



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, September 5, 2019 – Taylor/Madison Union 405

In attendance: Piper (Speaker); Accounting: Briggs; Art, Design & Art History: Phaup; Biology: Cocking; Chemistry: Hughey; Comm. Sci. and Disorders: Clinard; Comm. Studies: Woo; Computer Science: Kirkpatrick; Early ELED & Reading: Mathur; Economics: Cavusoglu; Educ. Found. & Exc.: Koubek; Engineering: Harper; English: Lo; Finance & Bus. Law: Parker; Foreign Languages: Lang-Rigal; Geology: McGary; Hart School of HSRM: Anaza; Health Professions: Skelly; Health Sciences: Ott Walter; History: McLeary; IDLS: Chamberlin; Integrated Sciences: McGraw; Justice Studies: Beers; Kinesiology: Hargens; Learning Tech. & LE: Beverly; Lib & Ed Tech: Flota; Management: Shahzad; Marketing: Larsen; Math & Stats: Garren; Media Arts & Design: Mitchell; Mid, Second, & Math: Shoffner; Military Science: Waller; Music: Peterson; Nursing: Lam; Philosophy & Religion: van Leeuwen; Physics: Butner; Political Science: Lee; Psychology: Melchiori; Social Work: Yeom; Sociology & Anthropology: Tanaka; Theatre & Dance: Finkelstein; Writing Rhetoric & Tech Comm: McDonnell; Part-time Faculty Reps: Harlacker, PeeksMease; Janow; SGA Rep: Deger; Guests—Provost Coltman, Seifert (Biology)

I. Call to Order—3:30 p.m.

The following officers were elected for 2019–2020:

Speaker: Mark Piper
 Speaker Pro Tempore: Val Larsen (chairs Faculty Concerns Committee)
 Marshal: Steve Harper (chairs Nominations & Elections Committee)
 Treasurer: Nevin Cavusoglu
 Secretary: Karen McDonnell

The following committee chairs were elected for 2019–2020:

Academic Policies: Katherine Ott-Walter
 Student Relations: Hakseon Lee
 Budget & Compensation: Steve Garren
 Faculty Appeals: David McGraw
 Adjunct Affairs: Leslie Harlacker

II. Provost's Report

- There are many administrative changes, including several new deans and a new Assistant Vice President for Academic Initiatives and Planning, Jennifer Campfield.
- Thanks to everyone who serves on task forces and supports the faculty governance model. You're representing the entire faculty, so Dr. Coltman encourages faculty to speak up and share ideas.
- Compensation: compression and inversion continue to be a priority. More than \$4 million has been dedicated to this effort over the past several years. Funding availability for this year is not yet clear.
- Despite enrollment shifts, a 2% increase has been implemented for adjunct faculty.
- Provost Coltman announced a \$50,000 commitment again this year for the Engagement Mini-Grants.
- The administration does not yet know if there will be a budget shortfall, but promises to keep the faculty informed.

III. Speaker's Report

- Be sure to pick up your name sign and bring it to each meeting.

- Sign up for lunch with President Alger and Provost Coltman, to be held on November 1 from 12:15 to 1:30 in ISAT/CS 159. First come, first served. (Contact Yvonne Miller at millerys@jmu.edu if you'd like to participate.)
- The Senate photograph will be taken on Thursday, December 5, at 3:30 in Grafton-Stovall.
- Tasks of the Senate: Amplify the faculty voice, and advocate for instructional faculty compensation and resources.
 - The Senate website (jmu.edu/facultysenate) offers easy access to important info about senators' duties: communicate with your department, discuss and pass resolutions (you are representing your department and ought to vote the communal will), and offer motions or resolutions that give voice to your department's ideas
 - For committee assignment, check the website or ask Marshal Steve Harper
 - Collect dues from your department colleagues (\$5/full-time faculty member). Dues are used for two important purposes: bereavement funds for immediate family members of faculty members and projects initiated by the faculty (e.g., last year's Valley Scholars program donation)
 - Access the bereavement fund form on the senate website (under documents and reports); send the completed form to the treasurer (cavusonx@jmu.edu)
 - Send an alternate if you can't make a Senate meeting.
 - Keep track of your tenure (five-term limit), and alert your department when elections need to be held.
 - Publicize the senate mini-grant program (now in its sixth year); over a quarter of a million dollars have been awarded in the past five years.
 - To understand the process of advancing motions, consult the senate information document on the website (scroll to New Senator Information link in the purple bar [on this page](#))
- Spending bill ideas are welcome: it's in our interest to serve the community with the funds.
- Improving the working conditions for adjuncts is a theme for this year.
- Guest: Dean Robert Aguirre, Co-Chair of the Academic Affairs Strategic Planning Committee
 - The committee consists of a large group of mostly instructional faculty with some administrators (the dean is one) and some classified staff since they're also part of academic affairs. Committee member Smita Mathur is a senator.
 - There's a useful [website](#) that charts the progress of the committee.
 - They meet every two weeks, three to four hours at a time. A mission will be finalized soon and published on the Provost's webpage. Next, the committee will work on a vision, then values, then action items. Their aim is to submit their work to the provost by March 2020.
 - Dean Aguirre answered the following questions:
 1. Is the current vision to be a national model of the engaged university part of the plan? The strategic plan must nest with the university's strategic plan.
 2. How do you plan to address online teaching? The committee is looking at different modalities of instruction (classroom, online, study abroad, etc.). It's complicated, but the larger question is how are we going to deliver the instruction that is at the heart of what we do.
 3. How does the plan recognize that we're going to have nontraditional learners? We need to build ourselves to be a flexible and dynamic academy. The committee has deeply studied the changing demographics of students and what we expect to happen in the next 20 years. They're studying ways to make JMU more transfer-student friendly. The Task Force on Transfer Students is already making changes.
 4. What about the traditional student? Our charge is to present to the provost an academic affairs strategic plan. The committee must stay in its lane but also be cognizant of other lanes.
 5. Is it likely that action items will lead to modification of the GenEd program? The committee is discussing undergrad, grad, research, and experiential learning. They are not tasked explicitly with redoing or rethinking GenEd.
 6. How can the university better fund collaborative and cross-disciplinary efforts? The committee believes in the ability to innovate in academic affairs; however, it is beyond purview of the committee to rewrite the budget system. (It would be better to make recommendations to the provost to reimagine allocations.)

IV. Treasurer's Report—Treasurer Nevin Cavusoglu reported that the Senate has \$6,337.68 in the account. She requests that senators collect dues, preferably by the next meeting.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Faculty Concerns—Speaker Pro Tempore Val Larsen noted that past resolutions are tracked on the webpage so that we don't pass something and forget about it. Lactation rooms and childcare are on this committee's radar. The best option for childcare appears to be expanding current services available through the COE. This committee would be happy to take up other issues that are brought forward.
- B. Academic Policies—Chair Kathy Ott Walter announced that the committee will meet at 3:30 on September 17th in Cleveland 101. Leslie Purtlebaugh will explain the revised academic standing policy. One concern of the committee is that the student registration process interferes with class time. Note that there's a week on the academic calendar in January for a winter session. Catherine Crummett will be working with faculty who want to offer courses. There will be a winter session in 2021 as well because of the way the calendar falls. However, residence halls and dining halls will be closed, so the courses are primarily online or off campus.
- C. Adjunct Affairs—Chair Leslie Harlacker announced that there will be a meeting on Sept. 19 at 3:30 in Cleveland 103 to discuss the work of the Compensation Advisory Council and the results of the survey from last spring. Chair Harlacker has been appointed to serve on the Adjunct Support Committee. Proposals for the fall round of faculty development funds are in, and the committee is in the process of ranking proposals. Winners will be announced on Sept. 6.
- D. Student Relations—Committee Chair Lee scheduled a meeting on Oct. 17 in Cleveland 101. The committee will discuss resources for financial assistance for minority and first-generation JMU students. The Provost has agreed to increase the awards for the Madison Vision Teaching Award: all three winners will receive \$1,000 (no ranking). SGA members interview and choose the winners. Committee members are invited to join a meeting with Tim Miller, VP of Student Affairs, on 12/3 at 9:00). An invitation has been extended to the Graduate Student Association to send a representative to Senate meetings.
- C. The Faculty Appeals Committee currently has no cases. Committee Chair David McGraw outlined the two primary functions of the committee: to hear faculty appeals (which are bound by confidentiality) and to monitor university policies and alert the Senate if there are policies created and updated by the University Policies Committee that warrant attention. To that end, there's a new policy on video surveillance (attached). Any such policy aims to strike the right balance between safety/security and privacy. To weigh in on this policy, contact Chair McGraw (mcgrawdk@jmu.edu) within the next week. There is a tentative committee meeting scheduled to discuss feedback from faculty.
- D. Budget and Compensation—Committee Chair Steve Garren compiles and reports annually on salary comparison data (reports published and distributed last spring). If you have questions or concerns, contact Steve. In answer to a question about adjunct pay disparities among departments, Chair Garren suggested that the committee can request that information from the provost.
- E. Nominations & Elections—Marshal Steve Harper announced that the committee will be meeting on Sept. 12 in Cleveland 101 to discuss criteria for awarding mini-grants. He's looking to fill spots on the Safety Committee and the Dingleline Steering Committee. Contact him at harpe2sr@jmu.edu. In October, he will bring a one-page sheet clarifying Robert's Rules of Order for new senators.
- F. Related Committees—Senator Beverly, who serves on the Provost's Faculty Diversity Council, is seeking input from senators about access and inclusion priorities. Email her at beverlcl@jmu.edu with your suggestions. The council also welcomes reading recommendations to inform, expand, and enhance their perspectives.

VI. New Business

- First reading of the Resolution on Freedom of Expression (attached), which is designed to encourage students to become more aware of their free speech rights so that they can participate in civil discourse.
- Motion to Amend the Faculty Senate Engagement Mini-Grant Eligibility (attached).
 - A motion to suspend the rules passed. In order to encourage adjunct faculty to participate in this year's round of mini-grants, the senate passed the motion to loosen the eligibility requirements.

VIII. Adjournment 5:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Karen McDonnell on 16 August 2019