

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY**  
**AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING**  
**NOVEMBER 7, 2012**  
**Robinson Hall B113, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.**

**I. Call to Order**

**II. Approval of the Minutes of October 10, 2012**

**III. Announcements**

Rector Clemente to address the Faculty Senate

**IV. New Business - Committee Reports**

**A. Senate Standing Committees**

*Executive Committee*

*Academic Policies*

Approval of Academic Calendar

Attachment A

Catalog Revisions on Residency Requirements

Attachment B

*Budget & Resources*

*Faculty Matters*

*Nominations*

David Kuebrich (CHSS) is nominated to serve on the External Academic Relations Committee

*Organization & Operations*

**B. Other Committees/Faculty Representatives**

*Faculty Handbook Revision Committee*

Attachment C

*Academic Initiatives Committee*

Attachment D

Report Regarding the Undergraduate Dual Degree Program with Moscow State University

**VI. Other New Business**

Mission, Vision and Values Committee – Peter Pober, Chair

**VII. Remarks for the Good of the General Faculty**

**VIII. Adjournment**

**ATTACHMENT A**  
**George Mason University**  
**Three Year Calendar: Fall 2014 – Spring 2017**

<b>FALL SEMESTER</b>	<b>Fall 2014</b>	<b>Fall 2015</b>	<b>Fall 2016</b>
First day of classes	Mon Aug 25	Mon Aug 31	Mon Aug 29
Labor Day (University closed)	Mon Sept 1	Mon Sept 7	Mon Sept 5
Last Day to Add (Census)	Tues Sept 2	Tues Sept 8	Tues Sept 6
Last Day to Drop	Fri Sept 26	Fri Oct 2	Fri Sept 30
Saturday Classes in session	Sat Oct 11	Sat Oct 10	Sat Oct 8
Columbus Day Recess	Mon Oct 13	Mon Oct 12	Mon Oct 10
Mon classes meet instead of Tues classes this day only	Tues Oct 14	Tues Oct 13	Tues Oct 11
Mid-term evaluation period for full-semester 100-200 level classes	Mon Sept 22 – Fri Oct 17	Mon Sept 28 – Fri Oct 23	Mon Sept 26 – Fri Oct 21
Selective Withdrawal Period – undergraduate	Mon Sept 29 – Fri Oct 24	Mon Oct 5 – Fri Oct 30	Mon Oct 3 – Fri Oct 28
Thanksgiving (No classes Wed; Recess Thurs - Sun)	Wed Nov 26 - Sun Nov 30	Wed Nov 25 – Sun Nov 29	Wed Nov 23 – Sun Nov 27
Dissertation/Thesis Deadline	Fri Dec 5	Fri Dec 11	Fri Dec 9
Last Day of Class	Sat Dec 6	Sat Dec 12	Sat Dec 10
Reading Day(s)	Mon Dec 8 – Tues Dec 9	Not Scheduled	Mon Dec 12
Examination Period	Wed Dec 10 – Wed Dec 17	Mon Dec 14 – Mon Dec 21	Tues Dec 13-Tues Dec 20
Winter Degree Date	Thu, Dec 18	Tues Dec 22	Thu Dec 21
<b>SPRING SEMESTER</b>	<b>Spring 2015</b>	<b>Spring 2016</b>	<b>Spring 2017</b>
<i>January 1 Day of Week</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
MLK Day - (no classes)	Mon Jan 19	Mon Jan 18	Mon Jan 16
First Day of Spring Classes	Tues Jan 20	Tues Jan 19	Mon Jan 23
Last Day to Add (Census)	Tues Jan 27	Tues Jan 26	Tues Jan 31
Last Day to Drop	Fri Feb 20	Fri Feb 19	Fri Feb 24
Saturday Classes in session	Sat Mar 7	Sat Mar 5	Sat Mar 11
Spring Recess	Mon Mar 9 - Sun Mar 15	Mon Mar 7 – Sun Mar 13	Mon Mar 13 – Sun Mar 19
Mid-term evaluation period for full-semester 100-200 level classes	Mon Feb 16 - Fri Mar 20	Mon Feb 15 - Fri Mar 18	Mon Feb 20 - Fri Mar 24
Selective Withdrawal Period – undergraduate	Mon Feb 23 – Fri Mar 27	Mon Feb 22 – Fri Mar 25	Mon Feb 27 – Fri Mar 31
Dissertation/Thesis Deadline	Fri May 1	Fri April 29	Fri May 5
Last Day of Class	Mon May 4	Mon May 2	Sat May 6
Reading Day(s)	Tues May 5	Tues May 3	Mon May 8 – Tues May 9
Examination Period	Wed May 6 – Wed May 13	Wed May 4 – Wed May 11	Wed May 10 – Wed May 17
Commencement	Sat May 16	Sat May 14	Sat May 20
Summer Term Dates	Mon May 18 – Fri Aug 7	Mon May 16 – Fri Aug 5	Mon May 22 – Fri Aug 11

**Approved by Faculty Senate: TBD, SUBMITTED TO SENATE FOR CONSIDERATION FALL 2012**

## ATTACHMENT B

### Academic Policies - Undergraduate Policies - Requirements for Undergraduate Program - Residency

#### Current:

**Residency.** At least one-fourth of the total credits applied to the degree must be completed at Mason and include at least 12 upper-level credits (courses numbered 300 or above) in the major program. A maximum of 18 credits earned in non-degree status at Mason can be applied toward a bachelor's degree.

#### Proposed change (in bold):

**Residency.** At least one-fourth of the total credits applied to the degree (**minimum of 30 credits**) **must be taken in degree status, after admission to the degree program** and include at least 12 upper-level credits (courses numbered 300 or above) in the major program. A maximum of 18 credits earned in non-degree status at Mason can be applied toward a bachelor's degree.

### Undergraduate Admissions Policy – Transfer Credit

#### Current:

A minimum of 30 credits must be completed in residence at Mason and 45 credits of upper-level course work must be completed to qualify for graduation. While lower-level courses taken at previously attended institutions may meet the content requirement of some upper-level courses, they do not reduce the 45-credit upper-level requirement, and courses from other institutions do not reduce the 30-credit residency requirement.

#### Proposed change (in bold):

A minimum of 30 **Mason** credits must be completed in residence (**all taken in degree status after admission to the degree program**) ~~at Mason~~, and 45 credits of upper-level course work must be completed to qualify for graduation. While lower-level courses taken at previously attended institutions may meet the content requirement of some upper-level courses, they do not reduce the 45-credit upper-level requirement, and courses from other institutions do not reduce the 30-credit residency requirement.

## Requirements for Undergraduate Programs – Admissions – Second Bachelor’s Degree

### Current:

A second bachelor’s degree may be earned, either concurrently or sequentially. To graduate with two degrees, students must present at least 30 Mason credits beyond those required by either degree alone. For sequential awarding of degrees, students must be readmitted for the second degree through the Office of Admissions and complete a minimum of 30 credit hours after that point to have fulfilled the residency requirement for that degree.

### Proposed Change:

A second bachelor’s degree may be earned, either concurrently or sequentially. To graduate with two degrees, students must present at least 30 Mason credits (**all taken in degree status after admission to the second degree program**) beyond those required by either degree alone. For sequential awarding of degrees, students must be readmitted for the second degree through the Office of Admissions and complete a minimum of 30 credit hours after that point to have fulfilled the residency requirement for that degree.

## ATTACHMENT C

### Agenda item from the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee for the Faculty Senate meeting,

NOVEMBER 7, 2012

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Members of the Faculty Senate, in anticipation of a Provost search committee being formed in the near future, have requested a revision to Section 1.2.5 to insure greater faculty participation in the search committee for the Provost, as well as the President.

Although in the past few years the proposed revisions to the Faculty Handbook have been presented and considered as one package at a Special Meeting in the Spring semester, this year the committee is submitting a proposal for consideration at the November 7, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting. If the revision is approved by the Faculty Senate, it will be submitted to the Board of Visitors for its approval at their Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

*Faculty Handbook Revision Committee:*

Lloyd Cohen (LAW), Kevin Curtin (COS), Suzanne Slayden (COS, Chair).

