

**GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY  
AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 5, 2018  
Robinson Hall B113, 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.**

- I. Call to Order**
- II. Approval of the Minutes of April 4, April 25/May 2, and May 4, 2018**
- III. Announcements**  
Opening Remarks – Keith Renshaw, Chair  
Provost Wu [Attachment A](#)  
Sr. VP J.J. Davis  
Appointments: Shannon Davis will serve as chair pro tempore  
Suzanne Slayden will serve as Parliamentarian  
Catherine Sausville and Richard Craig will serve as Sergeants-at Arms  
Faculty Senate Reception @ Mathy House: THU 10/4 5:30pm
- IV. Committee Reports**
- A. Senate Standing Committees**  
*Executive Committee*  
*Academic Policies* [Attachment B](#)  
*Budget and Resources*  
*Faculty Matters*  
*Nominations*  
*Organization and Operations*
- B. Other Committees/Faculty Representatives**  
*Grievance Committee – Annual Report 2017-18* [Link to report](#)
- V. Special Orders**
- A. Elections** [Attachment C](#)  
Election of Members of Faculty Senate Standing Committees  
Election of Members of University Standing Committees  
Election of Faculty Representatives
- VI. Unfinished Business and General Orders**
- A. Motions postponed from May 4, 2018**
- VII. New Business**
- A. Criminal Background Checks Report** [Link to report](#)  
**B. Honor Committee Report** [Attachment D](#)
- VIII. Remarks for the Good of the General Faculty**
- IX. Adjournment**  
(followed by brief organizational meetings of the Senate Standing Committees)

## Attachment A

### Provost's Goals 2018-19

#### 1) Expand access to excellence and transformative learning

- a. Fully implement *Mason Impact*, including new set of program options, participation metrics, and a university-wide office for service learning. Increase the number of students engaged in research or study abroad by 10%
  - Create process for identifying and sharing *Mason Impact* experiences
  - Integrate Patriot Experience and OSCAR into the framework/structure of *Mason Impact* experiences
  - Hire Civic Engagement director and establish university office to support and implement service learning
  - Launch Global Gateway program, increase number of faculty-led study abroad courses, increase financial support for students in study abroad
  - Develop structured Entrepreneurial experiences to be integrated into *Mason Impact*
- b. In collaboration with the faculty, develop a foundational course for all undergraduate students which reflects the university's values and commitment to diversity, inclusion and wellbeing
- c. Continue implementation of *Students Experience Redesign*
  - Launch re-designed first year experiences
  - Implement and integrate CRM and associated culture shift
  - Create a student-facing one-stop service approach inclusive of key functions within Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar, Student Accounts, and Exploratory Advising.
  - Develop conceptual model for redesigning coaching and advising for Mason students, as an element of the *Student Experience Redesign*
- d. Establish partnership to create online platform to support career-long education of working professionals and adult learners
  - Develop University strategy and structure to support life-long learning
  - Add five "signed" programs to the Wiley partnership
  - Add five online UG majors and five high demand online courses
  - Develop quality assessment and management plan for online programs
- e. Launch ADVANCE partnership with NOVA with at least 20 programs and 250 students
  - Develop and implement success coaching and student service models
  - Secure and stabilize funding model for ADVANCE
  - Design ADVANCE 2.0 for launch in fall 2019, with 50 programs
- f. Meet *Smart Growth* enrollment targets, including 8% growth in out-of-state and international students
- g. Increase freshman and transfer retention to 88%; six-year graduation rate to 71% for first-time freshmen and to 70% for transfer students
  - Begin implementation of Academic Themes

#### 2) Grow research and innovation of consequence

- a. Increase sponsored research expenditures and value of awards by 10%
- b. Study strategic expansion of research-intensive and multidisciplinary graduate programs
- c. Study strategic options in medical research and education
- d. Launch two university-wide multidisciplinary research institutes in computing/data science and in sustainability/resilience

- e. In collaboration with GMRF, integrate entrepreneurship, innovation and economic development to maximize impact in the region's economy

### **3) Strengthen thriving, inclusive academic community**

- a. Expand events and forums for community-wide dialogue around critical, difficult issues
- b. Create comprehensive strategy for recruitment, retention, and support of instructional and research faculty
  - Increase the proportion of underrepresented instructional/research faculty to better reflect the diversity of our student body
  - Adopt COACHE framework to increase faculty engagement
  - Execute key wellbeing and engagement initiatives as informed by Quality of Work-Life project (e.g. parental leave, physical well-being, flexible work)
  - Complete Term Faculty Task Force work and begin implementing recommendations
  - Launch Faculty Mentoring Communities initiative for incoming tenure-track faculty
  - Develop plan for Mid-Career Faculty programs and begin implementation
- c. Roll out comprehensive leadership development program
- d. Differentiate and improve Mason Student experience through inclusion and wellbeing

### **4) Build foundation for the future**

- a. Complete West Campus, SciTech and Arlington concepts to support planned growth in enrollment, research and innovation
  - Design and construct Clean Room in IABR
  - Begin Bull Run Hall Addition Project
  - Begin study/partnership to replace Arlington Original Building
  - Complete *Smart Growth* Mason Space Needs Study [
- b. Develop detailed financial plan and business analytics to support strategic decision making for financially sustainable growth including investments in critical areas
- c. Upgrade critical information systems (Banner 9 rollout and plan to move to cloud; secure, compliant research computing environment; data governance structure; CRM element of Student Experience Redesign)
- d. Establish university-wide corporate relations team and strategy

## Attachment B

### Academic Policies Committee Aug. 28, 2018

#### Background

On Aug. 2, 2018, faculty and staff received a message from the Registrar regarding changes "Mason has made" to the deadlines for students to drop and withdraw from classes. Briefly, the add deadline (8 days) was not changed; **the drop deadline was changed from 5 weeks to 14 days; an unlimited course withdrawal (W notation) period was established** that extends from the 15th day to 5 weeks; Selective Withdrawal was not changed.

Add, Drop, and Withdrawal deadlines are part of the Academic calendar and are also Academic Policies that appear in the AP section of the University Catalog. From the charge to the Faculty Senate Academic Policies Committee: "...*this Committee's responsibility shall include, but not be limited to:...*C. *The academic calendar;...*". Within current memory, the Faculty Senate has always approved the Academic Calendar and the drop, add, and withdrawal policies. **However, the Faculty Senate/AP Committee did not approve this change in drop/withdrawal policy nor was it consulted.**

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The Registrar's message included these statements: (underline emphasis added):

- *"Through a collaborative effort of the academic, operational, and financial departments, Mason has made adjustments to the course add/drop and refund policy in response to Federal regulations."*

As far as the AP Committee is aware, no instructional faculty were part of the "collaborative effort".

- *"This new policy is driven by Federal regulations, a desire to align Mason policies with NVCC for transfer students, and an effort to allow more time for students to evaluate classes without penalty."*

The Federal regulations involve Financial Aid, which, according to the Provost's office, require contiguous Drop and Withdrawal periods (this mandate is not yet confirmed in writing by DOE to GMU). There are no Federal financial aid regulations that require a 14-day drop deadline.

The "without penalty" mentioned in the policy statement refers to the 100% tuition refund given to students (one week later than previously) who drop by the deadline. However, with the new policy, courses that meet on Monday have less than two full weeks of classes before the Drop deadline; Tuesday-Friday courses meet for two full weeks. This is a particular problem for courses that meet only on Monday and therefore this policy does not allow a sufficient opportunity to evaluate the course.

The drop deadline for NVCC is 20 calendar days (14 weekdays) whereas GMU's newly implemented deadline is 14 calendar days. Could Mason's desire to align with NVCC have resulted in an error in determining the deadline as "calendar days" vs. "weekdays"?

