

Faculty Senate Agenda
April 8, 2024
3:15 pm HCL 1101AB

2023-2024: T. Ridlen, J. Ridlen, M. Sciuchetti, K. Walker, R. Ahmed, L. Ingwerson, M. Trifas, J. Dodd, C. Hosmer, J. Watkins, J. Godbey, P. McGrail, W. Hankins, C. Huang, E. Hardy, B. Norvell, C. Clark, R. Overton, S. Mikel, L. Barrow, A. Crawley, C. Murtagh, A. Newton, D. Okimoto, H. Dempsey, J. Ross, J. Long (for K. Wickersham), K. Johnson, C. Kirk

Ex-officio - S Cofield (for C. Inman)

2023-2024 Alternates: M Burns (Biology), R. Burns (History and Foreign Language), M. Trifas (MCIS), J. Watkins (Theatre and Film), L. Pitts (Library)

Guests: none

2024 – 2025: T. Ridlen, J. Ridlen, K. Caitlin, K. Walker, R. Ahmed, L. Ingwerson, D. Thornton, D. Dempsey, C. Hosmer, S. Beeman, J. Godbey, P. McGrail, W. Hankins, Y. Lu, E. Hardy, S. Gill, B. Norvell, C. Clark, A. Gilbert, S. Mikel, L. Barrow, W. Key, A. Crawley, C. Murtagh, A. Newton, P. Robertson, H. Dempsey, B. Turgeon, J. Long, A. Boswell, N. Freeman,

Ex-officio - S Cofield (for C. Inman)

Guests: none

Key: Green – present, Red – absent

- I. Introduction – President Overton
A question was raised about the schedule for next year, as it is different from what was in the past with only one meeting per month. Although the Constitution states that Senate must meet at least once a month and the bylaws state that the President shall announce the schedule of meetings, the Executive Committee went into executive session to unanimously confirm that we would have two meetings a month moving forward.
- II. Approval of Minutes – First Mark Sciuchetti, seconded Allison Newton (All in favor, none opposed)
- III. Welcoming of New Senators!
- IV. Vice President Report by Dr. Heidi Dempsey
 - a. **Thank you to President Overton for his leadership and hard work this year!**
 - b. **College check-ins:** Dr. Dempsey has been attending these to address questions related to Faculty Senate; please come to yours if you are able
 - c. **Salary Committee:** has submitted their official proposal for base faculty salary adjustments using the model presented to faculty at the salary discussions. We are awaiting feedback on this from the President and salary consultants.
 - d. **Faculty and Staff going to Montgomery:** Please check in with Leigha Cauthen - Chief External Affairs Officer – before you go if you are going on behalf of the university; she can update you on what is happening and help you navigate; even if you are going on your own behalf we recommend checking with her as a resource to help you

