

**Present: Wendy Stephens, Teje Sult, Tray Ridlen, Jenna Ridlen, Mark Sciuchetti, Sayyed Shah, Christopher Murtagh, Allison Newton, Rashad Ahmed, Katelyn Walker, Erica Hardy, Billy Hankins, Gordon Harvey, Reggie Overton, Karlie Johnson, Yingqi Tang, Coco Huang, Monica Trifas, Jeff Dodd, Nathan Wight, Laura Barrow, Missy Duckett, Chris Inman, Heidi Dempsey, Andres Crawley, Ahmad Alhammouri, Kimber Wickersham, Jeremy Ross, James Watkins, Jewel Johnson (SGA President)**

**Absent: Carrie Kirk, Travis Easterling**

**Jacksonville State University  
Faculty Senate  
October 3, 2022  
Houston Cole Library 1103C**

### **Agenda**

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:15pm.
2. Approval of agenda- Agenda was approved by Carly Johnson and Reggie Overton as the 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. Carly Johnson gave 1<sup>st</sup> approval of Sept. 2022 minutes while Reggie Overton gave the second for approval.
4. Informational reports began with President Killingsworth.  
**President Killingsworth-** Dr. Killingsworth stated that JSU had record enrollment. This is the largest Freshman class in the history of JSU. He then discussed capital projects. The stadium project was scheduled to include housing, dining, and the athletic component with the field house. It was decided it would be cost prohibitive at \$160 million dollars. JSU has a \$100 million to spend. It has been decided that the housing unit will be built behind Sparkman and include 500 bed units. The dining facility will be behind the current Jack Hopper dining hall where the 2 parking lots are currently beside Mason Hall. Football will be built back in its current location. All projects should be completed by Fall 2024. The contract with the Point ends in May 2024. JSU is in talks with other housing developers to build more housing. The dorms we have need remodeling. Questions were voiced by the Senators regarding the possibility for a parking deck since parking is always an issue. The cost of a parking deck is cost prohibitive at \$24,000 a spot which was quoted on a previous project. That is why the parking deck was cancelled and has not been rescheduled for any previous project at this point. The use of busses has been considered but it was done before, and the students did not ride it so that money was not put to good use. The South Campus should be completed for Nursing and MAT by January 2023. The Randy Owen Center was discussed. The sale of the church property to JSU will be completed and closed on the first week of November. Events are starting there soon. The church property cost \$6 million dollars. There will by a 1000 seat concert hall added. It is a \$25 million dollar project. \$15 million was given by Governor Ivey for this project. It will be a multipurpose facility. The President is committed to adding a Band room. As for Wallace Hall, JSU appealed a decision by FEMA, and it was denied again. There is no money to do anything currently. The old Kitty Stone Complex is where the Education College is moving and should be fully moved in after the first of the year.

President Killingsworth stated that the budget closeout went well. Budgets will be smaller for each college, school, and department. The University is not going to be put in accreditation danger and SACSCOC requires a certain budget reserve. We will still be approving faculty positions. We must prioritize.

**Provost Shelton**- Dean Lori Owens will be working with Academic Affairs since Lisa Williams' departure. We are still searching for the head of the Institutional Research and Effectiveness office. The Provost is requesting submission of all midterm grades for all students. This is a pilot but will be required for the Spring semester. It will help students to know where they stand. The 2023-2024 academic calendar must be moved forward quickly. Emily White is going to speak to you about this and we have a plan for future calendars. We would like to eventually get academic calendars completed on a 5 year plan.

## **New business**

**Emily White, Registrar** – Emily White is here to discuss the academic calendar. The guidelines to follow are extensive. For example, there must be a break between Fall A and Fall B of no more than four full days. The turnaround between summer and Fall semesters must also be considered. Housing needs time to clean. Housing and Student Life have made concessions in planning the academic calendar. We must balance the needs and remember that students come first. We have a suggestion for academic calendar 2024-2025. It is suggested that a committee from Faculty Senate be formed to give feedback on suggested calendar before it moves back to the Calendar committee then on to the Dean's council for approval. Then it will move on to the provost and then to the President.

Faculty Senator input was solicited. Dr. Dempsey brought up the importance of having the same number of days (Monday, Tuesday, etc) for each class. She brought up that finals are starting on Monday and lasting one week instead of being broken up into 2 weeks. Ms. White stated that students requested this through an SGA poll. Faculty want the calendar to be consistent, according to Dr. Dempsey. Some senator responded that instructors must be flexible with course content delivery. It was also asked why the Faculty Senate president on the calendar committee is not enough. Is a taskforce needed?

