



## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, April 29, 2010 Taylor 306

In Attendance: Barber, Buckley, Carr, Castle, DePaolis, Enyeart Smith, Finkelstein, Gallagher, Garren, Gibson, Gubser, Hall, Hamilton, Harper, Haraway, Harlee, Harris, Herron, Jerome, Johnson, Jones, Kastendiek, Klippert, Larsen, Lubert, McGraw, Moghtader, Nye, O'Neall, Pierrakos, Poe, Rankin, Roof, Scheikl, Slade, Szmagaj, Wasta, (Guests: Teresa Gonzalez, Susan Wheeler, Linda Halpern, Jeanne Martino-McAllister, Heather Griscom, Peter DeMichele)

3:35 PM: Call to Order

- Approval of the Minutes
- Speaker's Report, Dr. Steve Garren
  - i. Year End Summery: In March, the faculty voted to allow senators to serve as many as three consecutive two-year terms, instead of just two consecutive two-year terms. Furthermore, in March, the faculty voted to lengthen the Speaker's term to two-years and to allow the Speaker to be elected to as many as two consecutive two-year terms. These two above amendments should appear in our Constitution, which will be included in the new Faculty Handbook, effective July 1.

A FURLOUGH proposal was tabled, following Dr. Brown's announcement that the university would buy back the furlough.

The senate passed an attendance policy proposal, which Susan Wheeler will take to the Faculty Handbook Committee when it convenes next fall.

The senate passed an "excused absence policy," which will also go to the Faculty Handbook Committee next fall.

The senate suspended the rules during the meeting, with a 2/3 vote, to pass a motion, asserting an anti-discrimination policy within the university, as a response to a statement made by the Virginia Attorney General. Members of the BOV asked me if President Rose's anti-discrimination email message sufficed, and I responded affirmatively. However, I reported that the senate wanted to make its own independent statement as well. The SGA representative to the Board of Visitors (BOV) reported that the SGA made a similar resolution also.

The senate passed a "senior pre-requisite" proposal. This policy is awaiting an upgrade to the university computer system. At that time, Michele White will prepare a request and submit it for consideration.

The senate also passed a "budget" proposal, related to the distribution of tuition to fees, and a tuition surcharge proposal. Both of these proposals elicited a little bit of negative feedback from the BOV, but Zie Rivers on the BOV implied that the BOV would not micro-manage the faculty.

Since our own senate website is being updated, the senate will be able to remind the administration of approved policies without re-inventing the wheel every few years.

Last semester the senate voted to complain that the (noisy) demolition of Bridgeforth Stadium would be occurring during the week of final exams in December 2009.

Last semester Doug Brown gave the Faculty Senate information regarding guidelines for determining evaluation and merit pay. This information now is publicly available.

Other areas of participation by the senate include examining classroom scheduling, retirement benefits and campus parking. The issue of classroom scheduling is ongoing. Time-lines regarding retirement benefits will be examined by Charlie King's division, in terms of models used by other institutions. The parking issue resulted in the senate getting Arch Harris appointed to the University Parking Committee.

Distinguished speakers this year at senate meetings included President Rose, Charlie King, in addition to more distinguished speakers during today's meeting.

- Provost's Report, Dr. Doug Brown
  - i. Thank you to the Senate for a productive year. Encourages Senate and future Senates to examine faculty/student roles at the university and encourage academic rigor, to work as a faculty to influence the political agenda in the state and act as lobbyists for higher education, and to be active with the Board of Visitors to influence action and increase the level of activity. JMU has reached a new level of quality in education and reputation. Endowment giving has been going up significantly, including inheritance giving. Stressed the importance of the faculty/ student relationship in securing future financial support for the university
- Guest Speakers, Institute for Stewardship of the Natural World Committee
  - Drs. Linda Halpern, Jeanne Martino-McAllister, Heather Griscom, and Peter DeMichele
  - i. Founded in 2008 to promote environmental stewardship awareness. General overview of the institute's mission was presented (<http://www.jmu.edu/stewardship/about.shtml>)
- Report of the Nominations and Elections Committee, Dr. Mary Slade (Chair)
  - i. New Senate Officers:
    - Speaker – Robert Jerome
    - Speaker Pro Tem – Mary Slade
    - Secretary – Davis McGraw
    - Treasurer – Steve Garren
    - Marshall – Scott Gallegher
    - Faculty Concerns Committee Chair – Mary Slade
    - Academic Policies Committee Chair – Val Larsen
    - Budget Committee Chair – Nancy Poe
    - Faculty Appeals Committee Chair – Arch Harris
    - Student Affairs Committee Chair – Kevin (Wolf) Sherrill
- Treasurer's Report, Dr. Robert Jerome
  - i. Memorial gifts have been sent in the memory of John McGehee's mother, John Hilliard's mother, and Aaron Noland's father.
- Report of the Faculty Concerns Committee, Dr. Arch Harris (Chair)
  - i. No Report
- Report of the Academic Policies Committee, Dr. Val Larsen (Chair)
  - i. No Report
- Report of the Budget Committee, Dr. Nancy Poe (Chair)
  - i. No Report
- Report of the Faculty Appeals Committee, Dr. Rory DePaolis (Chair)
  - i. No Report
- Report of the Student Relations Committee, Dr. Jeff Andre (Chair)
  - i. No Report
- OLD Business - None



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- NEW Business
  - i. Medical Claims Denials (See Agenda 4/29/10)- Motion to table and send to subcommittee
  - ii. Spring Fest Response (See Agenda 4/29/10) – Motion to table and send to subcommittee
  - iii. I.T. concerns raised
  
- 4:58 pm Meeting Adjourned.