

Minutes | CHSS Faculty Assembly Meeting

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 | 3:00-4:15

- **Call to Order**
 - CHSS Faculty Assembly Chair Jim Blevins called the meeting to order at 3:00. There was a quorum of Faculty and staff members in attendance on Zoom.
- **Announcements from the Dean**
 - Reminder of this year's theme for the College: Recalibration
 - COVID was a major disrupter
 - of a very predictable pattern of enrollment growth, and therefore financial health of the college (that the college had enjoyed since GMU's transition to the budget incentive model in 2015/16)
 - extraordinary how well we pivoted to online instruction (and subsequently portfolio of choice for students w hybrid offerings)
 - but also new dimensions of unpredictability (enrollment patterns, student credit hour loads, student traffic)
 - dipped into reserves to keep staff employed, kept hiring, kept working on compensation/retention issues
 - allocations to depts to incentivize and support enrollment growth—failed to materialize across the college as a whole
 - Overextended financially and need to recalibrate
 - Provost asking colleges to identify opportunities to enhance or establish cross-collage and/or cross-unit collaborations; as well as shared services, shared people, and/or shared programs—internal to Mason and across the Commonwealth. We will be following up with chairs and directors over next couple months to consider curriculum duplication, replication concerns, and emerging opportunities for partnership
 - 2022-23 CHSS shared governance refinement projects—update
 - Develop local academic unit workload guidelines Workload Workshop Series: Representatives from each department/program met in August to review new guidelines and to establish a learning community to lead LAU work. Additional workshops scheduled for December 8 and February (TBD).
 - College bylaws changes • CHSS RPT committee constituted in entirety or majority by full professors? (Provost has requested consideration) • CHSS representation on Mason Chairs Forum executive committee and election process – update needed to CHSS Faculty Assembly Chairs and Directors Committee charge
 - Term Faculty Affairs Committee: developing term faculty promotion guidelines
 - Research Center review for re-chartering/chartering (Resources and Long-Term Planning Committee) • AbuSulayman Center for Global Islamic Studies • Center for Social Science Research • Center for Mason Legacies • Institute for Immigration Research • Institute for Philosophy and Public Policy • Watershed Lit: Center for Literary Engagement and Publishing Practice For a complete listing of current CHSS-chartered research centers, see: <https://chss.gmu.edu/research/chss-research->

centers For a complete listing of University institutes and research centers, see:
<https://www2.gmu.edu/research/institutes-and-centers>

- Begin consideration of updates to CHSS RPT guidelines “Bottom-up” process for considering substantive updates: Who: working group • Focus group work with constituents + research on national peer practices Possible scope of work “themes”: • elimination of book-based vs. article-based discipline distinction? • refinement of collaborative authorship guidelines? • consideration of born-digital scholarly projects and peer review processes? • consideration of Spring ‘21 editorial work survey results; • DEI and community-based research? • public humanities research, scholarship, and creative activity Proposed timeline: Spring ‘23 “discovery process” Fall ‘23 engagement of standing RPT committee Spring ‘24 - first review by Faculty Assembly at first mtg Spring ‘24 - presentation for vote at 2nd mtg AY 2024-25 implementation
- Save the dates
 - 12/1 BOV meeting – and release of University Strategic Plan after BOV approval
 - 12/8 LAU workload guidelines workshop
 - January '23 – date/time still TBD University Finances and Budget Incentive Model workshop, Deb Dickenson and Kim Dight
 - 2/15 Faculty Assembly
 - 5/3 Faculty Assembly
- Mason’s current Carnegie classification: R1 (Very High Research)
 - 4-year or above • Public • Student population: 35,984 (Fall 2017) • Doctoral university/very high research activity [awards at least 20 research/scholarship doctoral degrees and has at least \$5M in total research expenditures (NSF HERD Survey)] • Balanced arts & sciences/professions • High graduate coexistence • Research doctoral: comprehensive; no medical/veterinary school • Enrollment profile: high undergraduate • Undergraduate profile: four-year, full-time, more selective; higher transfer-in • Size and setting: four-year, large, primarily residential [25-49% live on campus OR 50+% attend full-time]
<https://carnegieclassifications.iu.edu/>
- ACE/Carnegie reclassification project
 - Release 2024
 - <https://www.acenet.edu/News-Room/Pages/Carnegie-Classifications-Teams-Experts.aspx>
 - their re-thinking maps well onto GMU/CHSS’s core values
- **Announcements from the Chair**
 - Expression of gratitude to the Faculty Assembly Executive
 - Dr. Courtney Hughes Rinker—incoming Vice-Chair
 - Dr. Deborah Rupp—incoming Secretary
- **Committee Reports**
 - Intellectual Life Committee (Dr. Sun-Young Park)—two upcoming events
 - Dec 9 11am workshop Planning Your Winter Break Writing Workflow
 - Dec 23 Faculty Lunch with Dean Ardis
 - Term Faculty Affairs Committee (Dr. David Corwin)

- Have been working on term promotion guidelines
- Curriculum Committee
 - Have been working on “dusty” items
 - CHSS College Requirement; Social and Behavioral Science—added a way that new courses can be added to this category. Added some new prefixes (GLOA, INTS, WGST). Created process for review.
 - Allowance of “activity credits”. Previously MLSC credits could not count; then this was changed allowing 400-level MLSC credits. Current committee extending this to 100 and 200-level MLSC credits (ROTC)—count toward max activity credits, but not curriculum.
 - Re-writing non-western culture requirement
- Governance and Nominations (Dr. Ted Dumas)
 - Election winners
 - Steve Barns, Art History-governance and nominations
 - Eeka Bastinat, Global Affairs-faculty grievances
 - Run-off voted needed for term faculty affairs
 - Distributed bylaws addendum to the faculty—please read carefully by next meeting so we can discuss and vote on them
- Senate
 - Next meeting is in one week
 - Last meeting approved goals proposed by task force for reimagining faculty roles and rewards
 - Next meeting will include
 - motion to establish a Senate or University standing committee to oversee and implement the work as it moves forward
 - changes from Academic Policies Committee (about withdrawal policies)
 - report on COACHE survey
- **New Business**
 - Request for workshop on CHSS/University Budget Model (tba; slides will be circulated)
 - Addendum regarding space allocation in Horizon Hall (Dr. Zach Schrag; see report)
 - Looked into why Horizon Hall doesn’t have more faculty offices—seems to be a result of reconfiguration due to oddly shaped rooms. Perhaps consider remodeling down the road. Need to think about future buildings—develop process where architecture serves us better.
 - Ted Dumas added sustainability as another important consideration (e.g., LEED)
 - **Next meetings:**
 - Wednesday, February 15: 3:00pm – 4:15pm
 - Wednesday, May 3: 3:00pm – 4:15pm
- **Adjournment**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Deborah E. Rupp, CHSS Faculty Secretary