

Present: Teje Salt, Monica Trifas, Tray Ridlen, Jewel Johnson SGA pres, Cocoa Huang, James Watkins, Chris Inman, Billy Hankins, Kimber Wickersham, Jenna Ridlen, Mark Sciuchetti, Sayyed Shah, Wendy Stephens, Christopher Murtagh, Michael Alvidrez, Allison Newton, Katelyn Walker, Erica Hardy, Gordon Harvey, Reggie Overton, Karlie Johnson, Yinqi Tang, Jeff Dodd, Nathan Wight, Missy Duckett, Jeremy Ross, Rashad Ahmed

Absent: Carrie Kirk, Travis Easterling, Laura Barrow, Andres Crawley, Ahmad Alhammouri

Jacksonville State University

Faculty Senate

September 6, 2022

Houston Cole Library 1103C

Agenda

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:15 pm.
2. Senator Newton proposed the agenda to be approved and, Teje Sult gave a second.
3. Approval of April 2022 minutes was approved by Dr. Reginald Overton and the second was given by Dr. Sayed Shah
4. Informational reports

President Killingsworth was not able to be here due to another commitment.

Provost Shelton gave an update and answered questions. The cabinet is teaching STU 101, so they are learning about canvas and FERPA. The events calendar should be in the central repository. The Campus life webpage is where you find this. Then, go to upcoming events to see the calendar. October 25th is Fall Fun Day from 4:30-6:30 at the President's house. United Way Day of action is the same day. Gamecock Grand Slam was discussed, and the provost would like feedback from the faculty and staff on this event. All senators felt it went well and was an enjoyable event. Provost Shelton would like all Senators to encourage participation in the Day of Action.

Lisa Williams is retiring October 1st from her position as Associate Vice Provost. Joe Walsh is leaving and moving on to the University of Montevallo where he worked for 17 years. These positions will be coming open and will be filled. The University is preparing for the SACSCOC visit. An EDD degree has been approved by ACHE for the College of Education. They will admit students in the Spring of 2023.

Dr. Shelton asked the faculty senators what should be addressed by the provost and their thoughts on the best way to update all faculty and staff. Dr. Shelton will be at every faculty senate meeting. Update the faculty in your college on any updates received from the provost. Updates will also be provided to the Dean's Council. Senators feel that email is the most direct communication and the most likely to be seen by faculty and staff.

There was discussion between Provost Shelton and the faculty Senators regarding the academic calendar. Senators feel it is problematic and unrealistic that final grades are due during commencement in Spring 2023. Inquire if grades cannot be due after commencement. The provost will check on this issue. A charge will be given to the committee to have a 2-year academic calendar in place in the future so that dates will be known ahead of time. It is also felt that the final exam schedule should be released a lot

earlier than the week before classes start. Dr. Shelton will discuss this with the Dean's council and the Academic Calendar Committee. Wendy Stephens is also on the academic calendar committee, so she will also update the senate. Mica Meecham is going to be added to Academic calendar committee as well to represent faculty voice. Any requests from the faculty in your college should be sent to Emily White. The Senate will request Emily White, Registrar and Chair of Academic Calendar Committee, to come to the October full senate meeting to answer questions and request that a draft come to the Faculty Senate for review and recommendations before it goes to the President for final approval.

The provost discussed her expectations for the faculty. She expects faculty to be engaged, competent and compassionate. People are struggling. *Engaged Campus* is a book which Dr. Shelton is reading, and it discusses how student engagement by the faculty leads to an improved institution in which retention is better. She expects communication by the faculty with their students if class is canceled, etc. Email should be checked daily and responded to within a designated time frame. She also expects faculty to stay abreast of changes and advances in their discipline. Honesty and transparency are essential, and faculty should be straight forward with their students.

Faculty burnout was discussed. The provost requested any suggestions to improve faculty burnout be forwarded to her. She wishes for faculty to take care of themselves and not put themselves last.

Provost Shelton asks for any requests from faculty. A request was voiced to inform faculty about any changes in pay or hours as soon as possible so that faculty can prepare.

The provost said that a summer differential is still going to be offered but there will be restrictions on active sections. The plan is that there will be a 3 day hold before the schedule is published for the provost to review. She will look at past trends to decide how many sections will be taught. A suggestion by a senator was made to adjust and reduce summer differential and place caps on classes based on rank. This summer they encouraged on campus summer classes. The plan is they will stay more online next summer. The provost does not want to take summer differential away.

