

JMU FACULTY SENATE MOTION

PROTOCOL FOR PASSED MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Whereas:

- It is in the interest of the Faculty Senate and the James Madison University faculty that the implementation of resolutions passed by the Faculty Senate should be monitored.
- No protocol currently exists in the Faculty Senate Bylaws for monitoring implementation, with the unfortunate result that many resolutions have been passed and then essentially forgotten.

Be it now therefore resolved that:

- The James Madison University Faculty Senate Bylaws will be amended to include the following protocol for monitoring and encouraging implementation of Senate resolutions:

Article VIII: Protocol for Passed Motions and Resolutions

Upon the passing of a motion or resolution (henceforth ‘motion’) by the Faculty Senate, the following protocol shall be observed:

- (1) Before the next full Faculty Senate meeting (following the meeting in which the motion is passed), the Speaker of the Faculty Senate will assign responsibility for the motion to a Senate member, typically a Senate Committee or member of the Steering Committee (henceforth ‘responsible party’).
- (2) The assignment of responsibility shall be noted on the Faculty Senate website.
- (3) The responsible party shall be tasked with following up on any actionable items contained in the motion, including, if applicable, gathering relevant information, seeking relevant counsel, approaching relevant third parties, advertising the motion, and generally seeking to bring the motion to fruition in the manner appropriate to the motion.
- (4) The responsible party will report to the Steering Committee at least twice yearly on the progress of the motion, and, if applicable, to the full Faculty Senate.
- (5) The responsible party may recommend changes in the status of a motion as circumstances change. (‘Status’ includes such descriptors as ‘in progress’, ‘completed’, ‘resolved’, ‘pending’, and the like.) The Steering Committee will approve changes in status. Changes will be announced at the next Faculty Senate meeting and will be entered in the Status table on the Faculty Senate website.
- (6) The responsible party’s duties in relation to the motion shall be considered complete when the motion is given a terminal Status (e.g. ‘resolved’, ‘completed’, etc.). A motion may be given a terminal status even if a favorable outcome has not been achieved, e.g., when reasonable efforts have been made to encourage implementation but achievement of the objective proves to be beyond the Faculty Senate’s power.
- (7) At the beginning of each academic year, the Speaker and Faculty Senate Steering Committee will review unresolved motions and, where needed, assign a new responsible party.
- (8) Some motions are self-fulfilling and will be assigned terminal status immediately upon passage.

[NOTE: According to our Bylaws (Article VII, Amendments), resolutions that involve modifying the Bylaws must pass by a 2/3 majority (of the total number of voting members of the Faculty Senate)]