

Present: Jess Godbey, Tray Ridlen, Jenna Ridlen, Mark Sciuchetti, Sayyed Shah, Wendy Stephens, Christopher Murtagh, Michael Alvidrez, Allison Newton, Katelyn Walker, Reggie Overton, Karlie Johnson, Yingqi Tang, Jeff Dodd, Nathan Wight, Chris Inman, Heidi Dempsey, Jeremy Ross, Kimberly Wickersham, Helen Kaibara, Erica Hardy, Jianping Huang, Jewel Johnson, Andres Crawley, Rashad Ahmed, James Watkins, William Hankins, Carrie Kirk
Absent: Laura Barrow, Ahmad Alhammouri, Monica Trifas, Travis Easterling, Gordon Harvey
Jacksonville State University
Faculty Senate
April 10, 2023
Houston Cole Library 1103C

Agenda

1. The meeting was called to order by President Stephens at 3:15 pm.
2. A motion was made for approval of the agenda by Senator Overton. A second was given by Senator Johnson.
3. A motion was made to approve the March 2023 minutes by Senator Alvidrez. A second was provided by Senator Johnson.
4. Provost Shelton presented a systems update regarding Banner talking to canvas. She introduced the team that is working on this update. The merge should be introduced in Summer 2024. This merge will allow Canvas to send grades into Banner. Navigate will also be able to communicate with Canvas after the merge is complete. This merge was a request from faculty. Provost Shelton reported that Fall 2022 there were 2683 courses on the schedule. Only 1918 of these courses had published canvas courses. In 765 of the courses, the students had no connection with their instructor through Canvas. Only, 67.91 % of faculty are utilizing Canvas as of now. Provost Shelton requested that faculty need to think about how to get faculty to utilize Canvas. The Faculty Senate proposed a need for a Senator and SGA representative be appointed to the Team working on this merge. The chair of the committee is Shelena Cofield.
5. Provost Shelton and Registrar, Emily White attended the meeting to discuss the proposed calendar for academic year 2024-2025.

The Faculty Senate request for a consistent start day each semester has been met on this proposed calendar. It will be a Wednesday each semester. It was reported that Student Affairs surveyed the students about the Final exam schedule. The survey showed that 25% prefer a Wednesday through Tuesday final exam week and 75% prefer to have a Monday through Friday schedule week. Students also want to have a week between Thanksgiving break and finals. Provost Shelton also stated that they would be talking to the President regarding break options. On this proposed calendar, the Fall 2024 midterm will be Friday October 11th. Faculty Senate is requesting no class for Thursday and Friday (October 10-11) of midterm week to be used as professional development days that faculty must use for grading, etc. The need for time for grading is why the professional development days are requested. Senators want to have more time for grading so that grades are accurate since it is required to put grades in for all students. Provost Shelton suggested that instead of

calling these Professional Development days maybe it would be best to call them student advisement days. President Killingsworth is agreeing tentatively at this time.

If we have the week off after Thanksgiving, that will push graduation back to December 20th which will be a problem for the registrar's office.

For Spring 2025, class begins on a Wednesday again for consistency. The professional development days will be February 27-28. Spring break coincides with the Jacksonville City School system. Final exams will be April 23-29th. Graduation will be May 2, 2025. The Provost brought up the idea of front loading finals for Gen Ed classes. Senator Dempsey feels that would be a mistake. It was agreed by the Faculty Senate that a Monday start in Summer is preferred.

The point of further discussion is midterm grades being submitted later and this will be further discussed with the Dean's and President's council.

SGA President Jewel Johnson expressed that she spoke to more than SGA regarding the time frame of finals. She surveyed many students and they prefer Monday through Friday final exams. The SGA Presidential cabinet said that they agreed with M-F and they are made up of one senator from each college.

The 2025-2026 academic year calendar proposal is needed by mid-September 2023. The goal is to have three Academic calendars approved at all times. The calendar provided is a recommendation until the President signs off.

Preview day for Fall 2023 is scheduled on Labor Day weekend. Faculty Senate voiced their concern about this. Provost Shelton said that looking at it from a parent perspective it may be a great option. The pros and cons will be weighed. President Killingsworth suggesting Emily Messer to respond.

There will be a Faculty Senate Reception at the President's House compliments of the JSU Foundation. The date will be announced.

6. Dr. Sciuchetti worked on the bylaws for Faculty Senate elections. The biggest change will be for the vice-president to shadow president to meetings, etc. Senator Sciuchetti made a motion to table this until fall and a second is given by Senator Dempsey. There was no opposition to this by the senate.
7. Senator Dempsey and Senator Sciuchetti introduced themselves and talked about what they can bring to the Faculty Senate in the vice-president role. Elections took place for offices during the next academic year and votes were counted from virtual attendees and those that were present. There were 26 responses which is a quorum. Senator Dempsey will serve in the Vice-President role. Senator Wickersham will serve in the role of Secretary. Senator Johnson will serve in the role of Historian. Senator Overton will move from Vice-President to the Presidential role.
8. Senator Dempsey spoke with the Provost about the survey requesting feedback for goals during the next academic year.
9. The Welfare Committee Resolutions were discussed.
 - The resolution for the cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) will be 10 %. Eighty percent of the communication to President Stephens this academic year has been about compensation. Senator Alvidrez made the motion to send this resolution forward to

the President and board of trustees. Dr. Shah provided a 2nd to this motion. All were in favor. There was no opposition.

- Tuition Support- A resolution was also presented reemphasizing the importance of tuition support as a faculty benefit. A motion to send this resolution forward was made by Senator Ridlen and a 2nd was provided by Senator Johnson. A vote was taken and all Senators were in favor and there was no opposition.
- The resolution regarding overload contracts will be sent back to the Welfare Committee. The motion was made by Senator Overton and a 2nd was provided by Senator Dempsey. All senators were in favor of this motion and there was no opposition.

New business

Old business

- Anonymous Communication Form
<http://tinyurl.com/FCconcern>

Thank you for representing your departments so ably!

President Stephens thanked everyone for their service on Faculty Senate. She feels that a lot of progress on communication of information was made. President Stephens feels that moving forward faculty compensation should be addressed and presented to the Board of Trustees. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 5:35p by Senator Overton and a 2nd was provided by Senator J. Ridlen.