

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING
MARCH 2, 2011
Robinson Hall B113, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Announcements

Rector Ernst Volgenau

Dean Lloyd Griffiths, Volgenau School of Engineering

Dean Ed Rhodes, School of Public Policy

Special Called Meeting of the Faculty Senate to Consider Revisions to the Faculty Handbook –
March 23, 2011 – 3:00 p.m, Robinson Hall B113

III. New Business - Committee Reports

A. Senate Standing Committees

Executive Committee

Academic Policies

Motion: Catalog Requirements for Degrees

Attachment A

Budget & Resources

Faculty Matters

Nominations

Organization & Operations

Motion to amend the Academic Initiatives Committee Charge
Allocation of Senate Seats 2011-2012

Attachment B
Attachment C

B. Other Committees

IV. Other New Business

V. Remarks for the Good of the General Faculty

VI. Adjournment

ATTACHMENT A

Motion: Catalog Requirements for Degrees

Catalog year refers to the setting of course and non-course requirements within academic programs as stated in the school and college section of a specific catalog. Catalog year does not set academic policies other than program requirements in place, however. For more information, see the Knowledge of University Policies section of the [Student Rights and Responsibilities](#) section. Not all programs and degree components are available in all catalogs. For any one degree, all requirements must be met as stated in a single catalog. The only exception is that Bachelor's degree students may select a minor from another catalog year for which they are eligible, as noted below.

Bachelor's degree candidates ~~who have been continuously enrolled (allowing absences from summer terms or single semesters)~~ may choose to graduate under the terms of any catalog in effect during their enrollment in degree status ~~at or after their admission~~. Students who have been inactive for five or more years or who have attended another institution without prior approval from their academic dean or director must graduate under a catalog in effect ~~at or~~ after their re-admission and during their enrollment in degree status.

Master's and doctoral degree candidates who have been continuously enrolled may choose to graduate under the terms of any catalog in effect during their enrollment in degree status ~~at or after their admission~~. Students who have been inactive more than one year, however, may be required by their program to ~~must~~ graduate under a catalog in effect after they have been granted permission to re-enroll, ~~or they must petition their unit dean or director to graduate under an earlier catalog. The final decision rests with the unit dean or director.~~

In no case may a student choose the requirements of a future catalog year that take effect after the student's degree is anticipated.

Requirements for Undergraduate Programs

Declaration of Major

To plan a sound academic program, undergraduates should select a degree and major as soon as it is practical but no later than four weeks before the end of the sophomore year. To declare a major, students should confer with the appropriate advisor in the new major program. Students approaching the recommended point for declaring a major, but still uncertain of their choice, should consult the Academic Advising Center, Student Union Building I, Room 304, advisor@gmu.edu. Note that all degree components including general education, ~~majors~~ minors and concentrations must be contained in a single catalog year. See note under Catalog Requirements for Degrees for exception regarding minors.

Rationale:

Mason's policy has been that students must graduate under a single catalog year, with all degree components (major, concentration, minor, general education) included. All of these components except minors are required to be in the same catalog year, because of the internal coherence of academic programs as they are portrayed in Banner. We have found increasing interest in one exception to the policy, which would be to allow students to select a minor that is not included in their catalog year (but is included in a catalog effective during their enrollment in degree status). Therefore APAC has approved recommending to the Faculty Senate that this one exception be approved.

The attached catalog copy has proposed updates intended to accomplish three things:

1. allow the exception described above
2. in general, simplify the language
3. clarify that, in no circumstances may a student graduate from a new program that will not officially exist until the student has graduated (Occasionally we find that students are aware of new programs being developed, and want to graduate from them before they are officially in effect -- returning to the internal consistency within Banner, and to logic, not to mention SACS and SCHEV sensibilities -- this is something that we cannot do.)

ATTACHMENT B

Motion to amend the Academic Initiative Committee Charge:

(proposed revisions underlined)

Academic Initiative Committee Charge:

A. To fulfill faculty responsibilities for curriculum oversight within the University:

- 1) Gather accurate information from the Provost's Office to review
 - a) Initial, current and projected course and program enrollment;
 - b) Any Memorandum of Understanding or similar governing document or contract specifying arrangements between George Mason University and the host government, state, or responsible organization;
 - c) Reports presented to any created governance structure such as a Board of Governors between George Mason University and any host government, state, or responsible organization;
 - d) Vetting and approval processes for faculty hiring and course offerings;

e) Information about resources, pay scales and other financial information relevant to faculty support, faculty and staff hiring, and curriculum development.

2) Provide a regular report to the Faculty Senate every semester.

B. Function as a faculty liaison from initial planning through implementation and continuing operations on major global education projects (involving multiple academic units or emanating from the central administration), participate in discussions of major additional projects, and provide support for appropriate new initiatives

C. Create sub-committees as necessary within the Committee to ensure adequate attention is paid to the variety of satellite campus locations and opportunities.

