

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING
DECEMBER 7, 2016
Robinson Hall B113, 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of the Minutes of November 2, 2016**
- III. Announcements**
 - President Cabrera
 - Provost Wu
- IV. Committee Reports**
 - A. Senate Standing Committees**
 - Executive Committee*
 - Academic Policies* [Attachment A](#)
 - 2017 Summer Term Calendar
 - Posthumous Degree Policy
 - Budget and Resources*
 - Faculty Matters*
 - Nominations*
 - Research Advisory Committee [Attachment B](#)
 - Rebecca Jones nominated to fill vacancy on O&O Committee
 - Organization and Operations*
 - Motion to create Multilingual Academic Support Committee [Attachment C](#)
 - B. Other Committees/Faculty Representatives**
 - Faculty Handbook Revision Committee*
 - Proposed Revisions to Faculty Handbook – first view [Attachment D](#)
 - External Academic Relations Committee*
 - Report on upcoming Higher Education Advocacy Day
 - Mason Core Committee*
 - Proposal for Ethics Across the Curriculum Requirement [Attachment E](#)
- V. New Business**
 - Resolution regarding inclusivity [Attachment F](#)
- VI. Remarks for the Good of the General Faculty**
- VII. Adjournment**

Attachment A

Academic Policies Committee

December 7, 2016

1. The 2017 Summer Term Calendar that shows the summer sessions dates, as submitted by the Registrar, is attached. The Academic Policies Committee recommends that the Faculty Senate approve the 2017 Summer Term Calendar.

Summer 2017 Calendar (updated 11/14/2016)

	Session 1 12 weeks	Session A 5 weeks	Session B 8 weeks	Session C 5 weeks	Session D 10 weeks
Session Dates	May 22-Aug 12	May 22-Jun 24	June 5-Jul 29	June 26-July 29	May 22-July 29
First day of classes	Mon May 22	Mon May 22	Mon June 5	Mon June 26	Mon May 22
Last Day to Add (Census)	Tues May 30	Fri May 26 **	Mon Jun 12	Wed Jun 28	Tue May 30
Memorial Day (University closed)	Mon May 29				
Last Day to Drop	Fri Jun 9	Thu Jun 1 **	Mon Jun 19	Wed Jul 5	Wed Jun 7
Selective Withdrawal Period – undergraduate	Jun 12-Jun 30	Jun 5-7 **	Jun 20-Jun 27	Jul 6-Jul 10	Jun 8-Jun 15
Independence Day Observance (University closed)	Mon Jul 3-Tue Jul 4				
Last Day of Class	Wed Aug 9	Wed Jun 21	Wed Jul 26	Thu Jul 27	Wed Jul 26
Examination Period	Aug 10-12	Jun 22-24	Jul 27-29	Jul 28-29	Jul 27-29
Dissertation/Thesis Deadline	Fri Aug 4				
Degree Conferral	Sat Aug 12				

****The Add/Drop/Selective Withdrawal periods for the 5-week sessions A and C are different due to a potential server upgrade that will take down the Banner system for two days at minimum and just before the start of the A session.**

2. The Registrar's office is revising the Academic Year calendars to include on-line courses. When they are finished, the calendar will be submitted to the Faculty Senate. The Academic Year calendars have been approved through Spring 2020.

3. The Academic Policies Committee recommends that the Faculty Senate approve the "Conferral of a Posthumous Degree" policy, shown below, which will be incorporated into the University Catalog. Currently, the university has no clear or consistent policy for awarding a degree to a deceased student.

Conferral of a Posthumous Degree

A posthumous degree is an official GMU degree that is awarded to a deceased student in recognition of the student's academic achievement. The criteria for the award are established in order to uphold academic and institutional integrity. If a student does not qualify for a posthumous degree, an "In Memoriam" degree may be awarded to a student in good academic standing. Either degree award is subject to final review by the Provost.

Criteria for Award of a Posthumous Degree at George Mason University

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

Undergraduate: The student must have completed 90 credit hours, with at least 30 credit hours completed at GMU.

