



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, March 31, 2011 Taylor 306

In Attendance: Castle, Carbaugh, DuVall, Gallagher, Garren, Gibson, Harris, Herron, Hughes, Jones, McGraw, Meixsel, Moghtader, Niculescu, Nye, Poe, Rankin, Sheril, Simmons, Slade, Walker, Wasta, Polacek (alternate for Health Sciences), Roof (alternate for accounting), Ware (alternate for Military Science) (Guests: Mike Gubser)

3:30 PM: Call to Order

- Approval of the Minutes
- Provost's Report:
 - During the past year, there have been numerous renovation projects at JMU, totaling more than \$2 million. The Provost distributed a list of those projects as a reminder.
 - The Provost announced that a faculty resources web page is now up and running. It is available at: <http://www.jmu.edu/acadaffairs/resources.html>
 - The Provost announced that a task force is being formed to examine the first-year experience. It will begin by examining what we are currently doing, from choices through orientation and on through to the first year of classes. It will focus on what messages are being conveyed to students.
 - To further the ongoing conversation on academic culture, the Provost has asked the departments to initiate a discussion to engage with the question, "how do we define academic rigor?" This summer a group of faculty will put together the input from these departments.
- Speaker's Report, Dr. Robert Jerome, Speaker
 - No report
- Treasurer's Report, Dr. Steve Garren
 - The Faculty Senate sent flowers in memory of the father of Scott Zan Smith, faculty in Department of Music.
 - The Faculty Senate sent flowers to Guiliana Fazzion, department head of Foreign Languages, Literatures and Culture, since she was involved in a serious automobile accident.
 - The Faculty Senate sent a \$75 donation to Disabled American Veterans, in memory of Robert Lisle, a retired faculty member from Foreign Languages, Literatures and Culture.
 - The Faculty Senate sent a \$75 donation to Shepherd of the Hills, United Methodist Church, in memory of the father of Rustin Greene, faculty in SMAD.
 - The Faculty Senate sent a \$75 donation to Challenged Athletes Foundation, in memory of the son of Hillary Wing-Richards, faculty in Psychology.
 - The balance on the flower fund as of 3/31/2011 is \$5,926.72.

- Report of the Faculty Concerns Committee, Dr. Mary Slade (Chair)
 - No Report
- Report of the Academic Policies Committee, Dr. Val Larsen (Chair)
 - No Report
- Report of the Student Relations Committee, Dr. Kevin “Wolf” Sherrill (Chair)
 - There was a first reading of a new resolution:
 - The Faculty Senate resolves that tuition bills to students include the breakout of tuition and fee expenses in a manner similar to what is reported to SCHEV.
- Report of the Faculty Appeals Committee, Dr. Arch Harris (Chair)
 - The Faculty Appeals Committee has received an appeal and that appeal has been referred to a Hearing Committee. The Hearing Committee consists of the following five faculty members:
 - Matthew Reborn, Bethany Bryson, Rickie Domangue, Lincoln Gray, and Cynthia Klevickis.
- Report of the Budget Committee, Dr. Nancy Poe (Chair)
 - No Report
- Report of the Nominations and Elections Committee, Dr. Scott Gallagher (Chair)
 - Dr. Gallagher reminded the Senate that the next meeting would be on Thursday, 21 April, 3:30, in “Transitions” (the big room next to the Post Office) in Warren. It will consist of two parts:
 - The organizational meeting of the 2011-12 Senate will be held at 3:30
 - Immediately following that meeting, the final meeting of the 2010-11 Senate will be held
- OLD Business
 - Two motions brought to the Senate in the February meeting were debated, amended, and brought to a vote. The two resolutions, after amendments were approved, read as follows:
 - “The Faculty Senate recommends amending University Policy #1000, Section 6 to add the following: ‘The University Policy Committee should solicit input from the Faculty Senate on matters concerning the faculty.’”
 - “The Faculty Senate requests representation on the University Policy Committee.”
 - Both motions passed unanimously, with no abstentions.

- NEW Business
 - Dr. Jon Gibson proposed the following motion:
 - "Resolved: The Faculty Senate requests that no Academic Unit Head be permitted to restrict legal, voluntary contact of faculty with students."
 - Additional rationale supporting this motion is presented in an attachment to these minutes.

 - Dr. Mike Gubser proposed the following motion:
 - "Resolved: The Faculty Senate urges the administration to develop a clear policy stopping the tenure clock in cases of official parental leave under FMLA.
 - "In addition, in order to track faculty diversity, the Senate requests that JMU collect data regarding equal opportunity related to tenure."
 - Additional rationale supporting this motion is presented in an attachment to these minutes.

- Meeting adjourned at 4:32 p.m.