### **Proposed Revisions to Faculty Handbook Section 1.2.5**

*Left Side:* 2012 Handbook Text with proposed revisions. New text is underlined and deleted text appears with strike through.

*Right Side:* Handbook as it will appear if the changes on the left side are approved.

#### **Motion:**

**That the Faculty Senate approve the proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook Section 1.2.5 with no further revisions at this time other than those necessary to correct typographical and grammatical errors.**

[Note: A motion to "refer to the Faculty Handbook Committee with instructions" is in order.]

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10-31-2012

### 1.2.5 Faculty Participation in the Selection of Certain Members of the Central Administration

The faculty plays a vital role in the appointment and reappointment of senior academic administrators and other leadership positions related to the academic mission of the university.

The Board of Visitors provides for participation by faculty on presidential search, reappointment, and contract extension committees by faculty who are elected by the General Faculty. A minimum of 25% of the committee must be composed of faculty elected by the General Faculty, with no more than one representative from any school/college/institute. The search and selection process must include opportunities for the General Faculty to meet with candidates who are finalists for the presidency. The Board of Visitors also provides for participation in the process of presidential reappointments or contract extensions by faculty who are elected by the General Faculty. This process includes an opportunity for the General Faculty to meet with the President to discuss his or her achievements and future plans for the university. The Board will make concerted efforts to further engage the faculty in the selection process (e.g., conducting a survey of faculty regarding desirable characteristics; providing an opportunity for General Faculty or representatives of the General Faculty to meet with finalists). In the case of reappointment or contract extension, this process includes an opportunity for the General Faculty to meet with the President to discuss his or her achievements and future plans for the university.

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*[Rationale: In the spirit of shared governance, this amendment ensures substantial and proportional representation of faculty members on search committees for President and Provost. Faculty have their most direct and sustained input via members elected to search committees.]*

*The language leaves open the possibility that the search committee might determine that, with changing recruitment practices and the University's elevation in rankings, an open meeting with candidates might prohibitively constrain the candidate pool.]*

10-31-2012

The President provides for faculty participation on search ~~and~~, reappointment, and contract extension committees for the Provost ~~by faculty who are elected by the General Faculty. A~~ minimum of 60% of the committee must be composed of faculty elected by the General Faculty, with no more than two representatives from any school/college/institute. The search and selection process must include opportunities for the General Faculty to meet with the Provost or with candidates who are finalists for the Provost position. The President will make concerted efforts to further engage the faculty in the selection process (e.g., conducting a survey of faculty regarding desirable characteristics; providing an opportunity for General Faculty or representatives of the General Faculty to meet with finalists). In the case of reappointment or contract extension, this process includes an opportunity for the General Faculty to meet with the Provost to discuss his or her achievements and future academic plans for the university.

The Provost provides for participation on search and reappointment committees for college, school, or institute deans and directors by faculty who are elected from and by the faculty of the college, school, or institute in which the appointment will occur. The search and selection process must include opportunities for the college, school, or institute faculty to meet with the dean/director or with candidates who are finalists for the position.

The Faculty Senate will assist in conducting elections by the General Faculty.

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The Faculty Senate will assist in conducting elections by the General Faculty.

## ATTACHMENT D

### Report to the Faculty Senate Regarding the Undergraduate Dual Degree Program with Moscow State University

From the Academic Initiatives Committee

9 October 2012

During the 2011-12 academic year the academic initiatives committee requested information and status updates regarding the dual degree program between the University and Moscow State University. We did meet on several occasions with the staff of the Office of Global and International Strategies regarding this program. The staff was helpful in assisting the committee gain a greater understanding of the program's background, structure, its finances, and enrollment status. The committee does appreciate this assistance.

The committee requested that Ms. Svetlana Filiatreau, Eurasia Programs Coordinator, prepare the attached summary report for us regarding this program. This was completed in May and the report was accepted at the committee's first meeting this fall semester.

