

Minutes for Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting, Oct. 6 2020

Present (via Zoom): David Armstrong (scribe), Josh Burk (co-Chair), Sarah Day (co-Chair), Maria Donoghue Velleca (Dean), Cathy Levesque, Jack Martin, Peter McHenry

1. We approved the minutes from Sep. 28 2020.
2. Updates from the Dean: the possibility of motions regarding Athletics being presented at the FAS meeting, and applicable parliamentary rules. Maria gave us updates on the university budget, including the upcoming bond sale (starting mid-October), and that FY21 internal budgets would be set soon, so departments and programs should know their budgets shortly. For FY22 there is indication that the Commonwealth is likely to provide less funding for higher education. A recent small uptick in COVID cases among the W&M employees was discussed. SSRs for next year will be considered; the call for proposals will go to the chairs in a few days. Request for contracts for new NTE faculty will be considered. There was discussion of the Provost's pausing of promotions for NTE faculty. Cabinet is discussing preparing for challenges around the upcoming elections. The Dean sought the FACs input on President Rowe's concept of a "strategic pause/stand down" after the end of semester, and how faculty might react to this.
3. Logistics and procedures for today's Arts and Sciences faculty member were discussed. The "chat" will be still be enabled, but faculty will be asked to use that only to request to be recognized to speak.
4. Assuming that the JAMU policy proposal is passed today by the A&S faculty, it will need to next go to PPC for approval; Faculty Assembly will take up the task of modifying the university-wide policy to reconcile it with the new A&S policy, if needed.
5. The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.