FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

March 9, 2015, 3:15 p.m.
1103C Houston Cole Library


**Members Absent:** Mark Camp, Mike Davis, Brett Johnson, Ellen Peck, Teje Sult, Tracy Windle

I. **Call to Order:** President Melanie Wallace called the meeting to order and introduced guests, including Dr. Tim King and four JSU Trustees—Mr. Clarence Daugette, III, Mr. Randy Jones, Ms. Gale Saxon Main, and Mr. Ronnie Smith.

II. **Guests:**

A. **Mr. Ronnie Smith, JSU Trustee and Chair of Presidential Search & Screening Committee,** updated the Senate on the progress made by his committee. Diversified Search employees have given search committee members access to presidential candidate profiles on their secure website and have assisted the committee in narrowing the sizeable pool down to 15 candidates. In today’s search committee meeting, members further narrowed the pool to 8 candidates with broad diversity in terms of academic credentials and skills. The committee plans to conduct offsite interviews (to protect anonymity) to help identify the final 3–5 candidates, whose names will be brought to the full Board of Trustees. The final names will be publicized when the Board determines which to bring to campus. The goal for this is the April Board of Trustees meeting, but there is no guarantee.

B. **Dr. Tim King, Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management & Student Affairs,** [tbking@jsu.edu](mailto:tbking@jsu.edu) (x5020, 102 BG) gave Senators an overview of the Student Affairs divisions he oversees (Admissions, Financial Aid, Registrar, Housing, Student Life, Recreational Sports, Disability Support Services, Counseling Services, University Police, Student Health Center) and other duties which actually take most of his time—dealing with Title IX issues and hazing allegations, all of which he investigates.

1. Title IX is a 1972 federal law which prohibits gender discrimination. While most people know that it applies to women’s athletics, other portions of the law prohibit actions which infringe on a person’s right to education—such as sexual harassment, sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, etc.

2. Faculty members are considered “reporting persons”—which means that we are required to report (to Dr. King) if we have knowledge of a student being a victim of sexual assault, stalking, domestic violence, etc. Dr. King will investigate and coordinate with UPD and Counseling Services, as necessary; he is always on call to handle situations. His take-home message: “If you hear something, REPORT IT.”

3. A centralized approach is necessary nowadays, as universities are expected to have policies and procedures in place to deal with these issues. Dr. King is, of course, careful to follow these, as even alleged mishandling of cases can hurt the university.
The Office for Civil Rights (OCR) maintains a public website listing investigations of campuses where Title IX cases were allegedly improperly handled; if charges are substantiated, the university could be fined or lose federal funds.

4. When asked whether JSU had an intervention team, he responded affirmatively that we have a Behavioral Concerns Team made up of faculty, staff, university police, and counselors, who meet at any time to assess situations and determine if there is an imminent concern.

5. When asked how faculty can help with regard to the other departments in his oversight, Dr. King responded that they all need our support—especially Admissions. It helps for faculty to view themselves as recruiters, having a positive attitude toward JSU wherever we go. He also stated that many of our students need “intrusive involvement” from us with regard to advising or even personal issues, as some students may not speak up and seek help.

C. Mr. Randy Jones, JSU Trustee, asked to update Senators on progress the Board of Trustees has made on issues brought up during his first visit to the Faculty Senate four years ago.
   1. The Student Health Center partnership with Regional Medical Center has become a reality, resulting in extended hours, more doctors, and better recordkeeping.
   2. In response to concerns about the college readiness of our student population, the Trustees have raised the minimum ACT score requirement for unconditional admission and now have a minimum high school GPA requirement. He hopes that this will lead to greater retention and a higher graduation rate.
   3. Mr. Jones mentioned the recent agreement between the College of Nursing and RMC-Jacksonville to create a new respiratory therapy program with a state-of-the-art simulation lab.

III. Approval of Minutes: The February 2015 meeting minutes were approved as amended, following a suggestion by Mr. Scott Beckett.

IV. Committee Reports
   - Faculty Honors—Dr. Ellen Peck reminded everyone of open nominations for university faculty awards; the deadline is March 21.

V. Unfinished Business:
   - A dedication ceremony for the tree and bench dedicated to Dr. Meehan will likely take place just prior to our April meeting.

VI. New Business:
   - Dr. Paul Beezley asked Dr. Wallace to thank the Physical Plant staff and whomever else was involved in completing the sidewalk between Merrill Building and Stone Center, as well as Sodexo for the food truck stationed in the Stone Center parking lot.

VII. Announcements:
   - A Wellness Wednesday meal will be offered Mar. 11 in 118 East Mason Hall; the cost is $7 for faculty and reservations can be made by calling x5054.
   - The JSU Technology Fair has been rescheduled for March 13.

VIII. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.