

2017

FSEC Minutes February 17, 2017

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate, "FSEC Minutes February 17, 2017" (2017). *Faculty Senate Executive Committee Agendas and Minutes*. Paper 33.

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Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #27
February 17, 2017
MINUTES

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:45 AM on Friday, February 17, 2017, in Library Conference Room B, Chairperson Sullivan presiding. Senators Byrd, Conley, Leonard, and Tsiatas were present. Senator Mahler was absent.
2. Director DiCioccio joined the meeting at 8:45 AM. She informed the FSEC of the activities and efforts that have been undertaken to support faculty in developing general education courses. At the end of January, she had hosted a second Gen Ed Brown Bag lunch for faculty. She reported that faculty and associate deans have asked for help with the proposal process. Director DiCioccio has offered assistance through peer mentors, faculty with expertise in one (or more) of the student learning outcomes around which the general education program is structured. Director DiCioccio reported that she had asked the General Education Committee for assistance in helping to develop more courses that satisfy the D1, Integrate and Apply outcome. She reported that she is working with associate deans and chairs to help develop a model for providing all instructors with guidelines for teaching specific general education outcomes with which they may have had no prior experience. Director DiCioccio provided an update on the spring semester of outcomes assessment planning and reported positive feedback from the recent Assessment Academy. Director DiCioccio said that she has submitted an application to attend the AACU (Association of American Colleges & Universities) 2017 Institute on General Education and Assessment, May 31 – June 2, 2017. If the application is accepted, the Director, Vice Provost Beauvais, and members of the subcommittee on the Assessment of General Education (SAGE) plan to attend. Director DiCioccio reported she and the Student Senate would host an event on March 29 in the Memorial Ballroom to promote general education courses to students. Discussion followed about the need to revise some of the rubrics. Director DiCioccio left the meeting at 9:20 AM.
3. Provost DeHayes and Vice Provost Beauvais joined the meeting at 9:20 AM. The Provost presented a plan to characterize faculty work by means of percentages of effort engaged in teaching; research, scholarship, and/or creative work; and service. He said that, starting with new hires, initial appointments would be made using this model and he provided some examples: 60% teaching, 30% research, 10% service; 40% teaching, 50% research, 10% service; 30% teaching, 60% research, 10% service. Descriptions of the expectations of each example were also provided. The Provost said that describing faculty effort in terms of teaching load, for example, 3-3 or 3-2, fails to allow recognition of scholarly and service work. He said that percent effort distribution brings visibility to scholarly work and service, acknowledges differences across departments and disciplines, and is consistent with federal

effort reporting for grants, etc. He emphasized that this was meant as a way to describe workload, not as a way to change workload. He said that there would be opportunities for faculty to adjust their distribution over the span of their careers at URI but that making changes before achieving tenure would not be in the best interest of junior faculty. The Provost added that individual faculty percent effort distribution would be determined at the unit level, not by the Provost. Discussion followed. The Provost informed the FSEC that the institution was working to acquire *DataSpark RI*, a Rhode Island-based non-profit data warehouse that has provided services to Rhode Island state agencies. URI faculty have been included in the discussions about the acquisition. Details regarding data sharing agreements are under consideration. The Provost and Vice Provost left the meeting at 10:25 AM.

4. Minutes from FSEC meeting #25, February 3, 2017 were approved.

5. ONGOING BUSINESS

- a. The Committee discussed the administrator evaluation process, specifically the reporting to the constituencies by the President and the Provost.
- b. The Committee reviewed and discussed the agenda items for the February 23 Faculty Senate meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff