

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING
MARCH 6, 2013
Robinson Hall B113, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of the Minutes of February 6 and February 13, 2013

III. Announcements

Rector Clemente
David Roe, President, GMU Foundation

IV. New Business - Committee Reports

A. Senate Standing Committees

Executive Committee

Percent term faculty exceeds Faculty Handbook requirements; Provost request to adjust proportion from 25% to 30%

Academic Policies

Catalog Copy Addition: Final Exams

Attachment A

Budget & Resources

Faculty Matters

Faculty Evaluation of Administrators Survey
Criminal Background Checks

Attachment B

Attachment C

Nominations

Organization & Operations

Allocation of Senate Seats 2013-2014

Attachment D

B. Other Committees/Faculty Representatives

VI. Other New Business

Provost Committee Resolution

Attachment E

VII. Remarks for the Good of the General Faculty

VIII. Adjournment

ATTACHMENT A

Suggested addition below: **final**

Catalog Copy Addition

Final Exams

Undergraduate courses usually culminate with a final exam. Except in predominantly laboratory courses, **final** exams may not be given during the last week of classes. Exams may not exceed the scheduled length of two hours, 45 minutes. Changes in location or time of in-class final exams must be approved by the appropriate department chair and dean. A professor who is considering assigning a take-home exam or significant end-of-semester paper or project should inform the students at the beginning of the semester. Such assignments should be distributed by the beginning of the last week of classes so that students can coordinate them with preparation for other exams. Students must not be required to submit exams before the date of the regularly scheduled exam for a course. Retaking final exams is not permitted. Students who have more than one examination scheduled at the same time or more than two examinations scheduled on the same day should consult their instructors to explore whether they can make other arrangements. If campus-wide disruptions to class meeting schedules occur during the semester (e.g., due to severe weather), a revised final exam schedule may be issued. In this event, students and faculty are expected to adhere to the revised schedule. **The examination period may be prolonged, and individual exams may be shifted to the last day of the revised exam period.**

[Last sentence was approved at the February meeting of the Faculty Senate.]

ATTACHMENT B

Revised Questions: Faculty Evaluation of Administrators

President:

1. Effectively articulates an appropriate vision for the future of the university.
2. Effectively articulates the mission and goals of the university, both internally and externally.
3. Effectively works with the university community in developing the vision, mission, and goals of the university.
4. Effectively develops relationships between the university and the larger community, including political and business groups and university alumni.
5. Provides effective leadership for the university.
6. Effectively addresses the concerns of the faculty.
7. Is transparent in his actions and decision making.
8. With his staff, undertakes activities appropriate for the office.
9. Has a staff of the appropriate size and make-up to complete his responsibilities.
10. Effectively obtains resources from the Commonwealth.
11. Effectively obtains funding from sources other than the Commonwealth.
12. Ensures equitable distribution of resources across the university.

Provost:

1. Effectively articulates the academic mission and goals of the university, both internally and externally.
2. Effectively works with the university community in developing the academic mission and goals of the university.
3. Effectively promotes a culture of scholarship.
4. Effectively develops relationships between the university and the external community to promote scholarship.
5. Provides effective academic leadership for the university.
6. Effectively addresses the academic concerns of the faculty.
7. Effectively recognizes faculty accomplishments.
8. Is transparent in his actions and decision making.
9. With his staff, undertakes activities appropriate for the office.
10. Has a staff of the appropriate size and make-up to complete his responsibilities.
11. Effectively obtains university funds for academic needs.
12. Ensures equitable distribution of resources across academic units.

Deans/Directors:

1. Effectively articulates the mission and goals of the academic unit.
2. Effectively works with the academic unit in developing its mission and goals.
3. Effectively promotes a culture of scholarship within the academic unit.
4. Effectively promotes collaborative relationships that serve the mission of the academic unit.
5. Provides effective leadership for the academic unit.
6. Effectively addresses the concerns of the faculty.
7. Effectively represents the concerns of the academic unit to the central administration.

8. Effectively recognizes faculty accomplishments.
9. Is transparent in his/her actions and decision making.
10. With his/her staff, undertakes activities appropriate for the office.
11. Has a staff of the appropriate size and make-up to complete his/her responsibilities.
12. Effectively obtains university funds for the academic unit.
13. Effectively obtains funding from non-university sources.
14. Ensures equitable distribution of resources within the academic unit.

ATTACHMENT C

Questions for Human Resources & Payroll regarding criminal background checks

1. How many criminal background checks were conducted between April 1 last year and March 31 this year?
2. How many criminal background checks covered full-time faculty? Adjunct faculty?
3. How many potential employees or individuals changing positions within the university refused to allow HR&P to conduct background checks? How many of these were potential or actual faculty members?
4. How many individuals failed to be hired or to change positions within the university because of the outcome of background checks? How many of these were faculty?
5. How many people were terminated due to background checks? How many of these were faculty?
6. How much did it cost the university to conduct background checks during the reporting period?
7. Were there any violations of confidentiality or other aspects of the Background Investigation Policy during the reporting period? Without compromising confidentiality, explain.

ATTACHMENT D

The apportionment of Senate Seats for the 2013-2014 academic year is posted on the Faculty Senate website at http://www.gmu.edu/resources/facstaff/senate/MINUTES_FS_2012-13/FacultySenateApportionment2013Full.pdf .

ATTACHMENT E

Resolution for an Open and Faculty-Oriented Search Process for the New Provost

Whereas, the Provost is the Chief Academic Officer of the University, responsible for myriad issues that address curriculum quality, professional integrity, and the value of academic degrees at George Mason University; and

Whereas, faculty input into the selection of the Chief Academic Officer is critical to ensure confidence and strong relationships based on respect, fairness and transparency; and

Whereas, there is no convincing, public evidence that closed, or “confidential” searches result in a superior candidate pool;

Be it resolved that the hiring committee for the next Provost of George Mason University be comprised of at least 55% faculty (with at least half of these elected by the General Faculty), and that the hiring process involves the opportunity for the General Faculty to meet with candidates (plural) before any final selection has been made so that meaningful feedback can be solicited and processed before the final appointment.