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## FSEC Minutes March 8, 2017

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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**Faculty Senate Executive Committee Meeting #30**  
**March 8, 2017**  
**MINUTES**

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM on Wednesday, March 8, 2017, in the HELIN Conference Room, Chairperson Sullivan presiding. Senators Byrd, Leonard, Mahler, and Tsiatas were present. Senator Conley was absent.
2. Minutes from FSEC meeting #27, February 17, 2017 were approved.
3. **NEW BUSINESS**
  - a. The Committee discussed the mission of University College for Academic Success as described in the University Manual (sections 3.21.21 – 3.21.23). Committee members noted that, in recent years, many credit-bearing courses, including courses for credit in the General Education program, have been proposed to the Senate by University College while the charge in the University Manual does not include teaching. The Committee reviewed the role of experiential education at the institution and questioned the academic group (home) and instructor of record of the internship (ITR) course offerings. Discussion followed.

Dean Richmond and Director Stack (Center for Career and Experiential Education) joined the meeting at 9:40 AM. Dean Richmond reviewed the status of many course proposals that had been submitted but not approved in the previous academic year. She asked for the assistance of the Executive Committee in facilitating approval of the courses. She explained that some departments have requested experiential and capstone courses (the latter to fulfill the general education student learning outcome, *Integrate and Apply*) be made available to their majors because those departments did not offer such courses. Director Stack explained that, because only up to 12 credits of general education courses may share the same disciplinary code, students were seeking additional course options. Discussion followed. Dean Richmond said that being able to offer courses through University College contributes to on-time graduation. The FSEC acknowledged the evolution in experiential learning in higher education but asserted that there should be a reasonable limit to the number of experiential credits that may be used toward a bachelor's degree and that the courses offered should originate from an academic college. The FSEC suggested that the Dean clarify the work of University College to the Faculty Senate and make a presentation at an upcoming Senate meeting. Dean Richmond and Director Stack left the meeting at 10:40 AM.

- b. Chairperson Sullivan reported on his and Vice Chairperson Conley's meeting with the Provost of March 6. They had discussed the Provost's reporting back to the constituency after the review of an administrator. The Committee discussed the possibility of amending the language in the University Manual (section 10.90.15) to include a deadline for reporting back to the constituency.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff