

Jacksonville State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
November 13, 2023
3:15 pm Houston Cole Library

In Attendance: In attendance: J. Godbey, T. Ridlen, J. Ridlen, M. Sciuchetti, P. McGrail, C. Murtagh, B. Norvell, A. Newton, R. Ahmed, K. Walker E. Hardy, B. Hankins, L. Ingwerson, C. Clark, C. Kirk, K. Johnson, M. Trifas, J. Dodd, D. Okimoto, C. Hosmer, S. Mikel, L. Barrow, C. Inman, H. Dempsey, A. Crawley, K. Wickersham, J. Ross, R. Overton, and M. Meacham.

1. Introduction: Dr. Overton opened meeting and allowed people time to read the agenda. Thanked Dr. Dempsey for all of the hard work she has put in to attend meetings and putting together proposals.
2. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. A Newton made a motion to accept the agenda. Dr. T. Ridlen seconded.
3. Approval of the Minutes: Dr. Overton noted that we can share draft minutes for feedback with other faculty in department. Dr. T. Ridlen made a motion to adopt the minutes and Dr. A. Newton seconded.
4. Reports:
 - a. President Overton: Dr. Overton stated that he has had meetings with the President, Provost, and Past Faculty Senate Presidents in a summit. He hopes this will be an annual event. The main thing is communication with your colleagues in your departments. Trying to get all of the committees and information and all on the same page.
 - i. Mica Meacham spoke for Faculty Commons. If interested in applying for Faculty Fellows is open until Friday. Also, keep watch on email as FC will send out all the announcements.
 - ii. Dr. Overton thanked all for working with Research Symposium
 - b. Vice-President Dempsey: See attached report.
5. Committee Reports:
 - a. Dr. Dempsey stated that we have not yet had time to work in committees to have reports and will be working later today.
6. Unfinished Business
 - a. Policy on Policies: Dr. Dempsey noted that we will now need feedback for these within 7 business days. She will place policies on CANVAS and then request comments. Dr. Dempsey will also send an email to notify Senators that a new policy or policy change has been proposed. Then she and Dr. Overton can cast their votes on behalf of Faculty Senate as the Senators would like. They also noted that they would hope that the Senators would discuss with their department members and share their comments and then these can be taken into consideration when Faculty Senate responds.
 - b. Noted that there are two additional policies that will be coming up in the next few days, so please review and give feedback before or during the break as the deadline will be the week following the Thanksgiving break.

- c. President Overton stated that he was very pleased with the participation of administration.
7. New Business:
- a. Dr. A. Newton is in charge of elections and asked if there is anyone who is interested in being the Secretary for Spring 2024 as Dr. Wickersham will be resigning due to being promoted and no longer faculty. There will be an election for Secretary next meeting and asked if people would nominate themselves or someone else. Dr. Overton noted that if no one is interested he will have to appoint one. No one volunteered.
 - b. Dr. Dempsey brought forward a motion to change the Faculty Senate Constitution and has included a copy for review. Stated that the Provost said there is nothing in writing that states she is obligated to respond and requested this to be added. Also, there is no mechanism in place when the second Monday of the months is on a holiday and we need to have an August meeting. This will help get all Senators on committees so we are not waiting a few months to get things done. Dr. Dempsey noted that if we approve and make a change to the constitution, then it has to the departments for voting. Dr. Ridlen asked if there were any issues for why we could not just move on this today. No one has any questions or problems with this. The motion was put forward by Dr. J. Ridlen, seconded by Dr. Ingwerson. Dr. Sciuchetti opposed but majority rules and the motion was passed.
 - c. Dr. Dempsey noted that we can send out the minutes while in draft in case faculty have questions. Dr. Chris Inman in meeting and he told Dr. Dempsey that we can send the information to all faculty through the Faculty Teams. This will increase communication as requested by the faculty at large.
 - d. Dr. Dempsey stated that they have talked to administration that if they would like for the President and Vice-President to be more involved then perhaps there should be more release time. The Provost is in agreement and stated that we need to put in our bylaws that the President has 2 course releases in Fall and Spring and a summer contract and the Vice-President will be given 1 course release in Fall and Spring and a summer contract for summer. The summer contract is because they need to be available during the summer. Also, this is what would be an incentive to encourage Senators to be involved.
 - e. Dr. Dempsey noted that the Provost has also asked why are the faculty not using CANVAS. Dr. J. Ridlen noted that we had discussed last year during Faculty Senate and did not know what happened to the information. Dr. Inman stated that who accesses CANVAS and how they access is more of a registrar area. Also noted that First Day is just a link in CANVAS but really run from the bookstore. Dr. Dempsey will review the minutes from last year to see the discussions already held.
 - f. Graduate Programs: Please review the information given by Dr. Dempsey and provide her with feedback.
 - g. First Day Access: Please review the information given by Dr. Dempsey and provide her with feedback.
 - h. Departmental Concerns: Dr. Overton and Dr. Clark noted that they are having discussions with coaches and athletics because students are missing classes and what will the policies/instructions be. This is mostly due to the T/TH games this year. It was also noted that soccer and tennis players are missing. Then bowling, so the President

will continue discussions and they will meet in December and try to draft a policy regarding athletic absences.

- i. Dr. Dempsey discussed academic partnerships and Graduate programs. Wants to know what the needs are from the programs. This is for online graduate programs.
- j. Dr. Dempsey noted that the BOT notes and the Employee Perks Program are noted in CANVAS.

Respectfully Submitted by: _____

Dr. Kimber Wickersham

JSU Faculty Senate Secretary