Graduate – Masters: The student must have been admitted into degree status; completed at least 80% of the credit hours required for the degree, with at least 18 hours completed at GMU; and have a minimum 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 a minimum 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.

Attachment B

Nominees and Statements for Research Advisory Committee

Claudio Cioffi-Revilla

Director, Center for Social Complexity, Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study

University Professor, Computational & Data Sciences

College of Science

I would like to volunteer to serve on the University Research Advisory Committee, based on my experience and strong interest in promoting research at Mason. I am University Professor (College of Science) and Director of the Center for Social Complexity, Krasnow Institute for Advanced Study. I have been at Mason since 2002, growing the Provost's Initiative in Computational Social Science, and in 2014-2015 I served as Interim Vice President for Research. During that time, I led the ORED 2.0 Task Force, consisting of faculty and administrators, which produced many recommendations for boosting research at Mason, and also executed actions, including creation of the new Office of Research headed by VRP Deb Crawford, separate from economic development. Now that I am back on the faculty and pursuing my research projects and teaching, I would be happy to contribute ideas and energy in moving us forward on research frontiers.

Gerald A. Hanweck

Professor, Finance

School of Business

I have served on the Research Council when I was Associate Dean for Graduate Programs in the School of Management (now School of Business) and I am currently serving on the Faculty Senate Technology Policy Committee and the Conflict of Interest Committee of the Office of Research Integrity and Assurance. I would be pleased to serve on the Faculty Senate Research Advisory Committee.

Amy C. Hutchison, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, Graduate School of Education

College of Education and Human Development

I work in the Elementary, Literacy, and Secondary Education program. I am interested in serving on the committee because of the importance of this role for faculty and the direction of the university. This is my first year at Mason and I was previously a faculty member at a research intensive university that

exceptional research support and initiatives for faculty members at all stages. I would like to be part of shaping such policies, initiatives, and faculty support at Mason.

Bijan Jabbari

Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Volgenau School of Engineering

Bijan Jabbari is a professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at George Mason University. He is also an affiliated faculty with Telecom Paris-Tech in France. He helped in launching the area of communications in his then newly founded department in 1988. He is recognized internationally for his contributions to the field of wireless networks through research, standardization, patents and publishing books, articles in highly respectable refereed journals and conferences as well as teaching. He has over 200 publications and continues conducting funded research through grants from US Research agencies including NSF, ONR and NRL. He has successfully integrated the results of his research in developing new graduate courses and focuses on teaching both undergraduate and graduate courses as well as student mentorship. He received PhD and MS degree from Stanford University, California, in Electrical Engineering. In addition, he obtained a MS degree in Engineering Economic Systems (now Management Science and Engineering), also from Stanford University. He is a Fellow of IEEE, IET Fellow (formerly IEE Fellow - Institution of Electrical Engineers) and received the IEEE Millennium Medal. He is a recipient of the Washington DC Metropolitan Area Engineer of the Year Award, in 2003. He is the past chairman of the IEEE Communications Society technical committee on Communications Switching and Routing. He received the VSE Outstanding Faculty Research Award in 2013. He is a frequently invited to present plenary and keynote speeches and is the General Chair of the IEEE GLOBECOM (the largest conference on communications) to be held in Washington DC in December 2016.

Danielle S. Rudes

Deputy Director of the Center for Advancing Correctional Excellence (ACE!)

Associate Professor, Criminology, Law & Society

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Dr. Rudes has a competitive and active research agenda studying organizational change and reform in U.S. correctional agencies (prison, jail, probation, parole). She partners with criminal justice agencies at the Federal, State and local/county levels in both the adult and juvenile systems. She publishes her work in a wide variety of scholarly and translational/policy outlets and is Associate Editor of the journal, *Victims & Offenders*. Dr. Rudes has an extensive grant portfolio that demonstrates her ability to garner external funding. At present, Dr. Rudes is Principal Investigator on three active research grants with

funding from the National Institute of Justice, the Department of Juvenile Justice and the ASAE Foundation. Additionally, Dr. Rudes is CO-PI or research expert on three additional (active) grants with funding from the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute on Drug Abuse and the Oregon Social Learning Center. Dr. Rudes grant awards total \$2 million+. She has won Mason's Excellence in Teaching, Excellence in Mentoring and the Emerging Scholar/Researcher/Creator Awards.