Dr. Ridlen voiced a question and statement. when speaking to colleagues about the proposed calendar, something came up that perhaps would give us a little more time and flexibility in the semester. Many other schools in SACSCOC use 50 minutes of instruction per 1 hour course. We use the full 60 minutes. If we wanted to go by hours of instruction time, we actually have several more days we could use as break or extra grading time or to shorten the semester. We could do this and still be equitable in terms of instruction hours with other comparable institutions. I have research I can provide, but my understanding is that this has come up previously. I'd love to hear the history of this question/previous discussions and how we might work those extra days into our upcoming schedule. Emily White responded that she was tasked to look at contact hours vs. contact minutes several years back. She took her findings to the provost and Provost Shelton decided to stay with contact hours. Other thoughts to consider are that if there is a time we must be closed (tornado, etc), we have extra minutes available and we would not

have to make up the missed days. Research can be assigned to a committee for further discussion.

Mrs. White asked if the Faculty Senate could agree to the 2023-2024 calendar knowing that going forward faculty will have more of a voice? Dr. Dempsey still has issue with the course hours not being consistent between days. It is not ideal not to have equivalent course days. She asked why grades need to be turned in before graduation? The response from Mrs. White is that the Graduate committee needs 3 days and the registrar needs 1 week for nursing and education certifications. Financial aid also needs a week for their department. Dr. Sciucetti asked for a few more days to review and discuss the calendar. Emily White said that was not possible due to Financial aid and housing needing dates for the calendar ASAP. Dr. Dempsey requested an extension for the day that grades are due in the Spring. This cannot occur because the faculty are off after graduation. It was also brought up that it is not ideal to start class on Thursday due to students not coming to class at the end of a week. Emily White explained that we cannot start on Monday because of Convocation and Student life/student move-in. It was agreed that this calendar could be lived with, and we will have increased voice in the future calendars.

The question was asked about the possibility of posting the upcoming finals schedule early? Emily White said that could occur. The SGA president reiterated the importance to students of having finals all in one week. SGA also reminded everyone that Homecoming starts soon and they are excited about the upcoming activities.

#### **Dean Lori Owens – Honors Program**

There are one hour UH classes and one hour participation classes. We would like faculty to participate in these classes. The topics should be practical and something that appeals to a variety of students. There are one campus meetings where presentations are given and day excursions sponsored. In the odd numbered years we have a study abroad domestic travel destination. In the even years we have international study abroad. We are looking to build the program. An honor's fellow will be coming in the next year. Honor's by contract is available for classes in specific majors. Faculty in those courses assist with these options for our students. We don't want courses to compete so we need more interaction and communication among faculty and programs to prevent scheduling these classes while other classes are meeting. The plan is to eventually make the Honor's program a college in itself. Please reach out to Dean Owens if you are interested in teaching in this program.

**Period Pact** -- MaCalaah Johnson, Alexis Petty and Madison Brooks, SGA Student Senators – SGA Senators are working on this project. These SGA senators talked to title IX , inclusion and diversity, and violence against women groups on campus to discuss this initiative. This initiative is being supported nationwide, as well as in Alabama. This is a donation based effort to provide sanitary products for the menstruating campus population. There is a need for this campus-wide. This impacts student success by interfering with attending class due to not having access to products. Signature sheets and surveys have been sent out to gain support and awareness of this issue. Donations both monetary and products would be appreciated. That way free products could be supplied in all campus buildings. This type of

program is approved for all Title 1 schools through state support. There is a hope that Governor Ivey could extend that to all school settings. Dr. Killingsworth is supportive of this initiative.

**Hooding for Graduate Students** – Dr. Ridlen. Tabled for next meeting in November.

### **Old business**

- Committee Assignments  
Mark Sciucetti will be chair for the Honor's committee.  
Each committee needs to let Wendy know who the committee chairs will be.
- Scholar's Code – feedback request – Senators Dodd and Duckett- Tabled until next meeting.
- Department heads and Canvas course shells- Tabled for November meeting.
- Anonymous Communication Form- Tabled for November meeting.  
<http://tinyurl.com/FCconcern>

### **Announcements:**

**Dr. Mica Mecham:** The 2022 Faculty Research Symposium will be held at Merrill Hall on November 3, 2022. The reception is at 5 pm. You must RSVP for lunch. All participants will get a certificate, and all will get credit for attending. Let your college faculty know. They would like to have representation from each College. Poster presentation and round table are available options. The suggestion for digital posters was made by Senator Karlie Johnson instead of printing posters due to the cost for faculty. Let all the faculty in your college know about this symposium.

**Dr. Erica Hardy:** Office of Diversity and Inclusion is having a fashion show October 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Dr. Heidi Dempsey:** Progress reports have taken out the option to put that a student is failing due to poor grades. Dr. Stephens will email Kim Hudgins to check on this change.

The suggestion was made to survey faculty and staff along with students about the academic calendar.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Teje Sult to adjourn and a second was made by Reggie Overton. Meeting adjourned at 4:55 pm. The next meeting will be November 14, 2022.