As there were not sufficient numbers of appropriately qualified students from Moscow State University for this academic year to begin a new cohort, admission to the program has been suspended. In the future if adequate numbers of qualified students apply, then this program may be resumed. Recruiting of qualified students has been an on-going challenge for this program.

The committee supports this decision not to begin a new cohort without a sufficient number of qualified students.

Attachment: *Report on the Undergraduate Dual Degree Program between Moscow State University and George Mason University*



## **Report on the Undergraduate Dual Degree Program between Moscow State University and George Mason University**

**(Prepared by Svetlana Filiatreau, Eurasia Programs Coordinator)**

### **1. Introductory Background**

In 2009, George Mason University began operating a dual degree program in partnership with Moscow State University's (MSU's) Economics Department. The program was established through a faculty member's direct connection to MSU. Students enrolled in this program will receive degrees from two institutions, one from GMU and one from MSU, Russia's leading institution of higher education. Undergraduate degrees are offered with majors in Economics and Management.

### **2. Program Goals**

- a. Expand GMU's and MSU's global partnerships.
- b. Provide cross-cultural learning experiences for MSU and George Mason students.
- c. Create opportunities for MSU and George Mason faculty to collaborate on economic and business issues, both in research and teaching, through direct exchange and other activities.
- d. Provide MSU faculty the opportunity to teach in George Mason along with learning experiences in the Greater Washington area.

### **3. Description of the Original Program**

#### **a. Dual Degree**

- i. GMU Requirements – admissions requirement did not include TOEFL which sometimes resulted in the acceptance of students who were not prepared for college level courses in English; graduation requirements were in line with a 4-year BS in Economics or Management; students were required to live on campus, but program policies did not require them to live in LLC and did not encourage students to be engaged through volunteering and participating in Russian club activities. Faculty "research" was generally limited to library visits and working on individual research rather than collaboratively. The research stipend was not directly connected to developing collaborative projects with Mason faculty. Attention to student and faculty compliance with Mason academic, housing, and ethics policies was not a focus.
- ii. MSU Requirements – a more rigid program of study with very few electives; much higher academic load than at Mason; many students are on government-financed "spots"; course retake means retaking final exam (not allowed at Mason, as each failed course needs to be taken over again). Grades often do not reflect the knowledge or abilities.

**b. Program Academic Schedule**

- i. First Semester at MSU
- ii. Next Three Semesters at GMU taught by MSU Faculty
- iii. Last Four Semesters “mainstreamed” at GMU

**c. Enrollment Levels under the Original Program.**

Two cohorts of students are enrolled in the program. Three students (out of 7 admitted) have matriculated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Mason year in first, and five (out of 8 admitted) in the second. The first graduates are expected in Spring-Summer 2013, unless students take a semester/ year off or reduce their load to a minimum allowable 12 credits per semester.

**4. Challenges Identified with the Original Program**

The program originated through the faculty member who is no longer at Mason. Since May the program is being reevaluated against its original goals and GMU’s focus on educating globally competent students. I will start with the original goals found in the 2009 MOU, describe where the program is in relation to these goals as well as the ways it contributes to achieving GMU’s strategic goals.

**5. Proposed Changes in the Program in Response to these Challenges**

- a. **Program Academic Schedule.** Students spend the first year at MSU (instead of one semester), the second year at Mason is taught by MSU faculty at GMU, year 3-4 as mainstream Mason students. Between year 1 and 2, a separate cohort may begin for students with limited English ability. This ELI cohort will spend an extra year (1a) before joining the regular program track.
- b. **Curriculum.** The MSU curriculum has undergone minor changes in the context of the Bologna Process agreements. New MSU schedule involves changing the course sequence in the program, evaluating new (to Mason) courses. Office of Global Strategies will work with the Registrar’s office, Admissions, and Advising on implementation.
- c. **Student campus integration and engagement.** Participation in Living Learning Community (Global Crossings or Service Learning) for the 1<sup>st</sup> (MSU year) and ELI year will be required. Enrollment in University 100 or equivalent will be required.
- d. **Admissions.**
  - i. **Dates.** Will follow the Mason academic calendar for MSU-taught cohort (March 15th.) (For ELI cohorts, the deadline is May 15<sup>th</sup> in order to meet internal housing needs.)
  - ii. **Requirements.** Program admissions will be more selective (This will include references from the faculty members and/ or Vice-Dean for academic affairs; interviews; academic standing).
  - i. **English Language Ability.** TOEFL score of at least 88 or ELI referral.

- e. **Minimum enrollment and recruitment.** Under new MSU curriculum load, ten students are needed to operate the cohort self-sufficiently.
- f. **Tuition.** Per Credit as per Mason Policies as opposed to flat rate.
- g. **Program policies.** Resolving the MOU language: gray areas in translation and meaning need to be addressed, i.e. what to do when a student gets an F; the difference between an IN and a F. Once the amended MOU signed, all agreements will translate into program policies to be placed on the program web site.
- h. **Pre-departure orientation.**
  - i. **Students.** Pre-departure orientation (through a partnership with American Councils/ Education USA advising center in Moscow or MSU coordinators); including a comprehensive overview of differences between higher education systems and Mason policies – require students' signature.
  - ii. **Faculty.** Develop an electronic version of faculty orientation to be "taken" before arrival; include a signature line in the contact appendix.
- i. **MSU faculty compliance with Mason academic policies.** Provide a page on academic integrity, grading policies (include detailed explanation of IN), honor code compliance as an appendix to the faculty contract – require signature.
- j. **MSU-GMU faculty Research Collaboration.**
  - i. Encourage collaboration, but pay the research stipend only to the MSU faculty who have prearranged and begun working with MSU faculty on a specific research, teaching, program development, or conference/ publishing project.
  - ii. GMU faculty and community members to serve as hospitality partners and hosts to have the MSU faculty over for a meal or tea and conversation
  - iii. Mentoring Russian faculty in the Western approach to research writing and using electronic databases
  - iv. Establishing a network of faculty members for connecting MSU faculty with potential GMU research partners
  - v. Avenue where ideas for joint projects and funding opportunities could be connected with researchers from both universities to foster innovation and collaboration
- k. **Faculty SEVIS fee and taxes.**
  - i. Immigration SEVIS fee - to be paid by the faculty.
  - ii. Income taxes - Include tax into the salary and suggest MSU faculty the ways to file income taxes from abroad to claim the overpayment.
- l. **Partnerships with academic Departments.**
  - i. MSU MBA students to participate in the summer program at the SOM's Center for Global Innovation and Transformation.
- m. **Building GMU-MSU University-wide partnership beyond the undergraduate dual degree program**

- i. extended by 5 years – but three MSU departments are required for Mason to be considered a full partner
  - ii. MSU Political Science School (together with Economics School) to establish a dual MPA with Mason
  - iii. Short term, summer institutes, conferences, faculty research invitation from Political Science Department
  - iv. MSU's Innovation Studio and School of Public Administration are potential partners.
- n. Support fees to be paid to SOM and Economics department for student advising.**
- o. Developing a program website.** In-depth program overview, coursework detailed, program policies, cost breakdown, outbound orientation for students and faculty, separate place with information for parents.

#### **6. Plans for the 2012-13 Academic Year**

- a. No incoming cohort for either MSU-taught or ELI-year in 2012-2013. 10 students minimum is needed to operate the next cohort
- b. Recruitment is dependent on partner institution.
  - i. Due to the program costs and internal politics, MSU has not recruited the necessary 10 students
  - ii. MSU has also not being able to recruit a cohort of students, who would begin with the whole extra year of ELI
  - iii. Recruiting quality students whose families are also able to afford this program will remain a problem unless MSU establishes partnerships with Russian donors and business community to support the deserving students.
- c. **Preparing for 2013-2014 admissions.** MSU is working on establishing a separate, direct admissions process for Business majors. This, however, remains an issue due to the Economics College-Rector tensions. In addition, the quality of students entering the “fee-based” Business major is lower than the merit-based Economics program. If MSU follows through with this direct admission, Mason will need to institute some internal admissions criteria to ensure quality of incoming students (possibly using Russia's National Entrance Exam Scores).