



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, September 2, 2010 Taylor 306

In Attendance: Carbaugh, Carr, Castle, DePaolis, DeVore, Duval, Gallagher, Garren, Gubser, Herron, J. Gibson, Jerome, Jones, Kindig (Early ELED & Reading alternate), Larsen, McGraw, Moghtader, Niculescu, Nye, O'Connor (Media Arts & Design alternate), Peaslee (Political Science alternate), Pierrakos, Poe, Rankin, Rubenstein, Rumbo, Sheril, Slade, Smith, Tkac, Walker, Wasta, Wood, (Guests: Teresa Gonzalez, Karen McDonnell)

3:35 PM: Call to Order

- Approval of the Minutes
- Provost's Report, Dr. A. Jerry Benson
 - Dr. Benson indicated that a key focus for the coming year would be an efficient, effective, smooth transition in the Provost's office.
 - He outlined a number of the University's areas of strategic emphasis, which include (in the Academic Affairs area), nurturing & advancing academic programs (with emphasis on the "high need areas of: nursing, teacher education & STEM), assessment and the Academic Program Review process.
 - Another ongoing area of strategic emphasis will be environmental stewardship, including an increase in academic opportunities for students in environmental stewardship as well as an increase in faculty research.
 - Other ongoing areas of emphasis are diversity, and philanthropy & external funding.
 - Dr. Benson spoke about the need to change the alcohol culture at JMU, and suggested conversations in the Faculty Senate about promoting stronger academic culture.
 - We'll be hearing more this year about academic integrity. Suggestions have been made by a task force on this matter, and this has produced recommendations that we may want to address.
 - Finally, Dr. Benson indicated that a topic for the coming year will be civic engagement. We will seek to understand what we're doing in this area, and to define what we want to be doing.
- Guest Speakers: Herb Amato & Ann Meyers of the SACS Reaffirmation Group
 - JMU is accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS).
 - The university was reaffirmed in 2002. Reaffirmation occurs every 10 years. Our next certification report will be due in fall of 2012, with a review team visiting in spring 2013.
 - An emphasis of this upcoming SACS reaffirmation process will be faculty credentialing. As part of this process, data will need to be gathered about faculty degrees, experience, and other means.
 - The method for collecting this information will vary by college, but many will use an online system called Digital measures.
 - For more information, see the Website <http://www.jmu.edu/sacs/>

- Guest Speaker: Lee Sternberger – Quality Enhancement Plan
 - As part of the SACS Reaffirmation process, JMU will be conducting a Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP). The Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) is the component of the reaffirmation process that reflects and affirms the commitment of SACS to enhance the quality of higher education and focus on student learning.
 - For more information, see the QEP website at: <http://www.jmu.edu/sacs/qep.html>
- Treasurer’s Report, Dr. Steve Garren
 - The senate lottery will be conducted this fall semester.
 - The balance for the flower fund is \$6,444.20 on 8/26/2010.
 - Requested dues this year are \$2 per full-time faculty member.
 - Checks may be written to "JMU Faculty Senate."
 - The senate will increase contributions this year from \$50 to \$75.
 - The senate donated \$50 to the American Cancer Society on 5/12/2010, requested for Jeff Loveland, faculty in the Department of Health Sciences, in memory of his mother, Hazel Loveland.
 - The senate purchased a retirement gift for Doug Brown on 4/28/2010 in the amount of \$105.
 - The senate donated flowers in the amount of \$46.90 on 4/27/2010 for John McGehee, library administrator, in memory of his mother.
- 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)
 - No Report
- Report of the Faculty Appeals Committee, (Dr. Nancy Poe, on behalf of Dr. Arch Harris, Chair)
 - No Report
- Report of the Budget Committee, Dr. Nancy Poe (Chair)
 - The Budget Committee will follow up on its resolution, passed last April, by continuing to examine & inquire about the tuition fee structure of the University and the allocation of resources affecting academic affairs and the educational mission of the University.
- Report of the Nominations and Elections Committee, Dr. Mary Slade (Chair)
 - No Report
- Speaker’s Report, Dr. Robert Jerome, Speaker
 - As discussed at the University opening meeting in August, the Faculty Senate would like to address three initiatives this year: (1) changing the alcohol culture at JMU, (2) enhancing the academic culture at JMU (including issues such as the degree of rigor in our classes), and the ongoing issue of finances (including salaries, but also more broadly the effective use of financial resources to enhance learning at JMU).
- OLD Business
 - None
- NEW Business
 - None
- 4:31 pm Meeting adjourned.