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A partial response by the Provost's office to the AP Committee about this issue included this statement: *"My impression based on my notes was that this was not a debatable issue for the Faculty Senate, and based on the DOE audit, we needed to act with dispatch."*

**The Academic Policies Committee disagrees that a change to the institutional drop deadline is not a debatable issue for the Faculty Senate.**

1. In order that the Drop deadline allows all courses to meet for the same number of equivalent weeks and also to be in closer alignment with the Drop deadline at NVCC, **it is moved** that the Fall, 2018 drop deadline be adjusted to midnight, Monday, September 17, 2018 (22 calendar days after and including the first day of classes).

2. Because the Faculty Senate has the particular responsibility to formulate proposals on university-wide academic policy such as the Drop deadline and Withdrawal period, **it is moved** that the Faculty Senate requests the Provost to convene a meeting between the Academic Policies Committee and the academic, operational, and financial departments for the purpose of establishing a collaboration to adjust the drop/withdrawal deadlines that meet the approval of the Faculty Senate and conform to the requirements of Federal regulations.

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
Number of calendar days:	1 Classes Begin	2	3	4	5	6
7	8 Labor Day	9 Add Deadline	10	11	12	13
14 Drop Deadline	15 Beginning of Withdrawal Period (W)	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 <b>AP proposed Drop deadline (Fall 2018)</b>	23 AP proposed Beginning of Withdrawal Period (Fall 2018)	24	25	26	27

Every semester, all courses meet for one full week of classes before the Add deadline ("8 calendar days excluding holidays"). For every Fall semester (Labor Day holiday) and more than half of the Spring semesters (MLK holiday), courses that meet on Monday have less than two full weeks of classes before the Drop deadline- Tuesday-Friday courses meet for two full weeks. This is a particular problem for courses that meet only on Monday.

## Attachment C

### ELECTIONS

#### Election of Officers

**Faculty Senate Secretary:** Shannon Davis

#### Elections of Members of Faculty Senate Standing Committees

##### Academic Policies

**Continuing Member:** Catherine Sausville , COS

**Nominees:**

- Suzanne Slayden, COS
- Richard Craig, CHSS
- Sonia Ben Ouagrham-Gormley, Schar
- Gregory Robinson, CVPA

##### Budget & Resources

**Continuing Member:** Tamara Harvey, CHSS

**Nominees:**

- Tim Leslie, COS
- Shannon Davis, CHSS
- David R. Gallay, Business
- James Conant, Schar

##### Faculty Matters

**Continuing Members:** Bethany Letiecq, CEHD, Joe Scimecca, CHSS, Solon Simmons, S-CAR

**Nominees:**

- Girum Urgessa, VSE
- Kun Sun, VSE

##### Nominations Committee

**Continuing Members:** Melissa Broeckelman-Post, CHSS, Charlene Douglas, CHHS, Michael Gilmore, CHSS

**Nominees: (need 2- nominate from the floor)**

##### Organization and Operations

**Continuing Member:** Lisa Billingham (CVPA)

**Nominees:**

- Susan Trencher, CHSS
- Meagan Call-Cummings, CEHD
- Ginny Blair, CHHS
- Carol Cleveland, CHHS

## Elections of Members of University Standing Committees

### Academic Appeals

**Continuing Members:** Tamara Harvey CHSS, Carmen Rioux-Bailey CEHD, Laura Ellen Scott CHSS

**Nominees:**

- Catherine Wright, CHSS
- Heather Anderson, Honors College

### Academic Initiatives

**Continuing Members:** Tim Leslie, COS, Danielle Rudes, CHSS, David Straus, COS

**Ex-officio:** Janette Muir, Associate Provost for Academic Initiatives and Services

**Nominees:**

- Nirup Menon, Business
- Peggy Brouse, VSE
- Molly Davis, CHHS

### Admissions Committee

**Continuing Member:** Karen Reedy, CVPA

**Dean of Admissions appointee:** Andrew Bunting, Director of Admissions Operations

**Nominees:**

- Teresa Michals, CHSS
- Megan Erb, COS
- Ana Stoehr, CHHS
- Ashley Yuckenberg, Business,
- Cameron Harris, Business

