalez.

### I. Call to Order – 3:30p

### II. Approval of January's Minutes

- Addendum: Faculty Appeals Committee – No cases to report.

### III. Provost's Report

1. *Change in the administrative structure in the Provost's Office*
  - a. 3 goals: (1) Reduce number of administrative positions; (2) All deans report to the Provost (instead of Vice Provost) as of July 1; (3) Reshuffling and redefining of duties to report to other individuals.
  - b. Deleted Vice Provost of STEM (Dr. Benson's former position).
  - c. Dr. Gonzalez serves as current Vice Provost – deals with student issues, Registrar's Office, enrollment management as liaison with Office of Enrollment (Donna Harper's office); CFI will report to Dr. Gonzalez (instead of Libraries and Educational Technologies); continue to work with deans, academic unit heads, etc.
  - d. Linda Halpern – University Studies, major advising, Center for Assessment and Research Studies, prime leader in online courses/summer courses; Vice Provost of University Programs (no Dean of University Studies—Linda will perform current duties in addition to new roles).
  - e. National search for Vice Provost for Research (see Jerry's attached email for details).
  - f. Head of Outreach and Engagement – Jim Schaffer will not change.
  - g. Consulted with JMU's legal team and Faculty Senate Speaker and had to obtain President's approval.
  - h. Changes will go into effect July 1.

2. *Tuition Surcharge Policy* – Seriously considering general tuition, differential tuition, and looking at fees in certain areas (e.g., ability of tuition to keep up with growing number of consumables with students taking lab courses).
  - a. Governor McDonnell – Encouraging colleges and universities to consider differential tuition.
  - b. We have the same BOV members as we did last year (unusual, but helpful in making necessary changes).
  - c. Limits on how far we can raise general tuition at one point in time; must make incremental steps.
  - d. No use of previous voucher system.
  - e. AACSB-accredited COB programs to be potentially included in a tuition surcharge/differential tuition include: Accounting, Computer Information Systems and Business Analytics, Economics, Finance and Business Law, International Business, Management, Marketing, and Quantitative Finance.
    - i. Need a way to sustain quality level of education by our programs.
    - ii. Differentiation in salaries and effects of market – competitive market drives for higher salaries.
      1. Salaries are an issue for all programs and are a concern.
      2. Promising that House and Senate came out with 3% salary increase.
      3. Looking at what we can do internally in addition to salary increases.
        - a. Working with Compensation Taskforce.
      4. Additional revenue stream to the COB that can assist with recruiting and attaining quality faculty for their programs and to keep them in the top 35. COB will not have to keep going to Dr. Benson, who can then allot a certain percentage of funds to other programs in need.
      5. Must be approved by Provost.
      6. Certain percentage set aside for financial aid for COB students in need to remove the barrier of them earning a COB degree.
      7. Enhancement of services for students and graduates – strengthening relationship between business and industry, internship opportunity expansion, and academic support and advising.
      8. Concerns from floor:
        - a. Other universities with differential tuition have typically included nursing, business, and engineering.
        - b. Currently investigating policy re: students based on major and program (e.g., if students change majors).

- c. Student Advisory Council would work with students and Drs. Benson and Gonzalez will follow-up with SGA.
- d. Policy should be announced before students apply to the program, so they realize they will be paying more for a COB degree.
- e. Other institutions with differential tuition in Virginia - Mason, UVA, and VCU.
- f. Planning Commission will not change the university mission statement.
- g. Strengthen lab sciences, business, and the arts – The Arts at JMU do not charge fees based on the course/required materials (as does VCU), but instead ameliorate fees across the board.

#### IV. Speaker's Report

##### 1. *Legislative Updates*

- Legislation regarding tuition waiver for faculty/staff family members did not pass.
  - Alger wants to do more lobbying to make this happen, even if it is an internally funded policy (possibility).
  - Looking to Compensation Task Force to propose similar recommendations.

##### 2. *Faculty Morale Survey (Michael Smilowitz)*

- 940 instructional faculty members received the survey.
- 685 responses have been received (through 2/28/13).
- 72% response rate.
  - Non-responders had their own reasons not to respond (e.g., did not feel that their responses will make a difference).
- Survey closed Friday, March 1 at 5p.

##### 3. *Differential Tuition Policy*

- Preferred terminology is *Tuition Surcharge Policy*.
- Senate had voted back in 2010 to approve the Tuition Surcharge Policy.
  - Same day – passed resolution for Registrar's to charge a fee for students when they drop a course after the add-drop deadline.
- Economic environment has changed – Overall, state funding for JMU has decreased with an increasing economic strain on the university.
- Also, a different president in 2010, who was opposed to additional fees and surcharges; Alger is much more open to such fees and surcharges, which is why we are exploring this issue again this spring.

