

Jacksonville State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
December 11, 2023
3:15 pm Houston Cole Library

In Attendance: In attendance: T. Ridlen, J. Ridlen, M. Sciuchetti, P. McGrail, C. Murtagh, A. Balilaj, M. Boynton, B. Hankins, L. Ingwerson, C. Clark, C. Huang, K. Johnson, M. Trifas, J. Dodd, D. Okimoto, C. Hosmer, S. Mikel, L. Barrow, H. Dempsey, K Wickersham, J. Ross, R. Overton, T. Thatch SGA President and Ethan Ray, SGA Director of Student Advancement.

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. Noted that Staff Senate was approved by Dr. Killingsworth.

1. Adoption of Agenda: Dr. J. Ridlen made a motion to accept the agenda. Dr. L. Ingwerson seconded.
2. Approval of the Minutes: Dr. J. Ridlen made a motion to accept the minutes as read. Dr. L. Ingwerson seconded.
3. Dr. Stone Vice-Provost:
 - a. Discussed the changes to the General Education Requirements:
 - i. Will launch in Fall 2024
 - ii. JAX MIX (merging innovative)
 - iii. What is unique is it is possibly the only gen ed program in country to have micro credentialing built into the courses. Currently they are developing 5 focus options with core courses. Dr. Stone gave an overview of the courses related to the focus options. Noted students would have to complete the classes, attend an event, and complete a project. The credentialing will be housed in CANVAS.
 - iv. Dr. Stone noted that this is our QEP (Quality Enhancement Plan) and all need to know about it (students, staff, and faculty).
 - v. Discussion: Dr. T. Ridlen asked about the 5 foci. Dt. Stone noted that we are only doing 5 right now then will expand. At some point there may even be a director, assessment coordinator, etc. Hoping it will build from a certificate to a major.
 - vi. Dr. Stone noted that the Conference is paying for the band and the team to travel to New Orleans for the bowl game. JSU did not occur expenses related to the travel. Dr. Dempsey also noted that we will not have a live band at graduation as they will leave Thursday for New Orleans.
 - b. Ms. T Thatch (SGA President) and Mr. E. Ray (SGA Director of Student Advancement) stated that they would like feedback on letting students know where they stand due to absences. Wanted to know the pros and the cons of making students aware of how many classes missed. Dr. J. Ridlen noted that this is most definitely the job of faculty and CANVAS/NAVIGATE don't communicate. Additionally, Dr. Mikel stated that she does attendance in Navigate. Dr. Overton asked what encourage this topic. Ms. Thatch noted that students are having issues keeping up with their absences. Drs. McGrail and Clark noted that every department has different expectations, but they are in the syllabus if

students will read this they should know the repercussions of being absent. Dr. Dempsey noted that students are encouraged to find out about the attendance policies for each course. However, she found it to be a problem especially for transfer students who might not have to take the STU course.

4. Reports:

- a. President: Dr. Overton noted that both he and Dr. Dempsey have been included in numerous committees and it seems that Faculty Senate presence is more notable on campus this year. He stated that there is a large list of projects that are being undertaken, but he wants to accomplish these by the time Dr. Dempsey's Presidency is over. Dr. Overton also noted that the BOT will meet in Meehan Hall in January 2024 so Faculty Senate meeting will still be held in HCL 1103C.
- b. Vice-President Dempsey: See attached report.
When discussing faculty salaries Dr. Dempsey noted that 46% of tuition rates is what we have to work with for salaries for faculty. Dr. J. Ridlen had questions regarding why the faculty were being charged with fixing the budget for faculty salaries. Dr. Dempsey described and stated that it is not that administration is "putting" this on faculty to fix, but that they are wanting us to see what is going on and be transparent. Additional discussion ensued between Vice-President Dempsey and Senators.

5. Committee Reports:

- a. There are no committee reports. Dr. Ingwerson noted that they will have more by the January and February meetings.

6. Unfinished Business:

- a. There was no volunteer to complete the 2023-2024 term as Secretary. Dr. Dempsey opened the floor for interim secretary for one semester. Dr. Wickersham nominated Dr. Chris Clark. Dr. Hankins closed the nominations. Dr. Clark accepted and all Senators in favor. The motion passed.
- b. No departmental concerns were noted.
- c. The meeting was adjourned at 4:17 pm with a motion by Dr. J. Ridlen and seconded by Dr. K. Wickersham

Respectfully Submitted by:



Dr. Kimber Wickersham
JSU Faculty Senate Secretary