It would be a great honor to serve on the Research Advisory Council at Mason. Research is my primary function at Mason and I work diligently to make all research projects I undertake to continually improve scholarly knowledge, while also advancing policy/practice within partner agencies. Also, I already partner with the Office of Sponsored Programs and the Office of Research Integrity and Assurance as they support and assist human subjects concerns, grant-getting and maintenance. I am both qualified to and passionate about working with other Mason researchers and colleagues to help shape the direction of research initiatives and policies as GMU takes its' place among other R1 universities.

Dr. Kimberly Sheridan

Associate Professor, Educational Psychology

College of Education and Human Development

Associate Professor, Art Education

College of Visual and Performing Arts

I am an associate professor with a joint appointment in Educational Psychology in the College of Education and Human Development and Art Education in the College of Visual and Performing Arts. Over the past ten years I have been at Mason, my research has been consistently well-funded, mainly by the National Science Foundation and most recently the Institute of Museum and Library Services. I regularly teach research methods/design courses—both qualitative and quantitative—to masters' and doctoral students in education. Through my research, I've formed many research partnerships with other departments across Mason and other universities, museums, libraries, community organizations and K-12 schools. I am interested in serving on the research advisory committee because I want to contribute to the conversation about how to support research at Mason, expand research opportunities for students and faculty, and envision how Mason can be a leader in forging meaningful connections between university research and communities outside academia.

James C. Thompson

Associate Professor, Psychology

College of Humanities and Social Sciences

I am an Associate Professor in the Department of Psychology, in CHSS. Within Psychology I am a member of the Cognitive and Behavioral Neuroscience Program. I have served as Associate Chair for Graduate Studies in the department, as well as Grad Program Director for CBN. I am a member of the Interdisciplinary Program in Neurosciences, and was part of the working group that established the Bioengineering graduate program (we just realized I wasn't formally an affiliate of Bioengineering but we are fixing that!). I am active in research in cognitive neuroscience, and collaborate closely with colleagues in Bioengineering, Krasnow, Computational Social Sciences, and even the School of Dance. I have been Director of GMU's 3T Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) facility for the last 2 and a half years (although this is in temporary hiatus). I have been PI, co-PI, or co-I on more than \$15 million in grants since joining GMU in 2006, including serving as PI on a recent NSF Major Research Instrumentation award for a new MRI scanner (GMU's first \$1million+ NSF award of this kind). I am working closely with VP Crawford on developing a collaboration with Inova for the joint establishment of a new MRI center.

I am excited in the possibilities for research at GMU. We have some incredible talent here, and we are a young institution that shouldn't need to feel like we have to do stodgy, narrow, siloed research. I'd like to be a part of the process that allows us to not only cement our place as an R1 university, but also allows us to build up our reputation as a home for innovative, creative, and cutting edge research.

Attachment C

Motion Calling for the Creation of a Committee for Multilingual Academic Support

In response to the 2015 Multilingual Student Task Force Report, it is hereby moved that the Faculty Senate establish a new University Standing Committee, entitled Multilingual Academic Support, with the following charge and composition:

Charge:

The committee will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of efforts to support multilingual students. This will include offering input on the types of direct student resources (e.g., classes and tutoring services) needed for students with varying language (writing, speaking, listening, and reading) abilities, the types of faculty development support: needed to enhance the teaching of linguistically diverse students across the curriculum, and the types of administrative support needed to enable key programs to lead specialized curriculum and faculty development efforts.

Composition:

The Committee will include one representative from each of the following areas: (1) Writing Center, (2) Center for Teaching and Faculty Excellence, (3) Writing Across the Curriculum Committee, Libraries, Composition/English Courses Faculty, Basic Communication Courses, INTO, Academic Advising and Transitions Center, and University Life. In addition, there will be three elected faculty representatives (including one faculty senator), from at least two separate colleges/schools, each serving staggered 2-year terms.

Attachment D

Proposed Revisions to the Faculty Handbook

(<http://www.gmu.edu/resources/facstaff/senate/FacultyHandbook/fac-hndbk-rev-2016F.htm>)

The proposed revisions to [Section 2.8](#) (Appeal of Negative Decisions in Renewal, Tenure and Promotion Cases) of the Faculty Handbook have been approved by the Faculty Handbook Revision Committee and the Provost.

At this meeting of the Faculty Senate, the Committee will present the revisions and ask for brief discussion. Afterwards, the Committee will amend the revisions if necessary. At the Feb. 1, 2017 Faculty Senate meeting, the Committee will ask that the proposed revisions be voted on without further change. If they are approved by the Faculty Senate, they will be submitted to the Board of Visitors for final approval.

The Committee welcomes comments and suggestions before and after the Faculty Senate meeting.

Committee members:

Alan Abramson (SSPG)

Cynthia Lum (CHSS)

Suzanne Slayden (COS)

Attachment E

Proposal for the Mason Core: Ethics across the Curriculum Requirement

Background:

George Mason University recognizes the importance of Ethics as both a time-honored intellectual pursuit, and crucial component of personal conduct and character. Characteristics of a Mason Graduate include “**an engaged citizen**” who is “ethically oriented and committed to democratic ideals; respectful of individual differences, rights, and liberties; knowledgeable of important issues affecting the world; focused on the well-being of others; and committed to building a just society.” Mapping to the Mason Graduate is the Mason Core learning outcome that promotes the development of “**Ethical, Inquiry-Based Citizens**” who are tolerant, understanding, and able to “conceptualize and communicate about problems of local, national and global significance, using research and evaluative perspectives to contribute to the common good.”

The Mason Core Curriculum Committee acknowledges and embraces the challenges that accompany Ethics, and welcomes the opportunity to weave the intricate interdisciplinary threads that comprise the well-rounded, globally engaged, Mason graduate. In looking specifically at the ethics component several issues arise:

- Student surveys have revealed moderate satisfaction with their ethics education at Mason with some noting that they receive no education in this area;
- The current learning outcomes for Ethics are included in the IT/Ethics category, complicating outcomes that more specifically focus on issues related specifically to information technology;
- The current connection only to IT limits the potential for students to understand the various applications for ethical issues and decision making in their course of study or future profession.

As a result of these concerns, the Mason Core Committee voted to decouple the Ethics requirement from the IT requirement. While ethics certainly apply to the ever-growing field of IT, the committee believes that an “Ethics across the Curriculum” approach would be beneficial in a number of ways, in particular removing Ethics from IT would allow for each department to play a more active role in crafting discipline-specific curriculum or identifying existing courses from other disciplines that would provide the most useful tools for graduates when approaching ethical problems in their field of choice.

Requirements for Ethics across the Curriculum

Motion: Each Local Academic Unit will designate 1 course that contains the equivalent of 1 credit of Ethics (approx. 15 hours) in its content to satisfy the Mason Core Ethics Requirement. This may be a 1 credit stand-alone course or a 3 credit course with 1 credit’s worth of Ethics embedded in it. All students are required to complete the Ethics requirement (including those who transfer in through the Guaranteed Admission Agreement).

The Local Academic Unit may:

- Propose a course within a specific major that meets the learning outcomes for the Ethics across the Curriculum category (NOTE: this could be any level course, provided it meets the learning outcomes)

- Utilize an offering that is listed on the Mason Core approved list for the Ethics requirements
- Utilize an existing approved traditional ethics course offered by the Department of Philosophy

Ethics across the Curriculum- Learning Outcomes (approved by Mason Core committee on 11/1/16)

A successful course proposal will illustrate that the new or existing course satisfies the requirements for Ethics across the Curriculum by demonstrating that it meets the two following learning objectives:

1. Students will identify, explain, and use different frameworks for understanding ethical problems.
2. Students will be able to recognize, evaluate, and respond critically to ethical problems in personal, social, or disciplinary context.

