

Faculty Senate James Madison University

Meeting Agenda

February 26, 3:30 – 5:30 p.m.
Taylor 306

1. Call to order: Larry Ham, Faculty Marshal.
2. Provost Report: Douglas Brown.
4. Approval of Minutes: David Zimmerman, Secretary of the Senate.
5. Treasurer's Report: Geoff Egekwu.
6. Speaker's Report: Michael Smilowitz.
 - A. Orange Band – Kai Degner.
 - B. Faculty Morale Survey, Qualitative data – David Zimmerman
 - C. Valedictorian Resolution (Please see attachment.)
7. Committee Reports.
 - A. Academic Policies – Beth Eck.
 - (1) Plagiarism software.
 - B. Faculty Concerns – Cynthia Gilliatt.
 - (1) Proposals to improve retirement benefits.
 - (2) Retirees' gifts and reception.
 - C. Student Relations – Reba Leiding
 - D. Institutional Budget Priorities – Val Larsen.
8. Old Business.

The Fundamental Dedication of Our Faculty – William O'Meara.
(Please see attachment.)

Proposed changes:

Berstein

Line 4: Remove "artistic" from "artistic creativity".

Line 16: Remove "dignity".
Line 17: Remove "religious".
Lines 18-19: Remove "as they study the arts, the humanities,
and the sciences,"
Line 26: Replace "Bill of Rights" with "Constitution".

Gilliatt

Line 16: Replace the word "respect" with the word
"acknowledge."

9. New Business.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Smilowitz", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael Smilowitz, Ph.D.
Speaker of the Faculty Senate
School of Communication Studies
James Madison University
(540) 568-6595, smilowme@jmu.edu

The Fundamental Dedication of Our Faculty

James Madison University is a community of scholars and students devoted to the expansion of human knowledge and artistic creativity. All members of our community, especially the faculty and the students under the guidance of the faculty, strive to advance, preserve, transform, and transmit knowledge through study, teaching, aesthetic expression, research, and scholarship. As a public university, we recognize the insight of our namesake, President James Madison, who affirmed a deep interconnection between knowledge and liberty, and we dedicate ourselves to help liberty increase knowledge and knowledge increase liberty.

All who join the university community participate in the profound obligation to advance human knowledge and liberty and consequently in the derivative human right of academic freedom as the essential means for advancing knowledge. We believe human liberty embraces free expression, free inquiry, intellectual honesty, and respect for the rights and dignity of others. We respect the autonomy of each person's conscience in matters of conviction, religious faith, and political belief. We recognize that our students are undergoing profound opportunities for growth as they study the arts, the humanities, and the sciences, and we dedicate ourselves to honor our students' free inquiry as they learn to participate in the professional practices and standards of our academic disciplines. For this purpose, we affirm the importance of maintaining high standards of academic and professional integrity. In defining the responsibilities we bear and affirming our right to academic freedom, we commit ourselves to ensuring that our professional activities are consistent with these basic principles.

All members of the university have civil rights guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. Because the search for knowledge is our most fundamental purpose, the University has an especially strong commitment to preserve and protect freedom of thought and expression. Reasoned dissent plays a vital role in the search for truth; and academic freedom, including the right to express unpopular views, is a cherished responsibility of university faculty everywhere. All members of the university have the right to express their own views and hear the views of others expressed, but they must take responsibility for according the same rights to others. We seek a university whose members may express themselves vigorously while protecting and respecting the rights of others to learn, to do research, and to carry out the essential functions of our university's dedication to knowledge and liberty free from political oppression, economic interference, and partisan obstruction.

**A Resolution of the
James Madison University
Faculty Senate**

Whereas Mr. Shane Galie has attained a 4.0 cumulative grade point average throughout all his studies at James Madison University, with at least 14 credit hours earned each regular semester of attendance, and,

Whereas Mr. Shane Galie has distinguished himself as an active participant in the community of James Madison University through his extracurricular activities, and

Whereas Mr. Shane Galie is designated Valedictorian of his graduating class of 2004,

Therefore, be it resolved:

That the Faculty Senate authorizes its Speaker to bestow upon Shane Galie the Faculty Award at the James Madison University Founders' Day Luncheon, and,

That the Speaker thank him on behalf of the faculty for the dedication that he has shown and the excellence he has achieved in his studies at James Madison University, and,

That the Speaker express on behalf of the Faculty our best wishes to Mr. Galie as he embarks upon his career and our confidence that he will pass on the gifts we have given him throughout his own life.

Proclaimed this day, March 17, 2004,
in the presence of the Community of
James Madison University

Michael Smilowitz, Ph.D.
Faculty Senate Speaker