### Adult Learning and Executive Education Committee

**Continuing Members:** Aditya Johri, VSE, Katie Rosenbusch, Business, Stephen Zaccaro, CHSS

**Nominees:**

- Christopher Koper, CHSS
- Suzanne de Janasz, S-CAR

### Athletic Council

**Chair, Faculty Athletic Representative:** Dominique Banville, CEHD

**Continuing Member:** Amanda Allen Caswell, CEHD

**Nominees:**

- Delton Daigle, Schar
- Jacqueline McDowell, CEHD
- Stefan Hock, Business

### Effective Teaching Committee

**Continuing Members:** Mihai Boicu, VSE, Esperanza Roman-Mendoza, CHSS, Lorraine Valdez Pierce, CEHD

**Nominees:**

- Kelly Schrum, CHSS
- Jennifer Hathaway, CEHD

### Committee on External Academic Relations

**Continuing Members:** Bethany Letiecq, CEHD, Jessica Rosenberg, COS, Emily Vraga, CHSS

**Nominees:**

- Rebecca Sutter, CHHS

- Brett Josephson, Business

#### **Faculty Handbook Revision Committee** (3 yr. terms)

***Continuing Members:*** Cynthia Lum, CHSS (2020), Suzanne Slayden, COS (2019)

***Nominee:***

- Girum Urgessa, VSE

#### **Grievance Committee**

***Continuing Members:*** Sheri Berkeley, CEHD, Bethany Letiecq, CEHD, Margaret King-Sears, CEHD

***Nominees:***

- Mohan Venigalla, VSE
- Carol Cleaveland, CHHS

#### **Mason Core Committee** (3 yr. terms)

***Continuing Members:*** Melissa Broeckelman-Post, CHSS (2019), Christopher DiTeresi, CHSS (2020), Kelly Dunne, CHSS (2020), Tamara Maddox, VSE (2019), Ali Weinstein, CHHS (2020)

***Provost Appointees:*** Cheryl Druehl, Business, Jason Kinter, COS, Mara Schoeny, S-CAR

***Ex-officio:*** Stephanie Foster, Associate Director, Undergraduate Education, Office of the Provost  
Shelley Reid, Director for Teaching Excellence, Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning  
Bethany Usher, Associate Provost for Undergraduate Education

***Nominees:***

- Laura Poms, CHHS
- Courtney Wooten, CHSS
- Gabriele Bell, COS

#### **Minority and Diversity Issues**

***Continuing Members:*** Virginia Blair, CHHS, Cher Weixia Chen, CHSS, Paul Gorski, CHSS, Kristy Lee Park, CEHD

***Nominee:***

- Sherrice M. Mojgani, CVPA

#### **Multilingual Academic Support Committee**

***Continuing Member:*** Ellen Johnson Serafini, CHSS

***Representatives from specified areas:*** Shelley Reid, Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning; Karyn E. Kessler, Associate Director, INTO Mason, Melissa Broeckelman-Post, Director, Basic Course/Faculty Communication; Courtney Adams Wooten, English/Director, Composition; Michael English, Online Learning Coordinator and Instruction Librarian, University Libraries; Lori Cohen Scher, Assistant Dean, University Life/Director, Academics, Higher Education Program; Michelle La France, Director, Writing Across the Curriculum, English; Susan Lawrence, Director, The Writing Center, English; Erin McSherry, Director of Advising and Retention, CHSS, Stephanie Foster, Associate Director, Undergraduate Education, *ex-officio*.

