

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING
February 7, 2024
3:00-4:15 p.m.

https://gmu.zoom.us/j/99335715505?pwd=Skd1dnhnc3p2K0hWMklxdm52TVRiUT09*

- I. **Call to Order**
- II. **Approval of the Minutes:** January 24, 2024
- III. **Special Orders: Rector Blackman**
- IV. **Committee Reports**
 - A. **Senate Standing Committees**
 - 1. *Executive Committee*
Welcome Anthony Terrell as the new senator for CEHD!
 - 2. *Academic Policies*
[Change to AP.4.4](#)
 - 3. *Budget and Resources*
 - 4. *Faculty Matters*
 - 5. *Nominations*
Academic Policies: Anne Verhoeven (COS)
Grading Process Task Force: Leslie Dwyer (Carter)
Grievance Committee (temporary replacement): Hongmei Sun (CHSS)
Mason Core: Shora Moteabbed (CBUS)
 - 6. *Organization and Operations*
[Senate Standing Rules](#)
 - B. **Other Committees/Faculty Representatives**
- V. **New Business**
- VI. **[Announcements](#)**
 - A. Interim Provost Walsh
 - B. EVP Dickenson
 - C. Student Senate townhall with President Washington: February 7 at 1pm in the HUB Ballroom
 - D. General Faculty Meeting with President Washington: February 21 at 3pm in Merten 1204 and via Zoom
<https://gmu.zoom.us/j/96214146379?pwd=REIPRWJoUXN2RklZNlRpU1U2Wkw4Zz09>
 - E. Nominations for the Jack Wood Award for Town-Gown Relations Open Through March 15
- VII. **Remarks for the Good of the General Faculty**
- VIII. **Adjournment**

* Note: For security purposes, all attendees must login using any valid Zoom account to join the meeting. Having trouble joining the meeting with the link above?

1. If using GMU Zoom Account (required for all Faculty Senators)
 - a. Go to <https://gmu.zoom.us>
 - b. Click on [Sign into Your Account]
 - c. Use GMU login credentials to login. (May require 2FA authentication)
 - d. Once logged in – click on “JOIN A MEETING”
 - e. Enter the Meeting ID (see highlighted above) and click JOIN
 - f. If asked for Passcode: enter the Passcode (highlighted above)

2. Joining Senate Meeting using an account other than GMU Zoom Account
 - a. Go to <https://zoom.us>
 - b. Click on [SIGN IN]
 - c. Use credentials for your existing zoom account
 - d. Once logged in – click on “JOIN A MEETING”
 - e. Enter the Meeting ID (see highlighted above) and click JOIN
 - f. If asked for Passcode: enter the Passcode (highlighted above)

ACADEMIC POLICIES: CHANGE TO AP.4.4

Reason for the change:

AP.4.4 was examined to provide clarity to the policy for the families going through a tragic loss of a student and for the administrators making the conferrals. There are two different types of changes found below. The first is the change of "In Memoriam" conferrals from Degrees to Recognition. This is in line with the procedures that the Registrar currently uses to issue these recognitions and in line with SACS and SCHEV requirements for degree conferral. The second type of change is a few clarifying pieces such as the title change.

AP.4.4 Posthumous Conferrals

A posthumous degree or certificate is an official Mason degree or certificate, as applicable, that is awarded to a deceased student in recognition of the student's academic achievement. The criteria for the award, listed below, are established in order to uphold academic and institutional integrity.

If a student does not qualify for a posthumous degree or certificate, an "In Memoriam" Recognition may be awarded to a student in good academic standing. Either award is subject to final review by the Provost.

Criteria for Posthumous Degrees and Certificates

A posthumous degree or certificate may be awarded if, at the time of the student's death, they were enrolled in George Mason University, were in good academic standing, and were nearing completion of the requirements in the major degree or certificate program.

- **Undergraduate:** The student must have completed 90 credit hours, with at least 30 credit hours completed at Mason.
- **Graduate - Certificates:** The student must have been admitted into a degree-seeking status; completed at least 80% of the credit hours required for the certificate program, with more than half of the required minimum credits for the certificate program completed at Mason; and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 which does not include more than 3 credits of C.
- **Graduate – Masters:** The student must have been admitted into a degree-seeking status; completed at least 80% of the credit hours required for the degree, with more than half of the required minimum credits for the degree completed at Mason; and have a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 which does not include more than 6 credits of C.

