

2017

Faculty Senate Minutes October 19, 2017

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND FACULTY SENATE

Faculty Senate Meeting

Richard E. Beaupre Center for Chemical and Forensic Sciences, Room 105

October 19, 2017

Minutes, Meeting #2

1. The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:04 p.m. in Room 105 of the Richard E. Beaupre Center for Chemical and Forensic Sciences, Chairperson Conley presiding. The call to order was followed by an invitation to accompany the Chair in singing three verses of "This Land Is Your Land."

All members were present except Senators Akhlaghi, Anderson, Bide, Gordon, Harris, Hume, Kincaid, Krieger, Schwegler, and Xu; *ex officio* members Vice President Collins; Deans Bonn, Larrat, Wolfe, Wright, and Zawia. Associate Dean Smith represented Dean Corliss, Associate Dean Veeger represented Dean Kirby, Associate Dean Quilliam represented Dean Liguori, Associate Dean Eaton represented Dean Riley, and Associate Dean Seitsinger represented Dean Rolle.

2. Chairperson Conley announced that the minutes of Faculty Senate meeting #1, September 21, 2017 had been posted with the agenda. He asked if there were any additions, corrections to or questions about the minutes. There were none. Chairperson Conley said that, seeing that there were no corrections, he considered the minutes approved.

Chairperson Conley said, if there were no objections to moving the order of business, he would proceed with the Report of the President. There were no objections.

3. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

President Dooley commented on the results of the 2016-17 faculty evaluation of Provost DeHayes. He said that a [letter](#) summarizing his response to the report of the Faculty Senate's Administrator Evaluation Committee had been posted on the Faculty Senate website. The President said that the recent evaluation of the Provost had been more positive than the one conducted in 2013-14, an indication that the review process was effective. The President indicated that the Provost regarded seriously the views and comments of the faculty. The President thanked the members of the Provost's evaluation committee [Professors Marilyn Barbour, Doug Hales, Peter Larsen, Joan Peckham, and James Prochaska].

4. REPORT OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. Announcements

- 1.** Chairperson Conley reported that the Executive Committee, as directed by the Senate at the September 21 meeting, had started to appoint members to an ad hoc committee to consider changes to the Administrator Evaluation procedures. When membership of the committee is complete, the work to review the process and the survey instrument will begin.
- 2.** Chairperson Conley reported that five deans were scheduled to be reviewed this year under the Administrator Evaluation process. The selection and appointment of evaluation committee members was underway.
- 3.** Chairperson Conley called on Vice Provost Bodah who reported that the NEASC accreditation team would be on campus October 22 - 25. The visit was part of the 2017 comprehensive evaluation of the University's application for reaccreditation by the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education of the New England Association of Schools and Colleges. Vice Provost Bodah encouraged those assembled to participate in the events scheduled to allow team members to hear the thoughts, ideas, and concerns of the URI community. He said that the team's exit report was scheduled for October 25 at 10:00 a.m.
- 4.** Chairperson Conley announced that a reception would follow today's meeting. He encouraged all to stay and join in the opportunity to socialize and he thanked Dean Ebrahimpour for graciously agreeing to sponsor the reception.
- 5.** Chairperson Conley asked that individuals who wished to speak wait to be recognized by the chair and also identify themselves and their department before speaking.

B. Activities of the Executive Committee

Vice Chairperson Leonard announced that the Minutes of Executive Committee meetings #5 - #8 were available on the Faculty Senate website. She asked if there were any questions. There were none.

C. Recommendations of the Executive Committee

- 1.** Vice Chairperson Leonard called on Senate Chairperson Conley to present the recommendations of the Executive Committee regarding the restructuring of the standing committees. Chairperson Conley explained that the Senate had been presented on September 14 and September 21 with By-Laws language proposing changes to the structure and descriptions of the standing committees of the Senate. The Chair asked for a motion to approve replacing existing By-Laws of the Faculty Senate 4.20 – 4.88 with new sections 4.20 – 4.70. The motion was made and seconded. Discussion followed. Senator Roberts, a member of the Council for Research commenting on the proposed Committee for Research

and Creative Activities, expressed concern that 6 committee members were too few in number to accomplish the work of the committee especially regarding the annual grant proposal review that occurred every spring semester. Vice Chairperson Leonard suggested that subcommittees, similar to those proposed to be part of the Curriculum and Standards Committee, could be added to the committee structure. Senator Roberts moved that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee consider language that would include additional members to review proposals through the creation of subcommittees. The motion was seconded and approved. Professor Wenisch, Chairperson of the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual Committee commented that adding more members to a committee needed to be specified in the description of that committee. Chairperson Conley asked for a motion. A motion to increase the membership of the Committee for Research and Creative Activities was made and seconded. Discussion followed. Committee effectiveness as a function of committee size, and discipline-specific representation were debated. The question was called; the motion was approved. The original motion to approve replacing existing By-Laws of the Faculty Senate 4.20 – 4.88 with new sections 4.20 – 4.70 was sent back to the Executive Committee to be returned with amendments as directed.

2. Chairperson Conley asked for a motion to approve changes to By-Laws of the Faculty Senate 4.13 – 4.16. The motion was made and seconded. Discussion followed. Chairperson Conley explained that the motion would be voted on at the next meeting because, according to By-Laws 12.1, an amendment to the By-Laws may not be voted upon at the meeting at which it is first moved.
3. Chairperson Conley re-introduced the three models for populating Senate committees that had been presented and discussed at the September 21 meeting. He read aloud the description and terms of the “hybrid” model in which half of the committee membership would be derived from campus-wide elections and half would be appointed by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Senator Cooper moved approval of directing the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual Committee to revise appropriate sections of the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual to adopt the hybrid model. Senator Harlow seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Concern was expressed for ensuring a balance of college representatives in the committees. A motion was made and seconded to amend the language describing the hybrid model to limit the committee representatives to no more than two members from a single college. Discussion followed. Senator Ohley suggested giving consideration to the model in which membership was derived entirely from the body of the Faculty Senate, a body whose membership reflects college representation. Discussion continued. Senator Derbyshire moved to amend the amendment by adding “ideally” to the description: “limit the committee representatives to ideally no more than two members from a single college.” The amendment to the amendment was seconded. The question was called; the motion failed. Chairperson Conley returned to the motion to amend the hybrid model to limit the committee representatives to no more than two members from a single college. The question was called; the motion was approved. Discussion continued. Senators debated the differences between the hybrid model and the Faculty Senator model. Chairperson Conley returned to the main

motion as amended, that the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual Committee be directed to revise appropriate sections of the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual to adopt the hybrid model as amended. The question was called. The Chair asked for a show of hands. The motion failed, 13 in favor, 18 opposed.

A motion was made and seconded to direct the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual Committee to revise appropriate sections of the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual to adopt the self-(Senate) contained model. Discussion followed. Senator Cornillon proposed that the 3-year committee term be allowed to exceed the 3-year Senate term, that new appointments of senators to Senate committees be permitted in any of the 3 years of a senator's term. He moved that the language of the model be amended such that nominations for committee membership be drawn from within the membership of the Faculty Senate. The motion was seconded. Discussion followed. The question to amend the motion was called; the motion failed. Chairperson Conley returned to the main motion, to direct the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual Committee to revise appropriate sections of the Constitution, By-Laws, and University Manual to adopt the self-(Senate) contained model. The motion was approved (by voice vote).

5. PRESENTATION

Director Barrett presented the annual State of the Budget address using [Power Point slides](#). She described the unrestricted and restricted budgets for FY18 (July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018). The total budget for FY18, \$776.2 million, included \$446.5 million in unrestricted funds derived primarily from tuition and fees (\$312.0 million) and the state appropriation (\$77.4 million). The restricted budget totaled \$328.6 million and included funds derived primarily from auxiliaries, sponsored research (overhead), and federal student financial aid. Director Barrett said that 14 new faculty were included in the FY18 budget, supported by the unrestricted funds. She summarized the full-time faculty hires in the last year. There were 23.0 vacated FTE lines in FY17 and 32.0 allocated FTE lines in FY18. Director Barrett noted that there have been 302 new full-time faculty hired since 2010. She summarized the annual overhead revenue and the capital improvement projects, planned to be funded through the use of RICAP funds. The Budget request for FY19 totaled \$815.1 million; the request for state appropriation will increase to \$85.7 million, 11% of the total budget. Director Barrett answered questions.

6. REPORTS OF STANDING, JOINT, AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

- A. Senator Emeritus Sullivan presented the 542nd Curricular Affairs Committee Report. He reported that **MAF 310X, Communication for Marine Affairs** had been approved as a temporary course. He presented the following courses: **ARB 315, Topics in Arabic Culture & Society in Arabic** and **ARB 415, Advanced Topics in Arab Culture & Society in Arabic** from the College of Arts and Sciences; **BIO 220, Fundamentals of Human Anatomy and Physiology I**, **BIO 221, Fundamentals of Human Anatomy and Physiology I Laboratory**, **BIO 222, Fundamentals of Human Anatomy and Physiology II**, and **BIO 223, Fundamentals of Human Anatomy and Physiology II Laboratory**, and **BIO/DSP 439, Big Data Analysis** from the College of the

Environment and Life Sciences; a change to **CVE 370, Hydraulic Engineering**; and program changes: **Medical Physics**, the **Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies Program**, and a proposal to allow a notation in the milestone section of the URI transcript of "Completion of the Peace Corps Preparatory Program" upon graduation for all students successfully completing the program. He asked for motion to approve the items listed. The motion was made, seconded, and approved.

B. Senator Williams presented General Education Committee Report 2017-18-2 as a seconded motion to approve. He asked if there were any discussion regarding **LAN 220, Understanding Languages in Cultural Context (A2) (C3)**, **MTH 142, Calculus II (B3) (A1)**, or **HPR 224G, Honors Colloquium in Soc. Science and Civic Knowledge, (A2) (C1) (GC)**. There was none. The motion passed.

7. Chairperson Conley asked if there were any Old Business. There was none.

8. Chairperson Conley asked if there were any New Business. There was none.

9. Chairperson Conley asked for a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff