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FSEC Minutes September 11, 2017

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #5
September 11, 2017
MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM on Monday, September 11, 2017, in Library Conference Room B, Chairperson Conley presiding. Senators Derbyshire, Gindy, Leonard, Mahler, and Rice were present.

2. Minutes from FSEC meeting #4, August 25, 2017 were approved as amended.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE/REPORTS

   a. Chairperson Conley reported that Provost DeHayes had acknowledged the FSEC recommendations for 2017 faculty appointments to the Strategic Budget and Planning Council. Chairperson Conley reported that Senators Leonard and Rice had agreed to serve as members of the URI delegation to the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner on performance funding.

   b. Chairperson Conley reported that the Affordable Course Materials Task Force would present a report at the November 16 Faculty Senate meeting.

4. NEW BUSINESS

   a. The Committee reviewed the agenda for the upcoming September 21 Faculty Senate meeting.

   b. The FSEC discussed an issue raised by a department chair and directed to the Senate Chair that faculty from another college were assigned to teach courses in the chair’s department without consent of the department chair. FSEC members expressed concern not only for the jurisdictional issue but also for the potential that the situation could negatively impact both the faculty and students involved and could reflect poorly on the institution in the upcoming New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) accreditation visit. Discussion followed.

   c. Chairperson Conley reported that he had been informed that there was a Gateway to Completion (G2C) Committee that met regularly to make decisions about the Gateway to Completion (G2C) course offerings at the department level. FSEC members discussed the activities of the G2C Committee relative to faculty jurisdiction over college matters including curriculum. Discussion followed.
5. ONGOING BUSINESS

a. The FSEC reviewed the agenda for the September 14 “Senate Camp,” the welcome and orientation event for Senators.

b. Chairperson Conley provided an update on the Senate committee restructuring proposal. He indicated that a presentation would be made at the September 21 Faculty Senate meeting. Voting on the new committee structures and descriptions, the recommended compensation for selected chairs and committee members, and the method of assigning or electing committee members was planned to be complete by the close of the November 16 Senate meeting. The Committee discussed the impacts of the restructuring on the membership of joint committees with standing committee chair representatives.

c. The FSEC discussed the need for documentation of curricular approval processes for programs not governed by a single academic college (e.g., Honors Program, Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Program, proposals for Academic Health Collaborative courses). Chairperson Conley indicated that he would refer the matter to the chairs of the Curricular Affairs Committee and the Graduate Council.

d. The FSEC reviewed the issue of badges as presented at the April 20, 2017 Faculty Senate meeting. The Senate had asked for a proposal describing badges as credentials to be presented by either or both the Curricular Affairs Committee and/or the Graduate Council. Chairperson Conley indicated that he would remind the chairs of the Curricular Affairs Committee and the Graduate Council of the status of the issue.

e. The FSEC reviewed the list of administrators to be evaluated by the Faculty Senate in the upcoming academic year: Deans Boughida, Corliss, Ebrahimpour, Larrat, and Wright.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:47 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff