

**ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS ANNUAL REPORT  
GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE 2021-22**

**April 2022**

**Committee Members:**

Lisa Billingham (CVPA – 2023) Chair, Ginny Blair (CHHS – 2023), Jamie Clark (CHSS – Spring 2022) Charlotte Gill (CHSS – Fall 2021) Ken Griffin (CHHS – 2023) Greg Robinson (CVPA – Spring 2022) Jessica Scarlata (CHSS-Fall 2021).

The committee focused this academic year on 1) assisting the President’s Office search and Faculty Ombudsperson position, 2) examining and preparing edits and clarification to the Faculty Senate Bylaws and Committee Charge charges, and 3) the annual calculation of Faculty Senate representation. Our committee continues to review the overall processes of the Faculty Senate related to its charge.

**Faculty Ombudsperson**

Two members of the Organizations and Operations Committee, Lisa Billingham (Search Char) and Ginny Blair were part of the official search for the new Faculty Ombudsperson that began in the Summer of 2021. The search process included full-day visits by three finalists. Kimberly Jackson Davidson was named the Mason Faculty Ombudsperson and began her duties on February 15, 2022. The Faculty Senate and Office of the President hosted an official welcome for Ms. Davidson on March 3, 2022.

**Faculty Senate Bylaws Revisions and Committee Charges**

**Bylaws Revisions**

The Organizations and Operations Committee has spent much of the academic year preparing changes that will be forwarded to the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate for review and subsequent revision with a series of track changes for consideration. As the Bylaws of the Faculty Senate require two readings before the senate in a single academic year this will be placed in future work for the 2022-2023 academic year. Many thanks to the editing hours from all our committee members.

**Committee Charges**

The Organization and Operations Committee passed revisions to committee charges for the Athletic Council (September 22, 2021) and the Faculty Handbook Committee (March 2, 2022). As a point of process, the charge is updated on the Faculty Senate website and in the minutes from the respective Faculty Senate meetings.

**The Allocation of Faculty Senators** for 2022-23 was calculated and announced at the March 2, 2022 meeting. There were no changes in representation by college. 51 senators have been assigned for election. The Deans have been notified via letter regarding the returning members and any positions that will need to be filled by election in each respective college. A non-voting member from the Mason Korea Campus will also be elected for the upcoming 2022-23 academic year.

### **Proposed Committee Topics to Address in 2022-23**

The charge of the Organizations and Operations Committee includes an annual review and continued revisions as necessary to align the responsibilities, tasks and procedures related to Standing and University Committee Charges. The O&O Committee should review, consider, and submit the edited Senate Bylaws that have been delivered to the Executive Committee to the floor of the Senate. The Academic Appeals Committee has filed a change in charge that should be addressed in the first fall 2022 Organizations and Operations meeting.

The Chair of the Committee suggests an addition of a related committee member to continue communications between the new Ombudsperson and create an official request for an annual report from the Ombudsperson Office that will be submitted and presented to the Faculty Senate in the spring of 2023. This committee may want to consider a liaison between the Office of the Ombudsperson and the Organizations and Operations committee.

The Chair would like to thank the Organizations and Operations Committee for their input and work with the continued service related to committee charge changes and changes to the Faculty Senate Bylaws.

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Billingham, Chair