GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY
AGENDA FOR THE FACULTY SENATE MEETING
APRIL 22, 2020
Electronic Meeting*, 3:00 – 4:15 p.m.

I. Call to Order

II. Approval of the Minutes of March 4, March 24, and April 1, 2020

III. Special Orders
   Election of Faculty Senate Chair 2020-21

IV. Committee Reports
   A. Senate Standing Committees
      Executive Committee
      Academic Policies
      Budget and Resources
         Faculty Office Space – Robinson Replacement Building
      Faculty Matters
      Nominations
         Board of Visitors Representatives Election
         Master Planning Working Group Election
      Organization and Operations
   B. Other Committees/Faculty Representatives
      Academic Appeals Committee
      Proposed Revision to Name and Charge

V. New Business

VI. Announcements
   • Interim Provost Ginsberg

* WebEx Log In
https://gmueniversity.webex.com/gmu/j.php?MTID=mfe5792d118226419f787658b0ed1914d
Meeting number (access code): 618 648 888

Join by phone
+1-415-655-0003 US Toll
+1-202-860-2110 United States Toll (Washington D.C.)

Join from a video system or application
Dial 618648888@gmu.webex.com
You can also dial 173.243.2.68 and enter your meeting number.

Blackboard Log In
Should we need to use Blackboard Collaborate, Senators are asked to log in to Blackboard and use the Faculty Senate Organization to enter the Collaborate session. Guest (not Senator) access:
https://us.bbcollab.com/guest/d0cbe9f957cd4a03a50b2c3d824fe97c
• Sr. VP Carol Kissal
• Note: All Faculty Senate and University Committees will provide final reports to the Senate for discussion (if needed) at the April 29 Senate meeting.
• Update from Dr. Bill Hazel on planning for a possible medical school:
  “I hope this finds you safe and healthy and tolerating the new world of distancing reasonably well. The COVID pandemic has certainly impacted our efforts to develop a medical school. Mason has had to refocus on moving to on-line education. All of our health care partners are struggling with addressing the virus and their financial issues due to loss of revenues. Investors (potential donors) are looking at instability in the value of their funds. In short, there is now way that we can get open in 2022. It was always an ambitious target requiring everything to go perfectly and that is not the case. At this point, the earliest that we could possibly open would be 2023. The good news is that this gives Mason time to address leadership changes and the fiscal impact as well as staging the multiple priorities and projects that the University has. Even more importantly to this effort, it gives us a chance to be very creative as we think about health professional education and training in the context of what we are learning from the COVID impact.

  Our consultants are engaged through the end of July. The initial mission was to complete the data collection instrument that is the first step of the Liaison Committee for Medical Education (LCME) accreditation process. There will be a lot that remains unanswered by mid-summer but what we can identify the major gaps that need to be addressed going forward. We will develop a much clearer vision of what we will create that can be shared with potential clinical partners and funders. Essentially, we are now developing a prospectus.

  On a personal note, I have transitioned to the Claude Moore Charitable Foundation where I am the Senior Deputy Executive Director. I look forward to supporting this project from this new position.”

VII. Remarks for the Good of the General Faculty

VIII. Adjournment
Attachment A

Joint Motion from Budget and Resources and Faculty Matters Committee

Whereas, George Mason University faculty depend on private office space to meet with students on sensitive matters, to meet FERPA requirements, to have quiet space to prepare for teaching and to conduct scholarship, and to store valuable books and other materials needed for their research and teaching,

And, whereas the George Mason University Design Manual (§ 3.2.4.2.1) states that “in most cases, full-time faculty are assigned private offices,” of at least 90 square feet (sf),

And, whereas this standard applies equally to full-time instructional, research, and administrative/professional faculty, whether tenured, tenure-line, or term,

And, whereas the George Mason University Design Manual states that “the [assignable square feet] for offices that will be shared by multiple faculty members will be adjusted to meet the total number of faculty who will be assigned to those spaces,”

And, whereas Mason’s Six Year Capital Outlay Plan 2014-2020 justifies the replacement of Robinson Hall on the grounds that College of Humanities and Social Sciences “units are in need of additional growth space,”

And, whereas current plans for the Robinson replacement building call for up to 200 full-time faculty to be assigned shared offices whose size is not adjusted to number of faculty, contrary to both the standards of the George Mason University Design Manual and the goals of the Six Year Capital Outlay Plan,

Now, therefore be it resolved that the George Mason Faculty Senate calls on the Interim Provost and the Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance to ensure that all full-time faculty members assigned to any of the approximately 265 120-sf offices now planned for the Robinson replacement building be allocated individual, private offices, thus meeting the standards of the George Mason University Design Manual,

And, that it be further resolved that College of Humanities and Social Sciences faculty be assigned offices that meet these standards, whether in the new building or elsewhere on the Fairfax campus.

And, that it be further resolved that the leadership of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences, in cooperation with its faculty, determine a plan to meet the office space needs of its faculty. And that this plan

- Be agreed upon and shared with the College's Faculty by July 1, 2020

- Be implemented before any move-in of the Robinson Replacement Building is initiated
Academic Appeals Committee Proposed Revision to Name and Charge

Rationale:

Because academic appeals by graduate students are handled by the Graduate Academic Appeals Committee, which is part of Graduate Council, we are proposing that the name and charge of the Academic Appeals Committee be changed to indicate that we do not deal with graduate appeals.

Motion:

That the name of the Academic Appeals Committee be changed to the Undergraduate Academic Appeals Committee and that the charge of the committee be amended as follows:

Current charge:

To serve as a final locus for appeal of decisions regarding late withdrawal, late add, suspension and dismissal for academic reasons. At its discretion, the Committee may choose to review other individual cases that are relevant to the application of University-wide policies. Does not hear grade appeals or appeals of Honor Committee decisions. Membership: Five faculty members, including at least one member of the Faculty Senate, and the Provost or his/her designee who will serve in an ex-officio, non-voting capacity.

Proposed charge with amended third sentence (underlined below):

To serve as a final locus for appeal of decisions regarding late withdrawal, late add, suspension and dismissal for academic reasons. At its discretion, the Committee may choose to review other individual cases that are relevant to the application of University-wide policies. Does not hear grade appeals, appeals of Honor Committee decisions, or graduate appeals handled by the Graduate Academic Appeals Committee. Membership: Five faculty members, including at least one member of the Faculty Senate, and the Provost or his/her designee who will serve in an ex-officio, non-voting capacity.