***Nominees:***

- Pierre Rodgers, CEHD
- Tom Winston, VSE



### **Recreation Advisory Committee**

#### ***Nominees:***

- Syd Hasan, Business
- Robert Pasnak, CHSS,
- Angelina R. Harman, CHHS

### **Research Advisory Committee** (3 yr. terms)

***Continuing Members:*** Claudio Cioffi, COS (2020), Gerald Hanweck, Business (2020), Bijan Jabbari, VSE (2019), Amarda Shehu, VSE (2020), Kimberly Sheridan, CEHD/CVPA (2019)

***Ex-officio:*** Christy Esposito-Smythers, Faculty Representative to the BOV Research Committee

#### ***Nominees:***

- Jaime Lester, CHSS
- Faye S Taxman, CHSS

### **Salary Equity Study Committee**

***Continuing Members:*** Bijan Jabbari, VSE, Xiaoquan Zhao, CHSS

***Equity Office Appointee:*** Neda Masoudian

#### ***Nominee:***

- Cristiana Stan, COS

### **Technology Policy Committee**

***Continuing Members:*** Xiaomei Cai, CHSS, Gerald Hanweck, Business, Catherine Sausville, COS, Debbie Sprague, CEHD

#### ***Nominees:***

- Chris Barthold, CEHD
- Lance Liotta, COS

### **University Promotion, Tenure, and Renewal Appeal Committee (UPTRAC)**

***Continuing Members:*** Larry Kerschberg, VSE, Iosif Vaisman, COS

***Continuing Alternates:*** Alok Berry (VSE – 2019), Stefan Toepler, SCHAR

***Provost appointees:*** Janette Muir, Associate Provost, Academic Initiatives and Services

#### ***Nominee:***

- Paul Smith, CHSS

### **Writing Across the Curriculum (WAC) Committee**

***Continuing Members:*** Tommy Britt, CVPA, Jackie Brown, Business, Amy Hutchison, CEHD, Margaret Miklancie, CHHS

***Ex-officio:*** Michelle LaFrance, Director, Writing Across the Curriculum

#### ***Nominees:***

- Lorelei Crerar, COS
- Douglas Eyman, CHSS
- Douglas Irvin-Erickson, SCAR
- Gene Shuman, VSE
- Dimitrios Ioannou, faculty senator, VSE

## **Elections of Individual Faculty Representatives**

**Academic Integrity Advisory Committee:** Noele Simmons, INTO-Mason

**Graduate Council:** Larry Kerschberg, VSE

**Undergraduate Council:** David Gallay, Business

**Technology Leadership Council:** Esperanza Roman-Mendoza, CHSS

**University Naming Committee:** Harold Geller, COS

**Information Technology Governance Group:** Kumar Mehta, Business

## Attachment D

# Honor Code Updates 2018-2019

Office of Academic Integrity



Academic Integrity

## Changes for 2018-2019

- Specific Timeline for Referral Removed
  - Used to be 2 weeks post Spring Semester. It is no longer two weeks, but cases that are held over too long may not be accepted. Examples include:
    - Case was discovered in May, professor waits to refer in August.
    - Case was discovered in December, not referred til midFebruary



Academic Integrity

## Changes for 2018-2019

- Sanction Changes
  - Program Dismissal no longer a sanction through OAI
    - This does not mean it is not permitted if it is written into the catalog and your program. It simply means it is not a sanction the Honor committee will assign
    - While grades assigned as a result of the Honor Committee process cannot be appealed through the academic grade appeal process, program dismissal CAN be due to this change
    - The Associate Provosts for Undergraduate Education and Graduate Education are developing guidance around how to submit such an appeal
    - Program Dismissal as an option should be vetted through your department in consultation with the Provost's office and University Counsel



Academic Integrity

## Honor Committee Referral Guidance

- The Office of Academic Integrity is working on a referral guidance document which highlights general information about the process, examples of cases that rise to the level of the clear and convincing standard required by the process based on four years of referral data and decision outcome trends, and guidance around sanctions, specifically educational sanctions and when they should be applied.
- This guidance will be available in the next month or so via the Stearns Center for Teaching and Learning Website



Academic Integrity

## Questions?

- Please feel free to contact our office ([oai@gmu.edu](mailto:oai@gmu.edu) or 703-993- 6209).
- Our office will be reaching out to the different departments to get on the schedule of the departmental meetings for more in depth conversations.



Academic Integrity