

**MINUTES**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**April 22, 2021 – 3:45 pm, Lowrimore Auditorium**

**I. Meeting was called to order by Chair Gourley at 3:45 PM**

**Members present:** All senators were present (except Yanson, Zahnd – excused; Bryngelson)

**Also present:** Hill-Chapman, Steadman, O’Kelley, M. Brauss, Tuttle

**New Senators present:** Boatwright, Krohn, Murphy, Rajagopalan, Shannon, H. Sims, Wada

**II. Minutes from the March 30, 2021 meeting were approved as posted**

**III. Elections**

**a. Vice-Chair of the Faculty – *J. Mark Blackwell***

**b. Secretary of the Faculty – *Karen Fries***

**IV. Reports from standing committees** (The reports are found AFTER the report from the AAC in the Attachment below).

**V. Report from the Executive Committee**

For those who were not at yesterday’s AAUP Forum, Dr. Carter discussed the state’s budget mentioning the current 2% raise currently in the senate budget; he is confident the House will uphold the 2% raise for state employees. Dr. Smolen-Morton has graciously agreed to continue to serve as parliamentarian for the upcoming 2021 – 2022 Academic year. Please be reminded that Administrator Evaluations are due Friday, May 7, 2021. Dr. Sharon O’Kelley has been re-elected to Chair the Academic Affairs Committee for the 2021 – 2022 Academic year and Dr. Cindi Nixon has been elected to chair the Graduate Council.

**VI. Report from the Academic Affairs Committee** (*See the attachment for complete proposals. See the appendix for supporting materials.*)

**1. Proposals from the Honors Program – Passed as written**

A. Modify 397

B. Modify Admissions criteria

**2. Proposals from the Department of Psychology – Passed as written**

A. Modify 270

B. Modify 370

C. Modify 470

**3. Proposal from the Academic Affairs Committee**

A. Removal of flowcharts from the review of the General Education Report – **Passed as written**

B. Response to the 2019-2020 General Education Report (for informational purposes only)

**4. Proposal from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness**

A. Presentation of the 2019-2020 General Education Report - *See appendix for the complete General Education Report*

**VII. Report from the Graduate Council (*See the attachment for complete proposals. See the appendix for supporting materials*).**

There were no proposals sent forth from the GC for this meeting.

**VIII. Old Business - None**

**IX. New Business - None**

**X. Announcements - None**

**XI. Adjourned by Chair Gourley at 3:58 PM**

**Attachment to the Faculty Senate Agenda – April 22, 2021**

**VI. Report from the Academic Affairs Committee**

**1. Proposals from the Honors Program**

A. **MODIFY** on page 169 of the current catalog:

**FROM**

**397 Honors Colloquium** (3) (Prerequisite: Completion of 12 or more hours of Honors courses or permission of Honors Director.) Deals with special topics from an interdisciplinary point of view and provides Honors students with the opportunity to examine subjects which do not fall completely within the purview of any one department or school. Carries elective but not departmental or school credit. May be taken for credit no more than twice. Grades below B do not count toward credit for the Honors degree, although they do count toward regular University

degree requirements. Honors Nursing majors may take IPHC 500 Rural Healthcare as a substitute for Honors 397 Colloquium. Honors students successfully completing a study-abroad semester may apply 3 upper-division transfer hours toward the 397 Colloquium with permission of the Director of FMU Honors.

### TO

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**RATIONALE:** This addition provides more flexibility for Nursing students attempting to complete their degrees With University Honors; there are currently about 30 such students, or 15% of the Honors population. At present, IPHC 500 Rural Health Care does not reasonably fit into some students' degree tracks. IPHC 380 was chosen on the recommendation of the chair of the Department of Healthcare Administration and the Dean of the School of Health Sciences.

**B. MODIFY** on p. 169 of the current catalog:

### FROM

The mission of FMU Honors is to provide the University's highest-performing, most accomplished and motivated students with a unique curriculum and enhanced educational opportunities that reward inquiry, stimulate learning, and promote community outreach initiatives. FMU Honors reflects the University's commitment to innovative instruction, a low student-to-faculty ratio, and out-of-classroom service and experience. FMU Honors is open to students with strong academic records who submit acceptable applications. (Other students may petition for admission to a specific Honors Course.) First-semester freshman applicants **must have achieved a minimum score of 1160 on the SAT (Evidence-Based Reading & Writing and Math), a minimum composite score of 24 on the ACT, or have distinguished themselves in other ways as deserving of Honors admission.** Second-semester freshmen must have earned a grade point average of 3.0 or above to become or remain eligible for Honors. Sophomores, juniors and seniors with an overall grade point average of 3.25 or above are eligible to apply for admission to Honors. Transfer students whose applications are approved may petition for up to 12 hours of transfer Honors credit from NCHC-affiliated institutions. Exchange students from FMU's

international exchange partners are eligible for Honors and may register for Honors courses (as available).

## TO

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**RATIONALE:** Like the University's admission office, Honors has begun considering other measures of preparedness in addition to or instead of test scores, since COVID has made taking those tests problematic or impossible for many students. Also, many universities and Honors program are moving away from the test-score-only gateway and allowing for more holistic criteria.

## **2. Proposals from the Department of Psychology**

- A. **MODIFY** on page 122 of the current catalog, the requirements for enrollment in PSYC-270:

### **FROM**

**270 Beginning Supervised Student Research (1:3)** ~~(Prerequisite: Permission of department.)~~ F, S, SU. This introduction to the laboratory practice of research methods in psychology provides students with familiarity in the basic techniques of data entry and conducting research protocols in the context of ongoing department research. Regular weekly lab meetings will include discussions of special topics. Students may earn a maximum of three-credit hours in 270/370 combined.

## TO

**270 Beginning Supervised Student Research** (1:3) (Prerequisite: Instructor approval, permission of department, and PSYC-206) F, S, SU. This introduction to the laboratory practice of research methods in psychology provides students with familiarity in the basic techniques of data entry and conducting research protocols in the context of ongoing department research. Regular weekly lab meetings will include discussions of special topics. Students may earn a maximum of three-credit hours in 270/370 combined.

**RATIONALE:** The purpose of PSYC-270 is to provide undergraduate students the opportunity to learn more about the research process through involvement in a faculty member's lab. As such, the faculty member must give approval for a student to participate in the faculty member's lab as part of PSYC-270. Otherwise, it is possible for students to sign up for the course without ensuring that the student has Instructor approval, that research assistants are needed for the semester in which the student wishes to take the course, or that the student meets the criteria for research assistants in the faculty member's lab. In addition, students must have completed and passed PSYC-206 prior to enrolling in PSYC-270.

- B. **MODIFY** on page 124 of the current catalog, the requirements for enrollment in PSYC-370:

## FROM

**370 Intermediate Supervised Student Research** (2:6) or (1:3) (Prerequisite: 302 and permission of department.) F, S, or SU. Directed research in psychology guides students in detailed laboratory work such as behavioral coding of department research projects. Regular weekly lab meetings will include discussions of special topics and allow students to develop their own research questions. Students may earn a maximum of three credit hours in 270/370 combined.

## TO

**370 Intermediate Supervised Student Research** (2:6) or (1:3) (Prerequisite: Instructor approval, permission of department, and PSYC-302) F, S, or SU. Directed research in psychology guides students in detailed laboratory work such as behavioral coding of department research projects. Regular weekly lab meetings will include discussions of special topics and allow students to develop their own research questions. Students may earn a maximum of three credit hours in 270/370 combined.

**RATIONALE:** The purpose of PSYC-370 is to provide undergraduate students the opportunity to learn more about the research process through involvement in a faculty member's lab. As such, the faculty member must give approval for a student to participate in the faculty member's lab as part of PSYC-370. This is in addition to receiving department permission and successful completion of PSYC-302 prior to the student's enrollment in the course. Otherwise, it is possible for students to sign up for the course without ensuring that the student has Instructor approval,

that research assistants are needed for the semester in which the student wishes to take the course, or that the student meets the criteria for research assistants in the faculty member's lab.

C. **MODIFY** on page 124 of the current catalog, the requirements for enrollment in PSYC-470:

**FROM**

**470 Senior Research (3)** (Prerequisite: Senior standing and one Experimental Core course) F, S, or SU. Directed psychological research under the supervision of faculty member. Research content will vary depending upon faculty and student's research interests. All individual research is reviewed by a faculty committee.

