

GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF THE FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
Friday, October 19, 2018, 9:30-11:00 a.m.
Johnson Center Meeting Room E (rm. 334)

Present: Melissa Broeckelman-Post, Shannon Davis, Tim Leslie, Keith Renshaw, Suzanne Slayden, S. David Wu.

I. Approval of Minutes of September 17, 2018: deferred to our next meeting.

II. Announcements

- EC meeting with President Cabrera: Friday, November 2, 2018, 9:00-10:30 a.m. Chair Renshaw encouraged EXC members to share items for discussion. This meeting will take place prior to our next Faculty Senate meeting (November 7th).

III. Progress reports, business, and agenda items from Senate Standing Committees

A. Academic Policies – Suzanne Slayden

We need to formalize the modular (e.g. Wylie) calendar: 8-week modules have fixed drop and add deadlines. Not necessary for modular calendar to be brought to Faculty Senate unless there is a great change.

It is necessary to establish a temporary spring 2019 drop date. AP will probably recommend we stay with 3- week drop deadline as was approved by the Faculty Senate for the fall term.

Summer 2019 Calendar: The registrar asked if the calendar dates should be recalculated to repropotion drop/add dates. After struggle last year, with likely change of AY 2019-20, so it would be only a one- or two-day difference to recalculate. No real financial aid for the summer, so that is not an issue.

We have set up a meeting apart from the policy management group, with Janette Muir (Associate Provost for Academic Initiatives and Services) and Sandy Tarbox (Director of Financial Aid), asking for data in terms of making decision for any deadline: by 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, or 5th week of classes, by looking at historical pattern. For example, if there were not many drops in 5th week, not an issue, etc. When the Policy Management Group proposed this: Tuition Refund with 2 week deadline...they did not consider that faculty interests have to figure in.

Three action items: Approval of Summer 2019 calendar, and Spring 2019 drop deadline and no FS consideration of Modular Calendar.

Discussion: Is there a difference in the population of students who drop courses in the 4th or 5th week from those who drop earlier? Do they have a bigger credit load, are they poorer students, etc.? Provost Wu not sure there is one single reason. What is grade? Do they show up for class? Some 26 students who never came to class were dropped from Communication 101 out of 1200 in NOVA. Faculty dropped people who didn't show up.

This is no longer allowed. This issue of how to take confirm that students have begun classes will be discussed in the next Policy Management Committee meeting. Not to be done manually by faculty, but you may have to do something – e.g. logging into Blackboard and completing some sort of academic task. DOE will not allow them just to log into 2Factor (Authentication), has to be more than that.

B. Budget and Resources – Tim Leslie

The Budget Model data should be coming. We are waiting for HR data on attrition for the last 10 years: why employees left, salaries, time at Mason, length of tenure. HR also working on bonuses, so anticipate employees will receive bonuses before we get this data. To approach as a research question, what factors are associated with faculty and staff (retention). To try to find where holes in bucket are – e.g. bleeding in some units. Chair Renshaw commended the committee for this approach.

Questions about organizational structure in the Provost Office present a challenge. The Provost Office covers a vast swath of administrative behaviors, mentors, advisors, success coaches. Who is doing what, what are the right roles _____.

We've had a slow-rolling start this year because we are waiting for a lot of data. With the ongoing search for the Senior VP, we have made contact with interim VP (Tom Calhoun). We have asked to see how each college spent their "war chest" – start-ups, lawyers, whatever each may be.

C. Faculty Matters

The Faculty Evaluation of Administrators survey was distributed. Please encourage faculty to fill it out. Different Senators in various schools trying to encourage participation in the survey.

D. Nominations – Melissa Broeckelman-Post

The Effective Teaching Committee requested an increase in the number of members. One of its current members also stepped down. Of the nominees below, two previously served on the committee; the third nominee is an expert in teaching

evaluation. Effective Teaching Committee: Alexandria Zylstra (Business), Tom Wood (CHSS), Divya Varier (CEHD).

E. Organization and Operations

Faculty Liaison Pilot Training Team: The committee is working with HR on shrinking the list of nominees to serve as liaisons. Chair Lisa Billingham also met with Dominique Banville, Chair of the Athletic Council. They agreed to clean up the committee's charge to reflect its bylaws and development.

IV. Other Committees/Faculty Representatives

A. Report of the Gift Acceptance Committee

A wide-ranging discussion establishing best organizational framework for Provost Wu's presentation included questions and suggestions below:

- Where were problems found? What recommendations were made?
- Mapping of recommendations to questions in motions passed by the Faculty Senate in April and May 2018.
- Who made redaction decisions? A collaboration of two offices: Elizabeth Woodley is the FOIA officer who reviews all requests. Another person from the GMUF based on donor agreement what information would be available. Are these part of release practices? Yes, they are legally driven,
- Provost Wu noted everything in (the report) is already FOIA'd, out there.
- In addition to Provost Wu and Senate Chair Keith Renshaw, several members of the Internal Gift Review Committee will attend the Nov. 7th FS Meeting: Visitors Karen Alcalde and Bob Witeck; University Professor June Tangney and Chris Kennedy may also attend.

MOTION FOR REVIEW OF GIFT AGREEMENTS AND GIFT ACCEPTANCE

PRACTICES AND POLICIES (approved at May 4, 2018 Special Session FS Meeting)

- A third faculty member was added to comply with equal number of faculty and administrative members.
- President Cabrera implemented right away the provision all future gifts be made public.

I. MOTION CONCERNING TRANSPARENCY (as amended and approved at May 2, 2018 FS Meeting – aka Motion #1)

- Why not transparency? There is a donor's bill of rights, entitled to various degrees of privacy in terms of transactional detail (e.g., sale of land to donate to university – donor does not want to reveal publicly.)
- Substance of what we care about most are conditions: "no strings attached."
- To take a proactive approach, to SAY IT UP FRONT, WITH A QUICK WHY, *not what we did not do.*"

- Some recommendations already completed, some in progress, some things to send to O&O etc. Provost Wu noted resolution at a fairly high level, we have done 80% of them. We addressed every resolution, some were not implemented (see GRC Recommendations). He also noted the recommendations from the report go much further than resolutions.
- Provost Wu also noted he is not sure we can say which part of recommendations fully implemented beyond what President Cabrera has already declared. A BIG ONE ... Provost Wu will get more done before December BOV meeting. A lot of work between Provost Wu, Janet Bingham, President Cabrera, we cannot tie hands too badly. Not ready to say in November where we are.
- What in faculty involvement in Gift Acceptance Committee was revamped? Recommendation to increase faculty participation. Janet Bingham and Kathleen Diemer working on its implementation.
- Discussion referencing Mercatus Center, sounds complicated because of its opacity, in lieu of MOU, not that complicated. Whether it is complicated or not, does it make sense?
- OTHER PRESENTATION SUGGESTIONS INCLUDED
 - Don't repeat report, very structured, tied to motions
 - Summarize recommendations, use slide with resolution, another slide with recommendations IN PROGRESS in bold type.
 - To display resolutions with recommendations made
 - Not to forget all the extra stuff not requested in resolutions.
 - Summarize points using one or two slides: DONE, 2/3 OF THE WAY DONE
 - To incorporate timeline, with updates in December 2018 and February 2019 as reported to the BOV .
 - To outline parameters at beginning, to note those we will get back to you on and things set aside at the end.
 - May be cleaner to make November meeting as Provost Wu reporting on what committee has done so far.
 - Next piece of issues beyond scope – to take up at a future meeting.
 - Issues need to be on separate slide without getting embroiled in confusion, concerned we'll get stuck in a tar pit.
 - To begin Gift Agreements at 3:15 pm (following AP, Nominations reports),
 - MAPPING THE MOTIONS, RECOMMENDATION, BEYOND WHAT WAS REQUESTED

V. New Business, Updates, and Discussion

- Effective Teaching Committee – for December 5th FS Meeting? Noted Rector Davis will be here in December and Brad Edwards also available December 5th, also March 6th. Keith will ask Brad's assistant to reserve both dates.
- FS Representation for Mason Korea, INTO, and UNIV Course Faculty [Appendix A Discussion](#): Mason Korea is being re-conceptualized right now, more like a college with a dean, but has no tenured faculty. INTO is slightly different, not an independently functioning campus. Wylie courses are all taught by Mason faculty. Certainly possible there may be a new public/private partnership in the future. The Faculty Senate is not in a certain sense representative of colleges – not to single out one college, rather university-wide. What issues would not be included in a small unit? Not push things...more that they want to further their connection with the university? Is Faculty Senate representation the way to do this? Symbolic, realistic ways to become part of Senate.

New organization and deanship – are Mason Korea faculty part of the Communication dept. here? Provost Wu: Technically yes, restructured to get the same GMU degree as any other students. Accreditation requires we have total and complete academic control over curriculum. Faculty here has complete control over the curriculum; the only way we could tell SACS we have complete and total control – important for accreditation, a big deal, to make sure alignment is there. Are Mason Korea faculty lumped into CHSS? Not known, some may or may not be...

Chair Renshaw: We use colleges as a proxy, to group people, represent broad interests. If that's the assumption, colleges work for a lot of what we do, but not for Mason Korea even if part of FTE, given distance. Units wholly located in Prince William or Arlington, such as ASLS, S-CAR are part of Faculty Senate. Do we need to think about a level of representation? Largely symbolic?

