



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, March 30, 2023 (meeting held via Zoom)

In attendance: Speaker: Ott Walter; Communications Director: McDonnell; Accounting: Briggs; Art, Design, and Art History: Rooker; Biology: May; Chemistry: Kokhan; Comm. Sci. and Disorders: Clinard; Comm. Studies: Woo; Comp. Inf. Sci. & Bus. Analytics: Wang; Computer Science: Kirkpatrick; Early ELED & Reading: Mathur; Economics: Elwood; Edu. Found. & Exception: Brown; English: Lo; Finance & Bus. Law: Parker; Foreign Languages: Lang-Rigal; Geol. & Environ. Science: McGary; Grad. Psych.: LeBlanc; Hart School of HSRM: Foucar-Szocki; Health Professions: Goetschius; Health Sciences: Lassiter; History: McCleary; IDLS: Chamberlin; Integrated Sciences: York; Justice Studies: Scheuerman; Kinesiology: McKay; Learning Tech. & LE: Wiley; Libraries: Price; Management: Lee; Marketing: Ozcan; Math & Stats: Nelson; Media Arts. & Design: Mitchell; Mid, Second, & Math: Shoffner; Music: Suggs; Nursing: Lewis; Phil. & Rel.: van Leeuwen; Physics: Butner; Political Science: Lubert; Psychology: Melchiori; Social Work: Hunter; Soc. & Anth.: Spear; Strategic Leadership Studies: Vanhove; Theatre & Dance: Finkelstein; Writing Rhetoric & Tech Comm: Hickman; Part-time Faculty Reps: Harlacker, Janow; Trocchia; Guests—Coltman, Shackelford, Oldmixon, Linder, and others.

I. **Call to Order**—3:55 p.m.

II. **Provost's Report**—Dr. Heather Coltman

- The provost reported on admissions data:
 - JMU has received 2,451 deposits—a 20% increase over the number of deposits at the same time in 2022
 - The target is 5,100 deposits by May 1
 - The goal of the admissions office is not to go to the waitlist
 - The Honors College saw a 40% increase in applications
 - The Graduate School saw over 2,000 applications—a 10% increase
 - International student applications are almost double
- Dr. Jianguan Zhou was named executive director of CGE. The provost expressed gratitude to the search committee, led by Dr. Linda Thomas, and to Dr. Carol Stax-Brown for serving in an interim role for the past eighteen months.
- The provost recognized Melanie Shoffner and Sam Prins for cochairing the Excused Absences Task Force. A draft of the policy is being reviewed.
- The BOV is holding a special meeting and taking open comments on proposed tuition and fees changes.
- There has been a lot of interest in the proposed removal of handbook language about student evaluations of teaching. There's a working group researching best practices. They have offered a set of recommendations

about best/evolving practices. Feedback from students is really important, but fair and equitable use of SETs is also important.

- The Madison Vision Series town hall featuring CNN Chief Domestic Correspondent and alumnus Jim Acosta and an Honors student interviewing Dr. Anthony Fauci is scheduled for the Wilson auditorium at 3:30 on April 3 and will be streamed live.
- As a reminder, there is a button on the provost's website for submitting questions.

III. Speaker's Report

- The Task Force on Racial Equity has met once. The group plans to develop resources for faculty who experience harm or bias on campus.
- The speaker is collecting donated regalia from emeriti for faculty who need the attire for graduation ceremonies. The pilot program has already collected ten sets, and next year, the program will be in full swing.
- There is money available from the dependent scholarship tuition waiver fund. Because the scholarship didn't reach the \$25,000 donations threshold, there is about \$7,300 that needs to be disbursed.
- If your two-year Senate term is up, your department needs to hold a vote in time for newly elected senators to attend the April meeting, where committee chairs will be selected for next year's Senate.
- The Steering Committee will meet over the summer to solidify/clarify policies and procedures of the Faculty Senate.
- Fletcher Linder, Dean of University Studies and chair of the Core Curriculum Appraisal Task Force, visited to report on the charge and ongoing work of the group.
 - One goal is to build processes that integrate faculty input.
 - They're taking into account the recent GenEd APR and focusing on first principles—the knowledge, skills, and attitudes that students need and what kind of administrative structures will support the program.
 - They anticipate a multi-year process, and they're consulting with other institutions that have been through such a process recently (e.g., GMU, W&M, UVA, and Tech) and reviewing the literature.
 - Faculty are central to the process, and the group is seeking robust faculty participation.
 - There's a completely anonymous survey coming out.

VII. Treasurer's Report

- Treasurer Cathy McKay reported a total of \$4,360.14 in the Senate's accounts. Seven bereavement requests were fulfilled, totaling thirty-two this academic year.

VI. A motion passed to skip the committee reports.

VII. New Business

- An objection was raised to reading the Resolution Regarding the Dissolution of the Provost's Core Curriculum Appraisal Task Force. The required 2/3 threshold was not met

to prevent the reading (22 voted to remove it, 16 voted no, 5 abstained), and the resolution was introduced. Abstentions do not count.

- The Resolution Eliminating Term Limits for Faculty Senators was introduced.

VIII. Unfinished Business

- The Resolution in Solidarity with Those Impacted by the Earthquake in Türkiye and Syria passed.
- The Resolution of Condemnation of Recent Actions of JMU's Provost was amended. Subsequently, a motion to table the resolution did not pass; however, a survey about a special meeting date for continuing debate will be distributed.

IX. Adjournment: 5:38 p.m.

Special Meeting of the Faculty Senate

Thursday, April 13, 2023 (meeting held via Zoom)

In attendance: Speaker: Ott Walter; Communications Director: McDonnell; Accounting: Briggs; Art, Design, and Art History: Ott; Biology: May; Chemistry: Kokhan; Comm. Sci. and Disorders: Clinard; Comm. Studies: Woo; Comp. Inf. Sci. & Bus. Analytics: Wang; Computer Science: Kirkpatrick; Early ELED & Reading: Mathur; Economics: Elwood; Edu. Found. & Exception: Brown; Engineering: Morton; English: Godfrey (proxy); Finance & Bus. Law: Parker; Foreign Languages: Lang-Rigal; Geol. & Environ. Science: McGary; Grad. Psych.: LeBlanc; Hart School of HSRM: Hallmon; Health Professions: Goetschius; Health Sciences: Lassiter; History: McCleary; IDLS: Chamberlin; Integrated Sciences: McGraw (proxy); Justice Studies: Scheuerman; Kinesiology: McKay; Learning Tech. & LE: Wiley; Libraries: Price; Marketing: Ozcan; Math & Stats: Nelson; Media Arts. & Design: Mitchell; Mid, Second, & Math: Wallace (proxy); Music: Suggs; Nursing: Lewis; Phil. & Rel.: van Leeuwen; Physics: Butner; Political Science: Lubert; Psychology: Melchiori; Social Work: Hunter; Soc. & Anth.: Spear; Strategic Leadership Studies: Vanhove; Writing Rhetoric & Tech Comm: Hickman; Part-time Faculty Reps: Harlacker, Janow; Trocchia; and many guests.

I. Call to Order—3:55 p.m.

This meeting was requested by a petition of more than 20% of senators

II. Unfinished Business

- The Resolution of Condemnation of Recent Actions of JMU's Provost was successfully amended three more times before the question was called (a motion that met the 2/3 threshold to end discussion). The resolution passed with 89% support (33 in favor, 4 opposed, 5 abstentions). Note that abstentions do not count in the calculations.

III. Adjournment: 5:22 p.m.