

2018

FSEC Minutes February 26, 2018

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #23
February 26, 2018
MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:01 PM on Monday, February 26, 2018, in the President's Conference Room, Green Hall, Chairperson Conley presiding. Senators Derbyshire, Gindy, Leonard, Rice, and Nassersharif, 2018-19 Vice Chair-elect, were present. Senator Mahler was absent.
2. Minutes from FSEC meeting #22, February 12, 2018 were approved.
3. **ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS**
The Committee reviewed the schedule of upcoming ad hoc committee and special subcommittee meetings.
4. President Dooley joined the meeting at 1:07 PM. Chairperson Conley thanked the President for the budget presentation that he had provided at the February 22 Faculty Senate meeting. The FSEC asked the President to comment on the institution's progress regarding performance measures. The President said that URI continued to make gains in areas of proven success such as retention, degree completion rates, growing enrollment in underrepresented groups, and participation in special initiatives such as the Finish What You Started program, and that URI would continue to put its financial resources behind these successful efforts. Executive Committee members asked the President about the level of state support and the factors affecting the FY19 budget. Discussion followed. Chairperson Conley asked about the status of the NEASC accreditation report. The President responded that he would be attending a meeting of NEASC's Commission on Institutions of Higher Education on February 28 to answer questions. A final report would be issued subsequent to that meeting. The President thanked the FSEC members for their participation in the meeting of February 15 with representatives of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and College Institutional Strategies (AGBIS) who have been engaged by the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner to undertake an innovation and effectiveness study. He indicated that its work was expected to be completed in June. The AGBIS team would have the results of the NEASC report to consider. The President underscored his confidence in the expected findings because URI has continued to perform at a high level due in part to its operational efficiency. The President commented on the workload adjustment for the newly reorganized standing committees of the Senate. Chairperson Conley indicated that the Senate and the Provost were close to a full agreement. Vice Chairperson Leonard asked about advocating to state legislators on behalf of URI during the current session of the general assembly. The President indicated that Director Mahoney could provide materials to assist the community in advocating for the budget and the Fine

Arts building project. The President left the meeting at 1:50 PM.

5. ONGOING BUSINESS

The FSEC discussed the workload adjustment proposal, associated with the new Senate committees, under consideration by the Senate through the By-Laws amendment made at the February 22 meeting. Senator Nassersharif suggested that the workload agreement, once finalized, be formalized as a policy of the Senate. Chairperson Conley said that he would request another meeting with the Provost. He asked the Senate Coordinator to distribute the memorandum from the FSEC to all faculty describing the new committee structures and new Senate obligations. FSEC members were asked to review and finalize the committee brochures.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff