

College Faculty Council – Student Affairs Subcommittee (UFC Student Affairs & Campus Life Advisory Committee)

Meeting Minutes – November 6, 2025

Committee Members and Student Representatives Present:

- Ashe Laughlin (Chair, Assistant Professor of Painting & Drawing)
 - Melissa Jones (Dean of Students / Associate VP for Student Affairs, ex officio)
 - Randall Reif (Associate Professor, Chemistry & Physics)
 - Sushma Subramanian (Associate Professor, Communication & Digital Studies)
 - Antonia Delgado-Poust (Associate Professor, Modern Languages & Literatures, Co-Secretary)
 - Sarah Morealli (Senior Lecturer, Earth & Environmental Sciences, Co-Secretary)
 - Maya Schram (Conservation Biology)
 - Mackenzie Martin (Studio Art)

 - **Guest Speaker:**
 - Amy Filiatreau (Simpson Library, Gwen Hale Resource Center)
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Discussion Highlights

Topic: Efforts of the Gwen Hale Resource Center (GHRC) to provide essential items (food, clothing, toiletries, school supplies) at no cost to UMW community members.

- **Current Operations:**
 - GHRC offers food, clothing, bedding, and supplies without gatekeeping; voluntary anonymous sign-in log.
 - Locations: Lee Hall and Simpson Library; open during building hours (~7 AM–7 PM).
 - Managed primarily by volunteers; AmeriCorps, VISTA member assists.
- **Funding & Partnerships:**
 - \$4K impact grant and additional funding from Swipe Out Hunger.
 - Partnerships: Fredericksburg Food Bank, Rappahannock Education Farm, Germanna Community College.
 - Raised \$6K for supplies (clothing racks, labels, carts).
 - Talley Center collaborating on holiday wish list.
- **Challenges:**
 - Reliance on donations and foundation funds (cannot use state money).
 - Limited staffing; most work is volunteer-based.
 - Need for broader campus collaboration and advisory board.
 - Awareness gap: many students unaware of available resources.
 - Feelings of shame: some students may not feel comfortable sharing that they need help, or need food, and the current system may create another obstacle for them.

- By keeping the identity of students/community members who visit the GHRC anonymous, we may not know the exact number of students who need support.
 - **Impact:**
 - 25% of students experience food insecurity (higher among first-gen, non-traditional, and students of color).
 - 3,000 lbs of food distributed this semester alone; ~1,200 anonymous log entries.
 - GHRC listed among local food pantries; some community members use services.
 - **Future Plans/Aspirations:**
 - Collect student stories for donor engagement.
 - Explore internships for research-based projects, possibly in disciplines such as Sociology, and perhaps among students in the Food Studies Minor (when/if it is approved).
 - Staff the GHRC more regularly.
 - Improve meal swipe distribution and application process.
 - Apply for Virginia Hunger-Free Campus grant (recently passed law).
 - **Questions:**
 - We wondered if, in order to receive internal/external funding, it would help to have more concrete numbers of students/community members who visit the Center.
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Committee Business

- **Faculty Handbook Language Update:**
 - Remove graduate student reference and mention of the Stafford campus, as these are not relevant for the time being.
 - Language sent to Jonathan for UFC review.

Action Items

Addendum B: Proposed Revision to Faculty Handbook Section 2.7.9 (Student Representation)

Student membership shall consist of two students nominated by the President of the Student Government Association and confirmed by the President of the University of Mary Washington. Both students shall serve as non-voting members. The composition and selection process for student representatives may be revisited as enrollment patterns and academic programs evolve.

Current Version of Addendum 2.7.9

The committee consists of five appointed faculty members and a non-voting ex officio member: the Vice President for Student Affairs (or their designee). In addition, two students nominated by the President of the Student Government Association and confirmed by the UMW President to represent the Fredericksburg and Stafford campuses, respectively, serve as non-voting members.

- **Upcoming UFC Meeting:** November 19, Woodard Hall.

- **Action Items:**
 - Post approved minutes to UFC website immediately.
 - Send action items in bold to UFC Chair.
- **Decisions:**
 - Future meetings will be in person.
 - Retain current student representatives, but we'll need to determine whether or not we want to contact the President of GSA for their recommendation of student representatives. Our thinking is that, this way, our student representatives might be well-informed regarding the issues students are facing.
 - Spring 2026: three meetings (February, March, April).

Meeting adjourned: 5:01 PM