Implementation

Once approved by the Faculty Senate, the Ethics requirement will be removed from the Information Technology Core category and the creation of Ethics across the Curriculum would be reflected in catalog changes for the 2017-2018 academic year.

Overall Advantages

- Highlights Ethics as a core value for the Mason Graduate
- Promotes the study of ethics in the appropriate disciplinary contexts and applications
- Creates more flexibility for both students and faculty in terms of course offerings

Attachment F

Sponsors: Betsy DeMulder (CEHD/GSE & Senator), Bethany Letiecq (CEHD/GSE & Senator), Jenice L. View (CEHD/GSE & Senator), David Kravitz (School of Business & Senator), Elavie Ndura (CEHD/GSE & Senator), Carol Cleaveland (CHHS/Social Work & Senator), Jo-Marie Burt (Schar School of Policy and Government), Rodney Hopson (CEHD/GSE), Rachael Goodman (CEHD/GSE), Shelley Wong (CEHD/GSE), Joseph Williams (CEHD/GSE), Paul Gorski (CHSS/School Integrative Studies), Eden King (CHSS/Psychology), Angela Hattery (CHHS/Women and Gender Studies), Supriya Baily (CEHD/GSE), Suzanne Scott Constantine (CHSS/School of Integrative Studies), Lynn Scott Constantine (College of Visual and Performing Arts), Noura Erakat (CHSS/School of Integrative Studies), Julie Owen (CHSS/School of Integrative Studies), Leslie Dwyer (School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution)

WHEREAS, George Mason University's mission is to be an "inclusive academic community committed to creating a more just, free, and prosperous world"; and

WHEREAS, The Faculty Senate and our academic community and peers across the country are concerned about the recent increase in hate crimes and repeated examples of threats against women, people of color, LGBTQAI-identified individuals, specific ethnic and religious groups, and immigrants around the United States; and

WHEREAS, students at George Mason University and campuses across the country have expressed concerns and fears about being targets of harassment, hate-crimes, and violence;

WHEREAS, President Cabrera recently stated to the campus community that "We must reaffirm our commitment to embracing a multitude of people and ideas in everything that we do, to respecting differences, and to protecting the freedom of all members of our community to seek truth and express their views"; and

WHEREAS, President-Elect Donald Trump has made statements that he plans to repeal executive orders including Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) and deport millions of undocumented immigrants, which may include DACA and undocumented Mason students; and

WHEREAS, George Mason University has been a strong supporter of DACA students (including offering in-state tuition and various scholarships to those who are eligible), and President Cabrera recently joined more than 350 college and university leaders in signing a statement urging the preservation and expansion of DACA;

THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, That the Faculty Senate voices its strong support for George Mason University's commitment to protecting the learning environment and the safety, security and wellbeing of our students, faculty, staff, and the broader community; and be it further

RESOLVED, That members of the Faculty Senate strive for and are committed to sustaining a campus environment in which all students, faculty, and staff are free from oppression, violence, intimidation, and fear such that everyone in our community can participate fully in university life; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the Faculty Senate strongly supports President Cabrera's call to preserve and expand DACA and that our campus will continue to provide and expand funding and support for DACA and undocumented students and abide by laws that protect students' privacy and personal information; and be it further

RESOLVED, That George Mason University move forward with implementation of campus-wide training in anti-bias and de-escalation intervention techniques; and be it further

RESOLVED, That George Mason University provide adequate support services for our students, including accessible and culturally-responsive services for students from marginalized communities; and be it further

RESOLVED, That George Mason University implement a system for receiving ongoing feedback from students, faculty and staff about campus climate and additional future actions to protect the safety and dignity of the Mason community.