- e. **Senate Resolutions:** There was apparently some confusion in the faculty survey about Dr. Shelton's communication to Senate regarding resolutions. She did not say Senate could not make resolutions, rather she said that she preferred that we first attempt to work with the people to develop the policies/make the changes we are asking for and then do a resolution if we hit roadblocks. But, it is still ultimately our choice which route we go and that she will gladly receive any resolutions we send her.
 - f. **Canvas Shell:** The Canvas shell for next year will now include alternates so they can have access to all information so they will be up to speed if they have to step in.
 - g. **Website:** Chris Newsome does not want Senate to have direct access to our website, so we are working on ways that we could change how it is updated to be able to make changes more easily to increase transparency
 - h. **New Faculty Orientation:** Dr. Dempsey is working with Mica to include a larger piece about Faculty Senate, Shared Governance, and changes to the Faculty Handbook
 - i. **SB-129** – we have formed a university committee to begin examining the implications of this and Mr. Harley is working through the legal aspects of it as it pertains to JSU. If you have concerns about specific issues with SB-129 that you are afraid might be overlooked, please contact Dr. Heidi Dempsey about this as she is the faculty point person on this committee. We will have a Called Faculty Meeting on Aug 19 to address this with full faculty. Senate Executive Committee has directed Dr. Dempsey to talk to the state faculty senate presidents' group about the possibility of a joint response to this.
 - j. **Policy Feedback: II.05.01 - Grant and Sponsored Program Approval** – received feedback and adjusted the policy; will look at the revised policy ASAP
 - k. **Policy Feedback: I.01.01 – Policy on Policies** – finalizing this with Deans' Council; we will only have one Senate rep on the new, smaller University Executive Council committee
 - l. **Review of Policy I.05.04 - Code of Conduct** – Just posted on Canvas. Need feedback by 4/25.
- V. Elections & Passing of the Gavel to the new President
- a. Vice President
 - b. Secretary
 - c. Historian
- VI. Committee Updates: I have asked all committee chairs to provide me a yearly report so that the chair of the committee next year is aware of projects that were in progress and those that were finished in order to smooth the transition
- a. Policies – updates later this week
 - b. Advocacy – will update at a later date
 - c. Admissions and Academic Policy: President is talking about the undergraduate admissions committee at the check-ins
 - d. Faculty Honors: starting to review faculty research grants; will work on guidelines to formalize how voting takes place
 - e. Faculty Handbook: working this summer on revisions; Senate is going to have to approve changes in fall.
 - f. Bylaws Revision – First Katelyn Walker, seconded Mark S (did not see opposed?)
 - i. Approval of bylaws revisions submitted at March 11 meeting
 - ii. Section 1 - Changed committee names and descriptions
 - iii. Section 2 - Much more detail about officer roles and responsibilities
 - iv. Meetings are open unless President closes them; if closed only voting members may attend
 - v. President can call a meeting of the full faculty

- vi. President/VP will meet monthly with JSU President/Provost
 - vii. New workload plan requirement and compensation for President/VP
 - viii. Added Past-President role description
 - ix. Section 3 - If you are removed from Senate by your department for cause, you are not eligible to serve in Senate again
 - x. Section 6 - Faculty Commons, online@jsu, and department head council rep as ex officio, non-voting members (Provost already ex-officio member)
 - xi. Section 8 – how to vote on policies
- VII. New business
- a. Scholar’s Code Revisions – mainly editorial, but please read. Carrie Kirk spoke about progress
 - b. Final Exam Schedule
 - i. Is the 2-hour time allotment for final exams sufficient, too little, or too much time?
 - ii. For Fall 2024
 - 1. Option A: Thursday = 7:30, 11:00, 2:30 (9:15 & 12:45 following Tuesday)
 - 2. Option B: Thursday = 9:15, 12:45 (7:30, 11:00, 2:30 following Tuesday)
 - 3. Is there a thought process of having a day or two after the last day to grades
 - 4. Nothing about online asynchronous courses which can be a conflict with a physical class
 - 5. Suggestion to work with Heidi as she worked on the academic calendar and need to coordinate it
 - 6. Can the schedule be more prominently displayed on website with a link on academic calendar
 - c. Anything else?
- VIII. Moving forward
- a. New Senator Orientation
 - b. Senators’ responsibilities in summer (UEC)
 - c. Committee assignments and committee chairs for next year
 - i. Committees met and voted on chairs so the Executive Committee would be filled for the year.
 - d. Election results –
 - President elect – David Dempsey
 - Secretary – Chris Clark
 - Historian – Barbie Norvell

Dates

Faculty Awards April 18 in Leone Cole (Cocktails/food at 3:30, Awards at 4:30) – 2023-2024 Senators will be recognized!

Commencement May 3 (CBI & CSBS 9:00; CAHS 1:00; CHPW 4:00; CEPS 7:00)

Board of Trustees April 29/30; July 15/16

August 19: Faculty/Staff Convocation at 8:00; Called Faculty Meeting 10:00-12:00 in Merrill B10; Faculty Senate at 3:15 in Merrill B01

- IX. Motion to adjourn –**K. Johson first, C. Clark seconded**