



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, October 4, 2018 – Taylor/Madison Union 405

In attendance: Piper (Speaker); Accounting: Briggs; Art, Design & Art History: Tollefson-Hall; Biology: Cocking; Chemistry: Hughey; Comm. Sci. & Disorders: Clinard; Comm. Studies: Richards; Computer Science: Kirkpatrick; Economics: Cavusoglu; Educ. Found. & Exc.: Koubek; Engineering: Harper; English: Reborn; Finance & Bus. Law: Parker; Foreign Languages: Polanz (proxy); Geology & Env. Sci.: Haynes; Graduate Psych.: Critchfield; Hart School of HSRM: Anaza; Health Professions: Walsh; Health Sciences: Ott Walter; History: Westkaemper; IDLS: Wright; ISAT: McGraw; Justice Studies: Parsons; Kinesiology: Hargens; Learning, Tech. & L.E.: Beverly; Lib & Ed Tech: Flota; Management: Shahzad; Marketing: Larsen; Math & Stats: Garren; Media Arts and Design: Mitchell; Mid, Second, & Math: Wallace; Military Science: Waller; Nursing: Graham; Philosophy & Religion: van Leeuwen; Physics: Butner; Political Science: Lee; Psychology: DuVall (proxy); Social Work: Yeom; Sociology & Anthropology: Blanton; Theater & Dance: DeSanctis; Writing Rhetoric & Tech Comm: McDonnell; Part-time Faculty Reps: Harlacker, PeeksMease; Student/SGA: Deger; Guests—Vice Provost Johnson.

I. Call to Order—3:31 p.m.

II. Provost's Report—Vice Provost Johnson

- Dr. Shawn Boyne is this year's ACE fellow
- Dr. Colman is sharing the grant reports (from the Senate's mini-grants and the Provost's faculty development awards) with JMU's marketing office, so please send in these reports
- Quadfest is a family-friendly event on the quad to launch the new campaign (Oct. 26, 5 to 7:15). The five pillars of the campaign and the fundraising goal will be announced
- Faculty are encouraged to build relationships with alumni, which can lead to alumni wanting to support initiatives in your programs
- The first townhall was with CVPA
- Salary increase going into effect for the Nov. 25 pay period (Dec. 16 paychecks)
- The university is giving a 2% bonus for classified staff
- The Inversion and compression study will conclude in time for the Nov. 25 paycheck
- Blue will be required starting in fall 2020 implemented. Here are some of the advantages and disadvantages of online course evaluations:
 - response rates fall
 - students with the most negative attitudes seem to be prone to respond
 - the system allows faculty to determine when and where responding takes place
 - there are no core questions across the university
 - individual instructors can formulate specific questions
 - this system offers a quicker feedback loop
 - much better student anonymity
 - it's easier to pull the text for evaluation documents
 - the system tabulates the data
- There is a gap between the end of spring semester and summer 2019 classes

III. Speaker's Report, Dr. Mark Piper

- Lunch with the President and Provost (note that this is a date change): Thursday, 12/6—12:30 to 2:00 in Madison 404. This opportunity is a way to meet with the administration on a one-to-one level. You can ask a colleague to attend if you can't make it. There are twelve available spots—first come, first served. There will be another lunch in the spring. Contact Yvonne Miller (millerys@jmu.edu).

- Work has been done to update the website in an effort to improve efficiency, transparency, and accountability)—e.g., the resolutions tab now goes back to 2010
- Faculty were added to the Senate’s Canvas site, but some faculty were overlooked. An invitation was sent out, so please encourage your part-time faculty to accept the invitation so that they will receive updates and to keep open the communication lines.
- COACHE survey updates: responsible parties have been assigned to ensure that there’s follow-up to the thirty-four recommendations. Progress will be reported on the faculty senate website.
- Advertise engagement mini-grants to faculty (full- and part-time)—details about eligibility on Senate website. The application is designed to be very quick.
- Basic information about the Senate’s mission and process is available on the website, yet there’s some misunderstanding among the faculty. Note that motions originate with individuals. The senate as a whole does not craft motions. Senate actions are reactive rather than proactive
- The Provost has tasked Dr. Cheryl Beverly with a campus-wide effort to reduce unconscious bias Talk to colleagues about this issue, and send feedback to beverlcl@jmu.edu.

IV. Treasurer’s Report—Treasurer McGraw reported that the current total in the Senate account is \$6,008.99 after collecting some dues and paying for one memoriam. Ask colleagues to submit their dues. Which will be collected again at next month’s meeting.

V. Adjunct Faculty Report—Dr. Harlacker announced that the process for offering professional development funds for part-time faculty is now underway. October 8 is the closing date. There will be a second round in the spring. Encourage colleagues to apply. Those who have been teaching at JMU for one semester prior to applying are eligible.

VI. Committee Reports

- A. Faculty Concerns—The committee meets monthly and deliberates about important issues. The November 15 meeting in Cleveland will focus on the effectiveness of the Committee on Academic Programs. Marilou Johnson and Kristi Shackelford will join committee to discuss the process in the hopes of giving the committee members more say, in particular exploring ways to offer feedback sooner in the process
- B. Academic Policies—Dr. Emily Westkaemper announced the joint work with Student Relations on syllabus language about diversity/inclusivity.
- C. Student Relations—Dr. Hakseon Lee introduced the new SGA rep to the senate (Heidi Deger)
- D. Faculty Appeals—Dr. Karin Tollefson-Hall reported that there are currently no cases.
- E. Budget and Compensation—Dr. Steve Garren emphasized that commonwealth employees may take 8 weeks of parental leave following birth, adoption, or fostering (both parents can take advantage concurrently or at different times. Information is [here](#). FMLA requires 12 weeks unpaid; this is 8 weeks paid leave. Garren also announced that according to Jason McClain, 375 to 450 faculty will benefit from the compression and inversion measures.
- F. Nominations and Elections—Dr. Steve Harper plans to convene the committee after the mini-grants applications deadline. He seeks a volunteer for the safety committee (meets with the Police chief and other safety officers once a month and discusses various issues) and the distinguished speakers and honors committee (to offer input on campus speakers and other honors—meets once per semester).

VII. New Business

A motion on diversity and inclusivity language for course syllabi was put forward for a first reading. (See attached file.)

VIII. Unfinished Business

- A bylaws resolution passed by the necessary 2/3 vote (clarifies the duties of the Faculty Appeals Committee chair)
- A resolution to expand the duties of the Faculty Appeals Committee passed (expands the role of this committee to monitor university policies that are handed down)
- The treasury funds motion was tabled (aimed to include birth/adoption celebratory gifts)

IX. Adjournment 5:01 p.m.