The question was asked regarding how the decision was made on caps. This will be a 2 way conversation between faculty and department head/dean. There is no gold standard set at this time.

The S&P rating lowered to BBB+. This is a downgrade due to poor financial status of the university. Moody's rating is postponed until spring 2023. The University needs to be tight with funds. We need to get to a certain point financially to meet requirement set by SACSCOC.

Chief Barton: Feedback is requested from the University Police Department on the Campus Safety Strategic Plan. Chief Barton went to most of the welcome back events at the beginning of the semester. Mr. Adam Green is the campus relations officer. This is a new

position. COVID is still present. COVID shots (original series) and all boosters will be available at clinics. Flu vaccines will also be offered. There will be vaccination opportunities this fall. UPD will be working with the CHPW in October events on the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of October.

Officers are very busy working with the campus community. Last Thursday night there was an off campus shooting at Gamecock Village. During this situation a large crowd had gathered. One person pulled a gun during an argument. The suspect was apprehended by the police. No emergency alert was issued because the threat was eliminated with apprehension of the gunman. No statement was given because the Jacksonville Police Department did not give a community statement that night. Instead, the statement was sent out next day. The University Police Department followed their procedure. Senator Dempsey questioned why the statement was not at least sent to faculty to keep them informed. Chief Barton said that if no statement was issued the public does not need to worry about it. The Pointe was put on alert. Chief Barton will meet with President Killingsworth coming up and they will establish a clear procedure for when it is expected to alert campus.

Senators questioned why the campus wide Emergency notification was not sent out. They are making sure all updates are working properly before a test of the system is sent out which will probably occur at the end of September. This system is commonly used in severe weather situations or if there is a threat near or on campus.

Strategic goals are shared so faculty can provide feedback. View the link on website and email any feedback to Chief Barton.

<https://www.jsu.edu/police/aboutus/departgoals.html> Faculty need to let the senators for their college know of any feedback so this can be the conduit for the information. When senators send the information to Chief Barton, copy Wendy Stephens so there is a copy of information sent from Faculty senate.

New business

- **Lifecycle for Faculty Senate Minutes**

Currently, there are TWO locations for prior meeting minutes, the Faculty Senate website, and the Digital Commons. We want to streamline this by having only THIS year's monthly minutes on the FS website to avoid confusion and duplication of effort.

1. One week after monthly meeting – Senators will receive DRAFT minutes for department distribution
2. Next month – Senators will approve DRAFT minutes; APPROVED minutes will be posted to the Faculty Senate website (to Web Services via Historian)
3. End-of-year – All APPROVED monthly minutes will be compiled into a single document and housed in the Digital Commons (to Bethany Latham at Houston Cole via Historian)

Wendy worked with Bethany Latham to update the Faculty Senate minutes to the Digital repository. Minutes from this year will be in the Faculty Senate canvas course and then compiled to put in the digital repository. Share the important topics from the draft minutes with the faculty in your college. Minutes will be approved next month and then sent to the Faculty Senate website.

- **Committee Assignments-** These assignments have been done on a voluntary basis in the past. They will be assigned this year. Send an email to Dr. Stephens if there is one committee you are wanting to be on. If you do not have previous experience on one committee, then you may want to choose that committee to gain a broad knowledge of the workings of the Faculty Senate.
- **Scholar's Code** – Will be discussed in the next Faculty Senate meeting. Feedback will be requested. Senators Dodd and Duckett were on this committee if there are questions.
 - Honor code- This document is still a draft. Please read this and we will discuss at next meeting.
- **Department heads and Canvas course shells-** There is concern about the department head being in all of the courses. This is not consistent across campus in all Colleges. Some colleges just have the department head in new courses.
- **Anonymous Communication Form**
<http://tinyurl.com/FCconcern>

Next meeting: October 3, 2022- Full Senate. No Faculty senate executive meeting will be held next month.

Policy on animal experimentation will be sent out for feedback. Provide all feedback to Dr. Wendy Stephens.

Adjourn- A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Dr. Reggie Overton. Dr. Allison Newton provided a second.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.