



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, November 4, 2021

In attendance: Speaker: Larsen; Accounting: Briggs; Biology: May; Chemistry: Kokhan; Comm. Sci. and Disorders: Clinard; Comm. Studies: Woo; Comp. Inf. Sci. & Bus Analytics: Tchommo; Computer Science: Kirkpatrick; Early ELED & Reading: Mathur; Economics: Doyle; Edu. Found. & Exception: Wiley; Engineering: Harper; English: White; Finance & Bus. Law: Parker; Foreign Languages: Lang-Rigal; Geol. & Environ. Science: McGary; Grad. Psych: LeBlanc; Health Professions: Goetschius; Health Sciences: Ott Walter; History: McCleary; IDLS: Chamberlin; Integrated Sciences: York; Justice Studies: Scheuerman; Kinesiology: McKay; Learning Tech. & LE: Wilcox; Libraries: Clarke; Management: C.K. Lee; Marketing: Ozcan; Math & Stats: Garren; Media Arts & Design: Mitchell; Mid, Second, & Math: Shoffner; Music: Peterson; Nursing: Leisen; Phil. & Rel.: Knorpp; Physics: Butner; Political Science: H. Lee; Psychology: Melchiori; Social Work: Hunter; Soc. & Anth.: Tracy; Strategic Leadership Studies: Vanhove; Theatre & Dance: Finkelstein; Writing Rhetoric & Tech Comm: Hickman; Part-time Faculty Reps: Harlacker, Janow; Guests—Sullivan (SGA), Coltman, Shackelford, and other observers

I. Call to Order—4:20 p.m.

II. Provost's Report—Dr. Heather Coltman

- Appreciation was expressed for all those dedicating time to Homecoming events.
- COVID vaccination rates are 92% for students and 90% for employees, with 100% of quarantine beds currently available. Faculty are eligible for boosters at this point. The leadership team continues to meet.
- Thanks to all who responded to the Climate Study, encouraged colleagues to participate, and promoted it among students. The faculty response rate was strong, while the student response was lower than hoped for. A Climate Study Response and Implementation Team is being formed with a representative from each division. A representative from the Senate is invited to participate. The call has been posted for a Climate Study Response and Implementation Facilitator.
- The provost answered the following questions:
 - Have you considered an adjunct rep for the implementation team?
 - Leslie Harlacker, recognized as a tireless advocate for adjuncts, has now been added to the team.
 - Any information about the senior lecturer process for NTT faculty?
 - Departments with faculty who are eligible are in the process of implementation. Check with unit heads because they have the details.

III. Speaker's Report—Dr. Val Larsen

- Dean Linda Thomas of the Graduate School endorsed the parking resolution that is before the Senate.
- The Speaker's report to the BOV is due tomorrow morning.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer Cathy McKay reported a total of \$11,173 in the Senate's accounts. Over half of the units have paid their dues. Delinquent departments were called out.
- There were over 500 entries in the computer lottery. All fifty winners submitted their receipts.

V. Committee Reports

- A. Budget & Compensation and Government Relations—Chair Tim Ozcan reported that the committee met. The committee's main task is to figure out how to help the administration create a narrative in the effort to increase state support per JMU student. Feel free to contribute ideas to this effort. Current ideas include lobbying for support to reflect the change to R2 classification, and allocating 529 surplus funds to historically under-supported institutions. This item should be on the agenda of the administration. The committee is working to schedule a meeting with Charlie King's office. The VP of Finance (King is retiring, so his successor) should come annually at least to make a presentation to the Senate.
- B. Faculty Concerns—Chair Katherine Ott Walter sent to the provost comments about the two centers proposed by the Hart School of Hospitality, Sport and Recreation Management. The committee plans to turn its focus to faculty governance. On 11/8 (1:30 to 2:30), the committee will meet jointly with Academic Policies and Adjunct Affairs to discuss the double and triple section inconsistencies. The next regular committee meeting is 11/11 at 4:20.
- C. Academic Policies—Chair Smita Mathur announced that the committee met and discussed the handbook change about student evaluations. Clarification is needed about whether evaluations are to be used only as a formative tool or as part of a teaching portfolio, and how Blue intersects with the handbook policy (e.g., whether Blue evaluation data is automatically included or if it's optional, who has access to and control of Blue data).
- D. Adjunct Affairs—Chair Leslie Harlacker reported that the committee met earlier this week and started a GoogleDoc for the upcoming joint meeting about single/double/triple sections. They also discussed how to analyze responses from the survey's narrative sections. The committee is putting together a report of the survey results.
- E. Student Relations—Chair Hakseon Lee reported that the SGA has collected student mini-grant proposals and will circulate them for review by the committee. Ideally, winners will be announced by Thanksgiving break. Following up on the SGA's past resolution about open-access and affordable textbooks, the committee will meet with Liz Thompson from the Libraries. If you have used open-access textbooks or if you have strong opinions on the subject, contact the committee.
- F. Nominations and Elections—Chair Steve Harper reminded senators that the deadline for the engagement mini-grants is Monday (11/8). He anticipates a surge of submissions before then. The committee will review the proposals and submit recommendations to the provost. Winners will be announced at the December meeting.
- G. Faculty Appeals—Chair Talé Mitchell had no news to report.

VI. New Business

The following motion was introduced by Senator Heather Scheuerman for a first reading and will be eligible for a vote at the next meeting:

- Resolution on Instructional Faculty Covid-19-Related Policy

VII. Unfinished Business

- The Resolution Creating Office of Senate Webmaster passed by the required 2/3 vote.
- After two amendments, the Senate Bylaws Robert's Rules Modifications passed.
- After two amendments, the Motion to Recommend Strengthening DEI Education in General Education passed.
- The Resolution on Faculty Hiring passed.
- The Motion to Allow Faculty/Staff Parking Passes for JMU Graduate Teaching Instructors passed.

VIII. Adjournment: 5:53 p.m.