



## FACULTY SENATE

### Minutes

Thursday, September 3, 2009

Taylor 306

In Attendance: Andre, Baker, Barber, Buckley, Castle, DePaolis, DeVore, Enyeart Smith, Fordham, Gallagher, Garren, Giovanetti, Gubser, Hall, Hamilton, Harris, Herron, Jerome, Johnson, Kastendiek, Klippert, Larsen, Lubert, McGraw, Moghtader, Nye, Pettit, Pierrakos, Poe, Rankin, Sokoloff, Szmagaj, Trice, Wasta, Wood (Guests: Teresa Gonzalez, Susan Wheeler, Breeze Staff)

3:35 PM: Call to Order

- Minutes from 4/30/09 meeting approved unanimously.
- Speaker's Report, Dr. Steven Garren

Dr. Rose will be attending the November meeting. Dr. Brown will present results of the C.O.A.C.H.E. survey at the October meeting. Howard Lubert will represent the senate on the General Education Committee. Faculty members on the Faculty Handbook Committee are R. Jerome, K. Wright, and D. McGraw. Search for Faculty Ombudsperson has been frozen due to funding. Sharon Cote was appointed to the committee from the senate.

- i. Faculty survey introduced by speaker-seeking actionable items for survey. The speaker would like to have the survey ready this year. Areas of consideration might be: Scheduling changes, earned sabbatical, parking for motorcycles, seniors permitted to take any class (no prerequisites necessary), telephones removed from office in exchange for monetary compensation. Develop a list indicating how should budget money be allocated when university is required to make budget cuts. Suggestion from the floor: Remove six letter restriction for user name/ID, Faculty/Daycare club (discussion of Dr. Rose's position on the a faculty club-Garren), Scheduling of Visiting Scholars (during the day or evening?), Interdisciplinary Research receives credit in both areas. Concerns raised about presenting items in comparison on the survey. Suggestions where made regarding presentation of survey material to faculty as a whole. Senators could present to their respective departments in detail and solicit further actionable ideas for the survey. The speaker requested assistance in designing the survey and requested that any additional suggestions for material be emailed to him directly.
- ii. Dr. Rose's Green Initiative. Suggestions from the floor: More bike racks, covered bike racks, smoke-free campus, adjust temperature in buildings, question need for television screens that display static information, low energy bulbs in flood lights outside, (Susan Wheeler-New construction will meet LEED certification standards), motorcycle parking, foliage on rooftops, compressed air vehicles, grounds keeping (water usage, reduce use of power tools)
- iii. Is JMU changing its mission? In what direction? What are the expectations for Teaching, Scholarship, and Service? Criteria for

promotion and tenure. What are the expectations are they clearly, and should they be more consistent?

From the floor: Question need for consistent criteria for promotion and tenure, faculty handbook should clearly state annual ratings scale, faculty given feedback and assistance in reaching goals. All should be clear at the departmental level. Question regarding what type of institution JMU is trying to be and do departments serve same central goal. Develop a plan to support scholarship within each department. In some areas these decisions are made at a higher level then the faculty. Graduate programs shift focus to a research oriented approach. Suggestion to form an arbitration committee/panel to review issues related to scholarship that may arise. Concerns raised about faculty being vulnerable at the departmental level –faculty at large could give support to individual faculty members. Priorities of faculty (teaching, scholarship, or service).

- Provost's Report, Dr. Douglas Brown  
(Report given by Teresa Gonzales – Dr. Brown was unable to attend.)  
C.O.A.C.H.E. Survey results will be made available. Budget outlook is poor, expecting a shortfall for the next two years. Creative curricular planning. Summary of planning underway for possible pandemic flu at JMU.
- Treasurer's Report, Dr. Robert Jerome
  - i. Flower fund – Collect \$2 from faculty members in each department.
  - ii. Treasurer's Report: The Faculty Senate sent memorial contributions for Brad Striebig's father, Skip Hyser's brother, and Bob Hoskins' mother, leaving a balance in the Flower Fund of approximately \$7,120.68 on September 1, 2009.
- Report of the Academic Policies Committee, Dr. Val Larsen (Chair)
  - i. The committee will be reviewing the following this year: absence policy, academic schedule, proposal to allow seniors to enroll in classes without meeting prerequisite requirements, formulate questions for Dr. Rose (November meeting), discuss faculty roles in university level C & I committees.
- Report of the Budget Committee, Dr. Nancy Poe (Chair)
  - i. Budget outlook is poor. Solicit suggestions on use of available funds with a focus on academics and retaining jobs.
- Report of the Faculty Appeals Committee, Dr. Rory DePaolis (Chair)
  - i. No report.
- Report of the Faculty Concerns Committee, Dr. Arch Harris (Chair)
  - i. Response to Parking Motion response from Charlie King, follow up of current departmental evaluation process, examine searches for interim dept. heads (encourage internal searches), clarify options available for faculty retirement dates (beneficial financial impact), examine date that new health benefits go into effect and coverage gap.
- Report of the Student Relations Committee, Dr. Jeff Andre (Chair)
  - i. No report.
- OLD Business  
(none)
- NEW Business  
(none)
- Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm.