

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING
OCTOBER 8, 2014
Robinson Hall B113, 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of the Minutes of September 3, 2014

III. Announcements

Provost S. David Wu

Faculty Retirement Coaching Project

DMV Driving Test

Addressing Campus Sexual Violence – University Life Attachment A

IV. New Business – Committee Reports

A. Senate Standing Committees

Executive Committee

Academic Policies

Summer Term 2015 Attachment B

Budget and Resources

Nominations

Pallab Sanyal (School of Business) is nominated to fill a vacancy on the Adult Learning and Executive Education Committee

Alexandria Zylestra (School of Business) is nominated to fill a vacancy on the Effective Teaching Committee

Organization and Operations

B. Other Committees/Faculty Representatives

V. Other New Business

Budget Issues/Faculty Open Forum

VI. Remarks for the Good of the General Faculty

VII. Adjournment

Attachment A

University Life Faculty Flash: Addressing Campus Sexual Violence

September 30, 2014

This Faculty Flash is brought to you by the Division of University Life, your partners in educating and supporting Mason students. We will periodically share our expertise that may help you in the classroom.

Recent national attention on campus sexual violence shines a spotlight on the serious problem of sexual assault, interpersonal, and domestic violence on campuses across the country, including ours. These crimes have a big impact on the classroom and community and often result in negative academic, emotional, and physical outcomes for our students.

Women in the traditional college age group, 18 – 24, are four times more likely to be sexually assaulted than women in other age categories. Did you know that the first six weeks of the academic year are especially risky for freshmen and sophomores? It is during this time – known among student affairs professionals as The Red Zone – that these students are at the highest risk of being sexually assaulted.

University Life at George Mason University is committed to working with faculty to do everything possible to eradicate sexual violence and assault on campus. University faculty interact with students on a daily basis and may witness important behavior changes or be recipients of disclosures. Below please find information and tips to help respond to disclosures, and support Mason students.

Five signs that a student may need support:

- **An abrupt or sudden drop in attendance, or an unusual pattern of coming to class late or leaving early**
- **Decline in classroom participation/quality of work**
- **Failure to turn in assignments**
- **Signs of bruising or other injuries**
- **Reasons for absences that include multiple hospital or doctor visits**

Seven things you can do:

1. Learn what services are available to help students and others in the campus community. Where to start: [Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education Services](#)
2. Tell your students that October is “Turn Off the Violence” month and encourage them to attend events designed to raise awareness and prevent violence. Visit waves.gmu.edu for a list of events.
3. Consider adding information about Mason’s campus policy and resources to your class listserv or blackboard site. <http://universitypolicy.gmu.edu/policies/sexual-harassment-policy/>
4. Write this phone number on your chalkboard: 24 hour Sexual and Intimate Partner Violence Crisis Line: (703) 380-1434
5. Ask, “How can I help?” and then assist with appropriate referrals.
6. Incorporate the issue of sexual violence into course curriculum where possible and relevant.
7. Participate in an *Emerge* workshop through [Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education Services](#) to learn ways to best respond to survivors of sexual and relationship violence and to create a network of faculty, staff, and students dedicated to supporting survivors.

Title IX considers all employees of the university “Responsible Employees” and as such requires that you have a duty to report any incident of alleged sexual misconduct to the University’s Title IX Coordinator. Contact the Compliance, Diversity and Equity office to learn more about your responsibilities as a “Responsible Employee” or to reach Mason’s Title IX Coordinator. <http://integrity.gmu.edu/>

Upcoming Events:

Each October since 1997, WAVES has sponsored [Turn Off the Violence](#) week, which is dedicated to helping the Mason community work to end violence against women, and to honor its victims. Turn Off The Violence week brings awareness of sexual violence and dating/partner violence to campus. Below are a few event highlights.

- *October 7, 3:30 - 5:00 pm, HUB Ballroom: [Freedom and Learning Forum](#).* President Cabrera will facilitate a conversation with Rosemary Tribble, president and founder of Fear 2 Freedom, an organization dedicated to assisting victims of violence and abuse heal. She is the author of *Fear to Freedom*, in which she shares her journey after being raped at gunpoint.
- *October 7, 5:30 - 7:30 pm, HUB Ballroom: [Fear to Freedom](#).* Immediately following the Freedom and Learning Forum, Mason will hold a “Celebration Night”. The program, which is both education and service oriented includes assembling hundreds of “Fear 2 Freedom” after-care kits which are an essential element to healing provided for those affected by sexual assault, child abuse, domestic violence, and sex trafficking. The kits that we assemble at Mason, will be distributed to our very own [Student Health Services, Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education Services](#), and local area hospitals in Fairfax and Prince William counties.
- *October 7, 7:40 - 9pm, JC North Plaza: [Take Back the Night](#).*
- *October 8, 4:30 - 5:30pm, JC Gold Room: [Intimate Partner Violence](#).* A panel discussion with survivors and professionals who work with abusers.

Where to get more information:

- In an emergency: **Call 9-1-1** from campus to reach the University Police Department
- [Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education Services](#) 703-993-9999
- Rory Muhammad, Title IX Coordinator, [Compliance, Diversity and Ethics](#) 703-993-8730
- [Counseling and Psychological Services](#) 703-993-2380
- [Student Health](#) 703-993-2831
- [Student Support](#) 703-993-5376
- [Women and Gender Studies](#) 703-993-2896
- [University Life](#) 703-993-2884

Thank you for being our partners in student success.

Rose Pascarell
Vice President
University Life
5200 Merten Hall
703-993-8760

ATTACHMENT B

Academic Policies Committee Report

October 8, 2014

Beginning this year, the Faculty Senate will approve the detailed Summer Session calendars as well as the Academic Year calendars submitted by the Registrar. The Academic Year calendar will be presented for approval at the November meeting of the Faculty Senate. At this meeting, the 2015 Summer Session calendar is presented. In future, the Summer Session and Academic Year calendars will be presented together at an early Fall semester meeting.

The Summer Session calendar as submitted by the Director of Special Projects & Summer Term is posted on the Faculty Senate website: [2015 Summer Term Dates](#) .

Faculty have asked questions about the "[Summer Term Contact Hours Chart](#)" that have not yet been answered (Oct. 1). The AP Committee's attempt at answering them is shown below.

- The 3rd column "Total Face to Face Minutes/Hours (50 minute hours)" is known as the "Carnegie Standard". The Carnegie definition of a 3 credit-hour course is *2250 minutes of face-to-face instruction per 15 week term*. For "50-minute Classroom Hours" (less than a "real" hour), this is 45 classes/term. The Mason AY 15-week term includes the final exam week. The column is equivalent to this definition.
- When the total actual classroom minutes/hours are calculated from columns 4-6 on the chart, the total face-to-face minutes of instruction exceed the Carnegie Standard by 150-250 minutes depending on the Session and Meeting Days. These excess minutes constitute a class rest break of 10-20 minutes (depending on class length) for each class meeting.
- It is not known why the Final Exam length is 2 hrs. 40 min., which is a 5-minute difference from the AY Final Exam scheduled length of 2 hrs. 45 min.