

# FACULTY SENATE JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY

**Meeting Agenda  
October 3, 2002, 3:30 p.m.  
Taylor 306**

- 1. Call to Order:** Larry Ham, Faculty Marshal.
- 2. Approval of Minutes.**
- 3. Speaker's Report:** Michael Smilowitz:
  - A. Faculty Participation in the Bond Campaign.
  - B. Study Skills/Outreach Programs – Maggie Burkhart-Evans & Jim McConnel.
  - C. Faculty *Emeriti* Committee Report – Phil Emmert.
- 4. Provost Brown's Report.**
- 5. Treasurer's Report:** Geoff Egekwu.
- 6. Committee Reports.**

A. Academic Policies – Beth Eck:

The Academic Policies Committee is recommending the following change to catalog wording with regard to the President's List.

Present catalog wording (p. 28):

"To qualify for the honor of being placed on the President's List, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.90 and above and carry a course load of at least 14 hours, 12 of which must be in addition to any courses taken on credit/no-credit basis."

Proposed change:

"To qualify for the honor of being placed on the President's List, a student must earn a grade point average of 3.90 or above in at least 12 graded hours of course work."

B. Faculty Concerns – Cynthia Gilliatt:

Continuing the monitoring of handbook issues from last year and considering additional recommendations.

C. Student / Faculty Relations – Reba Leiding:

Recommendations for improving student participation at major speaker events. (Please see attached.)

**7. Old Business.**

- A. Report on the Day Care Initiative – Larry Ham.
- B. Report regarding Faculty Club – Larry Ham.
- C. Report on the General Education Council – Andrew Kohn

1. Each of the Cluster Committees is involved in responding to suggestions that came from the external team for the Academic Program Review. In each Cluster the effort involves refining the quality of and reducing the quantity of objectives. In some cases, the reduction in quantity approaches 50%.

2. Serious consideration is being given to unlinking the courses in “packages” in Cluster I and to creating a single writing course that will apply to all students.

3. Serious consideration is being given to unlinking the mathematics course requirement from the science course requirements in Cluster III.

4. A committee has been formed (and I volunteered to serve) to propose the best way to implement this semester the APR committee’s recommendation that the Chair of the GEC not be the Dean, but an elected member of the GEC.

5. The entire GEC is reviewing the full set of APR committee recommendations and establishing priorities and time-lines for implementing/dealing with them.

- D. Revision of Senate’s Constitution – Larry Ham.

**8. New Business.**

- A. RTA Appointments – Jack Butt.
- B. Discussion of “What should be the business of the Senate for 2002-03?”

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**First Reading**

Recommendations brought to the Faculty Senate by the Student Relations Sub-committee regarding:

**Student Attendance at Campus Speaking Events.****Purpose:**

The subcommittee recognizes the importance of expanding the academic reach of students at JMU through exposure to new and sometimes complex ideas. We also recognize that students may be reluctant to seek out scholarly experiences. To encourage student participation in campus-wide speaking events such as the Visiting Scholar Series, Madison Day, and Constitution Day, the Faculty Senate Student Relations Subcommittee recommends the following:

**Procedures:**

1. Provide sufficient advance notice of events (that is, before the semester begins) so that faculty may include the event in the course syllabus.
2. Advertise events in venues frequented by students, such as dorm bulletin boards, dining halls, etc.
3. Increase student involvement (and the visibility of student involvement) in planning speaking events.
4. Involve student organizations in promoting events (although not necessarily in choosing speakers) as part of the service criteria. For example, one or two student groups could be assigned to promote an event and encourage appropriate audience behavior. Student groups could be evaluated based on their promotional efforts, audience size, response, and other criteria, and provided with an incentive such as an increase to the organization's budget.
5. Establish a "Scholars' Day" on which several speakers, panel discussions, etc., are scheduled. A larger, more focused event would have more visibility, and be easier to promote. Students could be encouraged or required to attend a minimum number of events. Scholars' Day could be scheduled in combination with Assessment Day or on another midweek date (midweek to encourage attendance rather than a long weekend).
6. Tie student attendance at speaking events to a broad General Education requirement or Academic Enrichment program (for example, require or encourage attendance at 2 events per year throughout the student's time at JMU).