If the degree requirements include a thesis, the student must have completed sufficient research or scholarship such that a thesis or one or more articles can be prepared. The student's thesis committee must approve the thesis or article(s) and recommend granting the degree.

- **Graduate – Doctoral:** The student must have advanced to candidacy; completed all coursework required for the degree with more than half of the required minimum credits completed at Mason and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.00 which does not include more than 6 credits of C; and must have completed a full draft of the dissertation. The student's dissertation committee must determine that the dissertation could have been defended and recommend granting the degree.

AP.4.4 ~~Conferral of Posthumous~~ Conferrals Degree or Certificate

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ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS: SENATE STANDING RULES

STANDING RULES OF THE FACULTY SENATE

1. At the beginning of the academic year, it shall be the responsibility of the chairs of the Senate standing committees and the chairs of university faculty standing committees to verify the continuing presence on the George Mason University faculty of all members of each committee. Committee (co)chairs shall be responsible for notifying the Chair of the Senate Committee on Nominations of any vacancies. ~~that occur(12/10/75)~~
2. Each elected Senate standing committee shall include members from more than one college or school. Membership in University faculty standing committees are determined by the Organization and Operations Committee and should contain at least ~~five and at most seven voting members of the General Faculty; membership shall include~~ one senator. ~~3. All Business to come before the Senate should first be submitted to the Organization & Operations Committee, which shall refer items requiring study and action to the approximate committee(s) or collegial faculties. The Organization & Operations Committee shall report its referrals to the next regular meeting of the Senate. (10/6/82)~~
3. Committee chairs may submit business items and reports for inclusion in the Senate agenda on behalf of their committees before the meeting agenda is posted. Senate committee chairs may also bring new business to the floor during their committee reports on behalf of their committees.

Any member of the General Faculty may submit items of business for inclusion in the agenda prior to the agenda being posted. Items that are clearly aligned with the responsibilities of a specific Senate or University Standing Committee shall be referred to that committee. All other items shall be referred to the Organization and Operations Committee, which shall refer items to the committee it deems most appropriate; the Organization and Operations Committee shall report its referrals at the next regular meeting of the Senate.

4. The Executive Committee of the Senate is composed of the Senate President, the Senate Secretary, and the chairs of ~~the~~ Faculty Senate Standing committees, and the chair of

the Faculty Handbook Committee. The responsibilities of the Executive Committee are to meet regularly with the Provost, Executive Vice President for Finance and Administration, and the Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development, and other members of the central administration as needed for discussion and resolution of matters raised by Senate Standing Committees and the broader faculty. The Executive Committee shall act for the Senate during the summer months, when the full Senate does not normally meet.

5. Each standing committee of the Senate shall produce an annual report at the end of the academic year that identifies accomplishments and completed tasks, a record of participation of committee members, and a list of items of business remaining unfinished. These reports should be sent to the Senate Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



STUDENT TOWN HALL

WITH PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

FEBRUARY 7, 2024
1PM - 2PM | HUB BALLROOM

Register on Mason360:



The Office of Government and Community Relations is now accepting Jack Wood Award nominations. Please feel free to make a nomination and/or share it with your colleagues or contacts.

Nominations for the Jack Wood Award for Town-Gown Relations Open Through March 15

The Jack Wood Award highlights the outstanding contributions of faculty, staff, students, businesses/not-for-profits, community members, and elected officials/staff who demonstrate leadership in fostering mutually beneficial relationships between the university and the community. This illustrious distinction honors former Mayor Jack Wood, who played an instrumental role in establishing Mason in Fairfax and establishing Town-Gown relations between the university and the community. Awardees will be notified by March 29. The Board of Visitors will honor awardees on May 2.

Nominations are due by **March 15**. Self-nominations are welcome. Make a nomination at <http://tinyurl.com/mwdur74s>. Community relations/outreach professionals are not eligible. Questions? Contact Traci Kendall at tkendal2@gmu.edu.

Best regards,

Roddena I. Kirksey, M.A.
Public Relations Specialist
Office of Government and Community Relations

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