D. Committee representation of faculty from no less than five different academic units to serve staggered two-year terms. The Vice President for Global and International Strategies (or the functional equivalent in the Provost's Office) will serve on this Committee and will provide regular reports and updates on ongoing and new initiatives.

Rationale: 1) Clarification is provided as to what kind of liaison relationship was provided by the Committee, and that the Committee functions both in a review capacity and in a supportive capacity as appropriate; 2) Now that the Provost's Global Affairs position is more stable, there should be a structural recognition that they are party to the Committee information-gathering and discussion.

ATTACHMENT C

To: Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate

From: O&O Committee

Date: February 23, 2011

Subject: Apportionment of Senate Seats for 2011-2012

Process: The Senate Charter, in Section 1.B., provides the rules for apportioning Senators among the academic units. The Committee on Operations and Organization is charged with performing the calculations and determining the allocation of Senate seats.

Summary of Results: The details of the calculations are provided on the attached chart. Here is a summary of the results:

- The College of Health and Human Services gains one Senator, moving from three Senators in 2010-2011 to four Senators in 2011-2012.
- The Volgenau School for Engineering loses one Senator, moving from six Senators in 2010-2011 to five Senators in 2011-2012.
- The allocation of Senators to all other academic units remains unchanged.
- As in the previous year, ICAR (now the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution) and the Krasnow Institute individually do not meet the threshold requirement as defined in Section I.B.1. of the Charter. Thus, they are pooled into a single collegiate unit for the purposes of allocating Senate seats. The result is that SCAR and Krasnow together are represented by one Senator.

Data: As in previous years, these results are based on Instructional Faculty FTE data provided by Institutional Research and Reporting. Thanks go to Dr. Kris Smith, Associate Provost for IRR, and Mr. John Dooris, Institutional Research Analyst, who were instrumental in providing the data. The Senate Charter reads “The number of senators representing each collegiate unit... shall be determined... based on the [FTE size] on February 1st of each year....” The data used in the calculations are the official census data as of Fall 2010. These are the latest official Instructional Faculty FTE data that were available on February 1, 2011.

Instructional FTE and Headcount by Unit (Fall 2010) and Faculty Senate Bid Apportionment for 2011-2012

Academic Unit	Status	Instructional Faculty		Academic Unit	% of total Instructional FTE	x50	2010-11 Allocation	2011-12 Allocation	Change
		2010 HC	2010 FTE						
College of Education and Human Development	Full Time	114	114.0	College of Education and Human Development	0.12	6.13	6	6	0
	Part Time	215	65.0						
	Total	329	179.0						
College of Health and Human Services	Full Time	71	71.0	College of Health and Human Services	0.08	3.79	3	4	1
	Part Time	112	39.8						
	Total	183	110.8						
College of Humanities and Social Sciences	Full Time	386	386.0	College of Humanities and Social Sciences	0.33	16.73	17	17	0
	Part Time	244	103.0						
	Total	630	489.0						
College of Science	Full Time	176	176.0	College of Science	0.13	6.68	7	7	0
	Part Time	54	19.3						
	Total	230	195.3						
College of Visual and Performing Arts	Full Time	63	63.0	College of Visual and Performing Arts	0.07	3.31	3	3	0
	Part Time	80	33.7						
	Total	143	96.7						
School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution	Full Time	19	19.0	School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution*	0.02	0.79	1	1	0
	Part Time	14	4.0						
	Total	33	23.0						
Krasnow Institute	Full Time	9	9.0	Krasnow Institute*	0.01	0.31	0	0	0
	Part Time	0	0.0						
	Total	9	9.0						
School of Management	Full Time	80	80.0	School of Management	0.07	3.29	3	3	0
	Part Time	51	16.2						
	Total	131	96.2						
School of Law	Full Time	36	36.0	School of Law	0.04	1.86	2	2	0
	Part Time	67	18.3						
	Total	103	54.3						
School of Public Policy	Full Time	44	44.0	School of Public Policy	0.03	1.63	2	2	0
	Part Time	13	3.5						
	Total	57	47.5						
Volgenau School of Engineering	Full Time	121	121.0	Volgenau School of Engineering	0.11	5.50	6	5	-1
	Part Time	126	39.7						
	Total	247	160.7						
Academic Unit Total	Full Time	1119	1119.0	Academic Unit Total	1.00	50.00	50	50	0
	Part Time	976	342.4						
	Total	2095	1461.4						

*As per the Faculty Senate Charter (Section I. B. 1.), “All independent Collegiate Units, Institutes, or Academic Units which do not individually equal or exceed the threshold size will be pooled into a single collegiate unit for the purposes of allocating Senate seats.” The School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution and the Krasnow Institute will jointly determine who will fill their single slot for 2011-2012.