**TO**

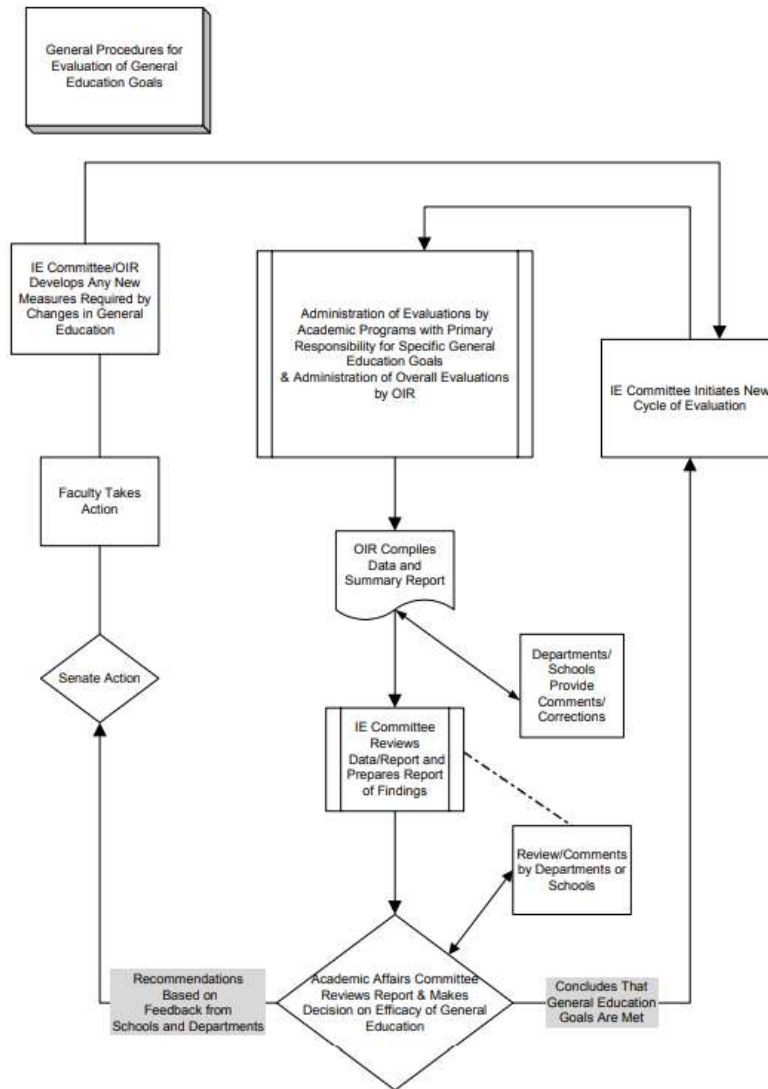
**470 Senior Research (3)** (Prerequisite: Instructor approval, permission of department, PSYC-302, and senior standing) F, S, or SU. Directed psychological research under the supervision of faculty member. Research content will vary depending upon faculty and student's research interests. All individual research is reviewed by a faculty committee.

**RATIONALE:** The purpose of PSYC-470 is to provide undergraduate students the opportunity to learn more about the research process through involvement in a faculty member's lab, supervision as they complete their own independent project, and eventual presentation of the research to a faculty committee. As such, the faculty member must give approval for a student to participate in the faculty member's lab as part of PSYC-470. This is in addition to receiving department permission and successful completion of PSYC-302 prior to the student's enrollment in the course. Otherwise, it is possible for students to sign up for the course without ensuring that the student has Instructor approval, that research assistants are needed for the semester in which the student wishes to take the course, or that the student meets the criteria for completing this course. This also removes the Experimental Core class requirement, as the Experimental Core is no longer a part of the undergraduate psychology major requirements.

### **3. Proposals from the Academic Affairs Committee**

- A. To make the review of the annual General Education Report more efficient, the committee proposes that all flowcharts associated with such review, such as the one adopted by the Faculty in 2005, be discarded. In place of the flowcharts, it is proposed that a simplified process be followed in which the Institutional Effectiveness Committee delivers the annual report to the Academic Affairs Committee who in turn reports its findings to the Senate.

**Appendix A: Flow Chart for Process of General Education Assessment**



**B. Response to the 2019-2020 General Education Report (for informational purposes only)**

1. After a review of the 2019-2020 General Education Report, the Academic Affairs Committee finds that the General Education goals are presently being met under the current model of assessment as indicated by student responses on the Exit Survey. The committee also recognizes the unique strain placed on data collection and evaluation during the pandemic and encourages the continued progress of departments toward meeting the target standard for their student learning outcomes.

**4. Proposal from the Office of Institutional Effectiveness**

A. Presentation of the 2019-2020 General Education Report - *See appendix for the complete General Education Report*

## **IV. Reports from 2020 – 2021 – Francis Marion University Committees**

### **Academic Affairs Committee**

The activities of the Academic Affairs Committee can be found in the 2020 – 2021 minutes of the Faculty Senate.

### **Academic Freedom and Tenure Grievance**

Academic Freedom and Tenure Grievance had no cases arise and thus had no reason to meet. – Jo Angela Edwins

### **Accreditation**

#### **Summary of Accreditation Committee Meetings for REAL Proposal Reviews for 2020-2021**

**Meeting 11/5/2020** - Our budget was reduced to 80% due to the pandemic but we also had a lot fewer proposals (7) because of the limitations of interaction and travel also due to the pandemic. After a brief discussion, the committee agreed to fund all of the proposals at the requested amounts.

**Meeting 4/8/2021** - Due to the pandemic, the REAL budget is set at 80% of its normal amount. Four projects approved in Fall 2019 that were to take place in the Spring of 2020 were extended to Fall of 2021 due to the Covid 19 pandemic. The costs for these projects are to be taken from the 2021-2022 budget. For this semester, 18 projects were submitted for review. These projects are intended for Fall 2021. All proposals were approved by the committee.

Dr. Jennifer Kelley

### **Admissions, Advising, and Retention**

### **Faculty Grievance**

### **Faculty Life**

\* The **Faculty Life Committee** met twice this academic year, 2020-2021. In the fall, we reviewed the nominee for this year's Moran Address, which was a continuation from last year due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We also approved the timeline for faculty awards and considered the issue of Secret Ballot voting, which was deferred to the Nominating Committee. In the Spring, we met to select the winners of the faculty awards in teaching, research, and service.

Caroline S. Padgett, Ph.D.



## **Grade Appeals**

Grade Appeals Committee End of the Year report

The Grades Appeals committee met December 2020 to discuss, evaluate, and vote on one grade appeal case. After reviewing the materials, we made a decision and then notified the Provost, Department Chair, faculty member, and the student.

Submitted by,  
Lindsey E. Banister

## **Graduate Council**

The activities of the Graduate Council can be found in the 2020 – 2021 minutes of the Faculty Senate.

## **Honors Program**

### **FMU HONORS REPORT 2020-2021**

FMU Honors currently has 191 members. During any given semester, it averages about 200 members.

At the fall 2020 commencement, two students graduated With University Honors—fewer than is typical (around six). At the Spring 2021 commencement, twelve students will graduate With University Honors—more, obviously, than is typical.

In 2020-21, Honors offered the following Special Topics courses in addition to the standard general education courses like English 101/102, Econ 203/204, etc.:

#### **Fall**

H200/Science Symposium  
H201/Humanities & Social Science Symposium  
H397/Artificial Intelligence  
H259/Adulting  
H268/Punk & Literature  
H250/Food: Politics and Policy

#### **Spring**

H202/Leadership Symposium  
H203/Service Symposium  
H397/History of Sex  
H251/Liberalism & Conservatism  
H260/Literature of Disaster  
H269/American Ghost Stories  
H350/Model UN

**The Honors Student Advisory Council** was less active than in years past, owing to COVID 19. The spring trip to Italy was scuttled in 2021, as was the fall 2020 trip to Philadelphia. In-person activities like the Defy Trampoline room and Haunted Hayride were likewise cancelled, though the HSAC did sponsor outdoor events like Putt-Putt (twice), kickball (five times), a Murder Mystery party (once), and virtual events like KaHoots and online movie nights.

Thomas Dixon received the Duane P. Myers Honors Award, and Carlie Fusco received the HSAC Award.

In January, Honors moved into its offices into the new Honors Center and located all of its courses there.

Submitted April 12, 2021  
Dr. Jon Tuttle  
Director, FMU Honors

### **Information Technology**

IT Committee Report

The IT Committee held informal discussions throughout the year via email. We held no formal meetings as there was no business to address.

-N Harness

### **Institutional Effectiveness**

Institutional Effectiveness (IE) Committee's Spring 2021 Report Submitted by Rachel N. Spear,  
IE Committee Chair  
April 20, 2021

During the 2020-2021 academic year, the IE Committee met three times (once in the fall and twice in the spring). In addition, the Director of Institutional Effectiveness and IE Committee Chair held brief meetings prior to those meetings to discuss agenda items and for general preparations. Also, a subcommittee was formed to lead action items related to the General Education IE Report, taking its plan backing to the larger committee.

During the fall, the committee completed review of a couple outstanding reports. During the spring, the committee reviewed the General Education Report and outlined concrete objectives to work towards improving the method of collection and analysis of the data. The committee developed the below action items related to the General Education Report:

- To review and align goals with courses within the General Education curriculum
- To determine what courses should still submit data based on that alignment
- To standardize the method of submitting data, possibly automating that method

- To decide whether all data should be collected annually or whether implementing an appropriate rotation method for those submitting data would capture needed results
- To determine a method for evaluating the data presented, such as establishing a percentage of desired SLOs met within each goal

The committee's action items revolve around enhancing uniformity with the assessment process in attempts to improve the collection and analysis of data. The goal is to work with how contributors are currently assessing matters and implement a standard method on how to report results while simultaneously creating an effective way to measure those results within each of the General Education goals.

In addition, four members were elected to join the IE Committee at the last General Faculty meeting.

During the final IE Committee meeting (04/26/21) of the semester, the committee will go over the review process in preparation for its summer review of all submitted IE reports. Each report will have two readers and will be scored based on the committee's rubric.

## **Mediation**

## **Nominating**

Nominating Committee End of year Report

Members: Allison Munn, Tiffany Phillips, Anna-Katherine Townsend, Lindsey Banister, Sophia Waymyers, Hubert Setzler (chair).

We conducted faculty elections in October 2020 (makeup elections due to the canceling faculty meeting in April 2020), February 2021, and April 2021.

In addition to conducting elections, we discussed the need for, and this case not the need for, having elections with faculty able to vote remotely. After a long discussion it was determined that due to constitutional, technical, and administrative reasons this would not be worth pursuing. We submitted our recommendation of not changing the voting procedure for something that would not be enduring.

Discussion of voting device upgrades is on the agenda for the next year for the Nominating Committee.

Submitted by,  
Hubert H. Setzler III

## **PEAK**

### **Year End Report for the PEAK Committee**

The PEAK Committee awarded 22 grants to faculty to fund new and existing activities that develop students' professional knowledge and career-readiness skills. The total amount awarded for the 2020/2021 school year was \$55,468.45.

Marie DeVincenzo, Ph.D.

## **Professional Development**

The Professional Development Committee has met six times so far, this Academic year, with its last meeting on Tuesday, April 20th.

During this academic year, and with a reduced budget due to the pandemic, the Committee approved the following awards:

- A total of seven Sabbaticals were awarded for the 2021-22 Academic year
- A total of 14 Summer Research Stipends were funded for a total of \$56,000
  - o Eleven for non-tenured faculty
  - o Three for tenured faculty
- A total of 23 Research Grant requests have been funded for a total of over \$36,000
  - o An increase of seven from last year
- A total of 69 Conference/Workshop/Course proposals have been funded for the current Academic year, for a total of over \$40,000.
  - o This is only 37% of the number of proposals received last year

Lorna Cintron-Gonzalez, PhD

## ***Sabbatical/Reassigned time subcommittee***

The sabbatical sub-committee met one time this academic year in January. The committee processed seven proposals from faculty members for the 2021-2022 academic year, making recommendations to the Provost. – Shayna A. Wrighten