



FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

Thursday, September 7, 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; Health Professions: Walsh; Health Sciences: Henry (proxy); History: Westkaemper; Hosp., Sports & Rec. Mgt.: Anaza; IDLS: Mangan; 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; Music: Dabback; Nursing: Graham; Philosophy & Religion: Kilby; Physics: Constantin; Political Science: Lee; Psychology: Barron; Social Work: Yeom; Sociology & Anthropology: Ezzell; Strategic Leadership Studies: Vanhove; Theater & Dance: DeSanctis; Writing Rhetoric & Tech Comm: McDonnell; Part-time Faculty Reps: Cline, Harlacker, PeeksMease; Student/SGA: Mohan. Guests—Provost: Coltman; Vice-Provost: Johnson.

I. Call to Order—3:30 p.m.

II. Provost's Report—Provost Coltman announced that she is hosting three more upcoming town halls (see email for dates and locations). She reported that Academic Council met for a full-day retreat and that they plan to continue conversations about the direction in which JMU is headed, so they're eager for more ideas. The Provost emphasized that JMU, which has a dozens of DACA-affected students, is working proactively on the issue. In related news, a task force on inclusivity is being formed.

III. Acting Speaker's Report—Note that Speaker Audrey Burnett will be returning in the spring semester. In the meantime, Speaker Pro Tempore Mark Piper is serving as the acting Speaker. Dr. Piper reminded senators that their primary duty in this role is to facilitate two-way communication between the Senate and their respective departments.

Dr. 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's room for twelve—first come, first served.
- The Faculty Senate website is being updated.
- An information sheet for senators was distributed (highlights below).
 - Collect dues (\$5 from each full-time department colleague)
 - Keep track of your Senate tenure (cap of 5 terms)
 - Senators are encouraged to be active in the Senate
- A 3% raise should be reflected in the next paycheck for faculty on 10-month contracts.
- Encourage colleagues to apply for a Senate Engagement Mini-Grant. The proposal process is intentionally streamlined process. Over \$100,000 has been awarded over the past three years.
- A new Student Engagement Mini-Grant process is currently being developed. \$30,000 has been earmarked to support student engagement projects. The submission process is planned to launch this semester.
- In the past, Senate dues were tapped only for bereavement (and a set amount is still devoted to this purpose). The bylaws were modified to increase the amount of dues to grow the fund for other purposes, giving the faculty a certain amount of autonomy. Ideas for using this fund are sought.
- The COACHE Report (from the survey completed by faculty) resulted in 35 recommendations, which are posted on the Provost's website. The Senate intends to monitor implementation or follow-up.
- There's a new department, Health Professions, now represented in the Senate.

- The Marshal will run the meeting should it extend past 5:00.

IV. Treasurer's Report—Treasurer Larsen reported that the current value of the Senate account is \$7,164.48. At the October meeting, submit collected dues to the treasurer in a clearly marked envelope.

V. Adjunct Faculty Report—Dr. Harlacker is working with Kristi Shackelford on revising the website. Dr. Harlacker reported a good turnout at the New Faculty Orientation presentation that she facilitated. She also reported on compensation for adjunct faculty: She and Senator Garren met with Jason McClain of the Compensation Advisory Council to discuss the report from the CAC (on Provost's website). They'll be going over the report and thinking about ways to improve compensation. If you have input, let any of the three adjunct faculty senators know.

Vi. Committee Reports

- Faculty Concerns—Dr. Mark Piper is serving in both capacities (as acting speaker and as chair of this committee).
- Academic Policies—Dr. Morgan Benton announced that the committee will meet three times in the fall and three times in the spring on the Thursday following the senate meeting in Taylor 307 (with Marilou Johnson and Michele White, the registrar). They aim to review grading practices to consider new models (e.g., A/B/C/no credit, the latter of which doesn't show up on the transcript). Meetings are open to all senators. Dr. Benton also announced that the calendar report has been produced and submitted to Donna Harper (VP of Access and Enrollment). No decisions have been made yet.
- Student Relations—Dr. Hakseon Lee announced that the committee will meet mid-October. Dr. Lee reported that there is a new coordinator for the Dukes Step Up program (bystander intervention). They are considering suggesting that the Health Science GenEd curriculum include this initiative as part of the curriculum, which as pointed out from the floor, would involve contacting the Cluster 5 coordinator. Dr. Lee plans to follow up with the Title IX coordinator on the sexual assault resolution from the past. He is also keeping tabs on the textbook issue raised by the SGA.
- Faculty Appeals—Dr. Karin Tollefson-Hall reported that there are currently no cases. She encouraged senators to make sure that colleagues are aware that there is a very confidential appeal process available for actions such as nonrenewal of contracts or tenure not being granted. The committee meets as needed.
- Budget and Compensation – Dr. Steve Garren reiterated that he and Dr. Harlacker met with Jason McClain of the CAC. Dr. Garren acknowledged that salaries and health insurance for part-time faculty are complicated issues. It is worth noting that 40% of the budget used to come from Richmond, but this source of funding has been reduced to 24%.
- Nominations and Elections—Dr. Steve Harper announced that there will be a meeting on Thursday, September 14, to organize the Engagement Mini-Grant process. Senators should contact Dr. Harper (harper2sr@jmu.edu) if interested in serving on the Committee on Academic Programs, the Safety Committee, the Provost's Diversity Council, or the Academic Advising Advisory Board.

VII. New Business

Five resolutions were introduced. Four will be discussed and voted upon at the next meeting (this was the customary first reading). A vote to suspend the rules passed, allowing expedited action on the fifth motion below, which required timely action).

- Mark Piper introduced the Motion to Support the Centennial Scholars Program (attached).
- Piper also proposed the Motion to Donate to Benson Engagement Award Fund (attached).

- The fund needs to hit the \$25,000 mark within five years to be established (currently at \$14,000 or \$15,000)
- Additionally, Piper drafted the Protocol for Passed Motions and Resolutions (attached). This motion aims to improve the organizational memory and to implement an accountability monitoring process.
- Steve Harper proposed the Motion to Support the Faculty Dependent Scholarship Endowment (also needs to hit the \$25,000 mark; currently in the second year of the five-year limit to reach the goal).
 - The account number for donating through the giving site is 1002774.
- Hakseon Lee introduced the Resolution on Extremist Violence. Since this is a timely issue, the Senate passed a motion to suspend the rules. Discussion focused on the need for action and possible outlets for bringing attention to the resolution (e.g., the Faculty Senate of Virginia, *The Breeze*, Andy Perrine's office). A motion to postpone action on this motion was opposed. An amendment passed to add "and homophobic" to the language phrasing. A motion to call the question (ending debate) met the 2/3 vote threshold, and the amended motion passed.

VIII. Adjournment 5:10 p.m.