INTO differs from Mason Korea. Janette notes INTO and University Courses; they are not supposed to be establishing programs without FS approval. Idea more of these types of programs in the future, maybe answer will emerge. Looking at IRR statistics, aspirational element. How to do this the way we want to? To address Faculty Senate representation for Mason Korea and INTO, may set precedents. Chair Renshaw will find out how they (IRR) counts them, not to answer letter at this point.

Provost Wu goes to Korea once a year. Most of the Mason Korea faculty feel they are in this remote, isolated part of world, forgotten by main campus, and want to have a

little love... don't feel they are part of GMU faculty, and want to be included, to feel part of university community. They welcomed recent structural adjustment.

Chair Renshaw: What makes the most sense? In terms of faculty input? Similar conversations with administrative faculty. They need to have their own Faculty Senate.

Proposal to have a Council at local level, to confer and as a way to report. Campus Councils to identify geographically-specific issues. To let each locality set it up to meet their needs, as a way of communicating with us. How to link with Faculty Senate? All standing committees must have faculty senators. To ask Provost Wu to check with Mason Korea faculty to see how they view Council suggestion; others will ask faculty at SciTech and Arlington campuses. A project for O&O to work on.

INTO – Mason relationship with colleges and departments unique. Some Mason faculty are also part of departments, may be part of college FTE, so they would have the right to stand for nomination for Faculty Senate, nothing precludes this. At a very simple level, to identify which colleges INTO-Mason Faculty affiliated with to let their Faculty Senator(s) know... as a way to facilitate this. To follow up on actions steps with Lisa.

Presentation on Mason Impact for November 7th FS Meeting? – NOT FOR NOVEMBER 7TH, Bethany to work with chairs/directors just to give a brief presentation. An EXC member has a serious concern about the disconnect between current Mason guidelines and expectations around the capstone requirement for the Mason Core. People in classroom have no idea that there is a disconnect between department capstone and university capstone approvals; there are communication deficits. Provost Wu noted Bethany Usher is working directly with the Mason Core Committee. A lot of things (need to be) worked out.

Other Senators complained about the difficulty of finding Promotion and Tenure information on the Provost Office website. Provost Wu acknowledged there was a little bit of delay because all colleges/schools were asked to update their information.

Not what she means, it is fine to design website to appeal to teenage girls, but impossible to find what is needed for schedule for deans to do evaluations. The menus with tabs and columns are very difficult to find what you need.

Chair Renshaw observed the redesign has addressed some issues.

Provost Wu added his website has nothing to do with the university website. A lot of faculty /designed for internal audience, primarily faculty. It includes a

department chairs corner, policy page. Agrees annual P&T guidelines/deadlines need to be included.

KR noted Presidential Fellow Jamie Lester wants to build a new faculty portal, not new stuff, but organized better.

- Agenda for meeting with President Cabrera - concerns about Target X, the new portal for graduate admissions evaluation: training terrible, sales force not good, output options terrible. Radius still being used; Target X goes into effect Fall 2019. Individual trainings in colleges needed, as each department portal is different.

VI. Agenda Items for November 7, 2018 FS Meeting

- Draft FS Minutes October 3, 2018
- Announcements
- Committee Reports
 - Academic Policies – 3 action items: Approval of Summer 2019 calendar, and Spring 2019 drop deadline and no FS consideration of Modular Calendar.
 - Nominations: Effective Teaching Committee – 3 nominees
- New Business
 - Report of the Gift Acceptance Committee

VII. Adjournment

Respectfully submitted,
Meg Caniano
Faculty Senate clerk

Appendix A

Email sent to Lisa Billingham and Keith Renshaw

-----Original Message-----

From: Janette Muir

Sent: Wednesday, October 3, 2018 4:06 PM

To: Keith D Renshaw <krenshaw@gmu.edu>; Lisa A Billingham <lbillin1@gmu.edu>

Subject: Faculty representation - Mason Korea and INTO

Hi Keith and Lisa,

The issue of faculty representation for Mason Korea and for INTO faculty keeps surfacing and I'm wondering how we might move this consideration along.

For MK faculty - while they align with colleges in Fairfax, the faculty would likely not win an election to the FS given how far removed they are from this campus, however, there is a strong desire on their part to have someone represent their concerns/needs. They realize the time constraints, but would be willing to participate remotely, even though it's very early morning their time.

For INTO faculty, the same issues hold true. They have no opportunity to be represented based on their lines being in this joint venture and they are not aligned with one specific college, hence no ability for representation.

So, the question is how to respond to their concerns. I know there are very specific ways that you determine how many slots each college receives, but is there a way we could account for different models that don't fit the traditional college? For example, there is a University College grouping that includes programs such as INTO, UNIV courses etc. I suspect we'll have more of these in the future.

Thanks for the consideration, happy to talk more about this.

Janette

Sent from my iPad