## V. Committee Reports

- A. *Treasurer's Report* – Account total: \$5,115.41
- \$75 to the JMU Foundation in memory of Dan Havey, late Assistant Professor of Chemistry.
  - Floral donation to Ralph Cohen (WRTC) in memory of his late wife.
  - Computer Lottery closed Friday, March 1 at 5p.
- B. Faculty Concerns – Possible meeting with Dr. Benson regarding working with the Bookstore on textbook orders.
- C. Academic Policies – Met three weeks ago; will be meeting two weeks from today.
- D. Student Relations – No report.
- E. Faculty Appeals – No cases to report.
- F. Budget Committee – Has been meeting in various configurations for the past couple of months, as members are available.
- In addition to within-committee meetings, members have met with personnel involved with the Internal Analysis Team of Madison Futures Commission, the Compensation Task Force, the COACHE survey analysis team, and the Resources Committee of the Madison Futures Commission.
  - Consistent with the focus of the Budget Committee over the past several years, the contributions to these meetings has been discussion about the tuition-fees balance at JMU in comparison with other Virginia schools, with some additional issues rising to the surface.
  - The committee has been wrestling with its focus and function in serving the faculty, in light of these many groups. Even so, they have identified some possible functions and recommendations that we would submit for Senate deliberation:
    - i. Requesting (and funding, if necessary) a faculty “seat at the table” in Academic Affairs leadership by a faculty member who has budgetary expertise and can present faculty perspective in deliberations and decision-making and provide a liaison function.
    - ii. Taking on an “activist” role with legislators. Researching and tracking budget actions at the state level and providing Senators with info and ways of responding. One particular area of concern is how JMU is “reimbursed” for in-state students, compared to other institutions.
    - iii. Conducting a survey of students and their parents/patrons regarding awareness of where/how their college dollars are being used (perhaps in collaboration with Student Relations Committee?).
    - iv. Re-evaluating the purpose and use of “faculty dues” to the Senate for purposes of funeral flowers to substantive issues, including FOIA searches (earlier this year) and #1 above.

- v. Examining JMU's marketing strategies, especially in regard to faculty:student ratios and characterization of close faculty-student contact regarding research.
- vi. In response to concern about losing gifted junior faculty, one of our members has a proposal regarding the establishment of junior faculty fellowships.

G. Nominations and Elections – Thank you for your update regarding new Senators.

## VI. Old Business

1. *Senate Minutes (see attached)*
  - a. Addendum to Section 5 of the motion:
    - i. *"Minutes shall be kept of every meeting, and the secretary will electronically distribute a draft of the minutes to the Senate for review **within 10 days following the meeting.**"*
    - ii. Motion passed
    - iii. Revised motion adopted
2. *Non-voting Student Senate Representative (see attached)*
  - a. Concerns from the floor:
    - i. Why do we need this seat?
    - ii. Students have their own organization for their concerns.
    - iii. Student would need permission to voice their concerns during Senate meetings by the raise of his/her hand.
    - iv. Perception of tokenism that the student would feel that he/she is representing all 20,000 students.
    - v. It would be a chance for students to hear faculty concerns during Senate meetings (e.g., allocation of tuition/fees).
    - vi. Town Hall meeting – Revealed that students have many misconceptions regarding what faculty deal with (e.g., surprised that we pay for faculty parking).
    - vii. Two-year staggered terms.
  - b. Amended that student will be mentored by the Chair of the Student Relations Committee.
  - c. Amendment to Article II: Membership – Section 13 – *"In order to advise the Senate of the concerns of students of the University, a non-voting student representative shall be elected or appointed by the Student Government Association, for a one-year term to advise the Senate in student interests and concerns and be mentored by the Chair of the Student Relations Committee."*

## VII. New Business

1. *Tuition Surcharge Policy* – 1<sup>st</sup> reading of the Steering Committee's statement:
  - a. "The Faculty Senate endorses the concept of differential tuition, or a tuition surcharge, in certain majors, so long as the proceeds are equitably distributed across academic programs and is

devoted to meeting needs within Academic Affairs. There is no presumption that the additional revenue would remain within the unit that levies the surcharge."

- b. Tabled for discussion during the March meeting.
2. *Budget Committee – Imbalance of tuition and fees*
- a. 1% of student fees be allotted to faculty fellowships – Art to send out a document.
    - i. Formal motion to be discussed in March.
    - ii. Move that we recommend to the BOV and Administration that 1% of student fees be moved from the student fees bucket to the tuition side at \$20,000 to establish over four years 80 Presidential Fellows each to receive \$10,000 for each of four years.
      - i.e., Decrease in fees and increase in tuition; move from one side of the ledger to the other.

**VIII. Adjournment** — 5:05p