



## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, October 5, 2017 – Taylor/Madison Union 306

**In attendance:** Piper (Acting Speaker); Accounting: Briggs; Art, Design & Art History: Tollefson-Hall; Biology: Cocking; Chemistry: Hughey; Comm. Sci. & Disorders: Clinard; Comm. Studies: Richards; Computer Information Sys: Atkins; Computer Science: Kirkpatrick; Early ELED & Reading: Wilson; Economics: Cavusoglu; Engineering: Harper; English: Rebhorn; Finance & Bus. Law: Parker; Foreign Languages: Lang-Rigal; Geology & Env. Sci.: Baedke; Hart School of HSRM: Anaza; Health Professions: Walsh; Health Sciences: Ott Walter; History: Westkaemper; ISAT: Benton; Justice Studies: De Fazio; Kinesiology: McKay; Learning, Tech. & L.E.: Beverly; Lib & Ed Tech: Flota; Management: Shahzad; Marketing: Larsen; Math & Stats: Garren; Media Arts & Design: Mitchell; Mid, Second, & Math: Haraway; Military Science: Waller; Music: Dabback; Nursing: Graham; Philosophy & Religion: Kilby; Physics: Constantin; Political Science: Lee; Psychology: Daniel (Proxy); Social Work: Yeom; Sociology & Anthropology: Ezzell; Strategic Leadership Studies: Vanhove; Theater & Dance: DeSanctis; Writing Rhetoric & Tech Comm: McDonnell; Part-time Faculty Reps: Harlacker, PeeksMease; Student/SGA: Mohan. Guests—Provost: Coltman; Vice-Provost: Johnson; SGA: Dukas.

### I. Call to Order—3:30 p.m.

**II. Provost's Report**—Provost Coltman provided an update on the search for a new VP for Student Affairs. The search committee will meet the first week of November to review applications. There are also two dean searches underway: CAL (chaired by Marilou Johnson) and COB (chaired by Sharon Lovell). Both chairs are open to input on the search process. The co-chairs of the Task Force on Inclusion met with President Alger. They are all hoping for wide participation. Lastly, those eligible for compression and inversion compensation can expect to hear news on Monday (10/9).

### III. Acting Speaker's Report

—Speaker Pro Tempore Piper announced the following events and initiatives:

- Lunch with the President and the Provost will be on Wednesday, 11/15, from 12:30 to 2:00 in Madison Union 404. There are twelve spots available.
- The motion on extremist violence passed at the end of last meeting has been posted to [UVA's Faculty Senate website](#).
- Help the SGA by spreading the word to your colleagues and encouraging them to publicize the new Student Engagement Mini-Grants. The [application](#) is now available on the SGA website ([info.jmu.edu/sga](http://info.jmu.edu/sga) under Forms and Documents). Publicize to online students too.
- The Center for Civic Engagement, led by Abe Goldberg, is putting together an advisory board that includes a Faculty Senate rep for a one-year post. (Let Marshal Harper know if you're interested).
- A Conference on Engagement will take place at the Hotel Madison (which is currently under construction but is slated to be open for spring commencement). Melissa Lubin is looking for seven to ten faculty interested in helping organize the conference. Let Dr. Piper or Dr. Harper know.
- The following financial information was reported:
  - JMU's endowment is \$92.5 million
  - Funding from the state has declined steadily
  - Out-of-state student enrollment has declined over the past 7 years
  - If the General Assembly votes to cap tuition fees, JMU could be impacted more seriously than other institutions.
  - The BOV will be voting in November on a proposal by Charlie King to increase tuition for the next two incoming classes by \$1,000 per class with a pledge that tuition would not increase by more than 3% in subsequent years. (Existing students are not impacted.)
  - More information available here by October 11 or 12: <https://www.jmu.edu/adminfinance>

**IV. Treasurer's Report**—Treasurer Val Larsen reported that the current value of the Senate account is \$7,015. Dues were collected and will still be accepted at the next meeting.

**V. Adjunct Faculty Report**—Dr. Leslie Harlacker continues to work with Kristi Shackelford on revising the Senate website. A response to the CAC report is being developed.

## VI. Committee Reports

- A. Faculty Concerns—Dr. Mark Piper announced that the committee met to begin work on three issues:
  - Adjunct faculty contract renewal: The aim is to speed up contract processing because after just thirty days, employees lose access to the libraries, UREC, etc.
  - Syllabus language about content advisories (trigger warnings) is being developed by the Campus Coalition Against Sexual Assault.
  - Addressing the public perception about how much professors do. (A *Forbes* list, for example, ranked professor as least stressful, which can be used to justify reducing funding for faculty.) The committee is looking to dispel such perceptions in an easily disseminated format (i.e., an executive summary of the JLARC report on higher education workload, available [here](#), with the relevant section beginning on page 33).
    - A related comment highlighted the “Demystifying the Expert” program, which already engages in this effort. The campus events are recorded and [posted on a dedicated Soundcloud channel](#).
- B. Academic Policies—Dr. Morgan Benton reported that the committee met and discussed grading practices at other institutions—an ongoing discussion that will continue at the next meeting.
- C. Student Relations—Dr. Hakseon Lee announced that the committee will meet on 10/19 to discuss sexual assault prevention and the bystander program. SGA Representative Caroline Mohan shared a draft of the SGA Bill of Opinion on Affordable Textbooks. She is seeking feedback since several components involve faculty. Contact Ms. Mohan at [mohanct@dukes.jmu.edu](mailto:mohanct@dukes.jmu.edu) or Dr. Lee at [leehx@jmu.edu](mailto:leehx@jmu.edu). In response to a question, Ms. Mohan agreed to check into whether the related data and research can be provided in order to encourage faculty buy-in.
- D. Faculty Appeals—Dr. Karin Tollefson-Hall reported that there are currently no cases.
- E. Budget and Compensation—Dr. Steve Garren proposed looking for ways to bring more alumni donors into the pool. One idea being floated is creating student scholarships in the name of a popular faculty member to attract donors. Send comments and suggestions to Steve Garren.
- F. Nominations and Elections—Dr. Steve Harper reported that the committee met. The mini-grant [application](#) is live, so consider submitting a proposal, and be sure to encourage faculty colleagues to submit. There are still opportunities for volunteering: the Committee on Academic Programs—one more person needed, the Media Board—one spot, the Honorary Degree Committee—workload falls in the spring semester, the Employee Advisory Committee Liaison—a one-year spot, the Center for Civic Engagement Advisory Board—ideal for someone who has received a mini-grant in the past.

## VII. New Business

- Val Larsen put forward (for a first reading) a Motion to Reduce Bereavement Reserve. The proposal frees up more funds from the dues. The amount suggested to keep in reserve (\$2,000) is based on past bereavement expenditures. (See attached file.)

## VIII. Unfinished Business

- The Motion to Donate to Benson Engagement Award Fund passed with the needed 2/3 support.

- After an amendment suggesting that the funding amount be increased from \$1,000 to \$2,000, the Motion to Support the Centennial Scholars Program passed at the original \$1,000 amount with the required 2/3 vote. (File attached.)
- The Protocol for Passed Motions and Resolutions (attached) met the 2/3 threshold. A question did arise about whether this motion saddles future senators with responsibility for something they weren't involved in.
- The (attached) Motion to Support the Faculty Dependent Scholarship Endowment passed (also at the 2/3 level), though concerns about overspending were expressed.

**IX. Adjournment** 5:02 p.m.