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Faculty Senate Minutes January 23, 2014

University of Rhode Island Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate Meeting

January 23, 2014

Minutes #5

1. The regular meeting of the Faculty Senate was called to order at 3:10 p.m. in the Cherry Auditorium, Chester Kirk Building, Chairperson Byrd presiding.

All members were present except Senators Blanpied, Boudreaux-Bartels, Dunn, Eaton, Goldsmith, Heikes, Kim, Kusz, Leonard, Martin, Matthew, Menden-Deuer, Paton, Pearson-Merkowitz, Reynolds, Thomas, Torrens, and Wittwer; President Dooley, Vice President Dougan; Deans Bonn, Brownell, Corliss, Higgins, Maslyn, Sullivan, and Wright. Dean Kirby was represented by Assoc. Dean Veeger.

2. Chairperson Byrd announced that the Minutes of Faculty Senate Meeting #4, December 12, 2013 had been posted on the Faculty Senate website. He asked if there were any additions, corrections to or questions about these Minutes. There were none. Chairperson Byrd ruled that in the absence of any changes or corrections, the Minutes were approved.

3. REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. Announcements

1) Chairperson Byrd announced that a forum, co-sponsored by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, the Office of the President, and the Office of the Provost, titled Campus Security: Broadening the Discussion, was scheduled to be held Thursday, January 30, Memorial Union, Ballroom, 4-5:30 PM. The forum is intended to address three crucial components of campus security: training in nonviolent resolution, counseling and interventions to address mental health issues, and emergency preparation and protocols. The goal is to solicit input on solutions for a comprehensive approach to non-violence and safety at URI.

2) Chairperson Byrd reported that the UCGE committee has submitted to the Senate a final report of the revisions to the General Education Program. The full report, excerpts from the full report, and FAQs are linked on the Faculty Senate website. A forum on the revisions is scheduled to take place at the February 20, 2014 Senate meeting. A vote on the revisions is scheduled for the March 20, 2014 Senate meeting.

3) The Faculty Senate designate for Open Access Policy, Professor Andrée Rathemacher, made an announcement about the URI Open Access Fund, monies available to underwrite reasonable publication charges for open access journals when funds are not otherwise available. She provided a link to more information: <http://uri.libguides.com/oafund>. Financial support for the fund is provided by the Office of the Provost and the Office of the Vice President for Research and Economic Development.

4) Chairperson Byrd announced that the Administrative Management Review Committee would be holding an open forum to provide faculty and staff an opportunity to discuss and ask questions regarding the recently released Final Report presented to President Dooley in December, 2013 on Wednesday, January 29, 2014 at 9 a.m. in the Galanti Lounge (Library).

5) Chairperson Byrd expressed his appreciation to Dean Paul Larrat for agreeing to sponsor the reception at the University Club after the meeting. He encouraged everyone to attend and noted

that the reception gives Senators, ex officio members, and guests an opportunity to meet one another in an informal setting.

6) Chairperson Byrd asked everyone to remember to wait to be recognized by the chair before speaking. He noted that it would be very helpful for participants to identify themselves before they speak.

B. Vice Chairperson Rice announced that the Minutes of the 2013-14 Executive Committee Meetings #15, #16, #17, #18, #20, were available on the Faculty Senate website. He asked if there were any questions. There were none.

C. Vice Chairperson Rice moved approval of the members of the Nominating Committee for Officers of the 2014-15 Faculty Senate:

David Byrd, School of Education
Nedra Reynolds, Writing and Rhetoric
Michael Rice, Fisheries, Animal, & Veterinary Science

The motion carried. Chairperson Byrd announced that an agreement with the Provost regarding release time for the Chair and Vice Chair was available on the agenda (Compensation Agreement for Faculty Senate Chair and Vice Chair).

4. REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

A. Provost DeHayes announced that President Dooley was unable to attend the meeting and he made few announcements.

The Provost acknowledged Andrée Rathemacher and her hard work with the Provost's Office and the Office of Research and Economic Development to develop the Open Access Fund.

The Provost thanked everyone who had attended the 6th Annual Summit, Transformative Scholarship in the 21st Century, held the previous week (January 17th). There were 180-190 participants and 40-45 URI faculty who presented "œlgnite" talks. He also thanked the summit planning committee.

The Provost reported that the first official Winter J-term had exceeded expectations. 404 students participated; 8 travel courses were offered. He reported that the feedback has been positive. Residential Life and Dining Services as well as the International Office and Enrollment Services contributed to its success.

The Provost noted that Governor Chafee had delivered a combined state of the state and budget address on January 15th. The Governor announced a \$10 million increase to the three postsecondary institutions (URI, RIC, and CCRI) to offset another year of tuition freezes. However, URI alone needs \$10.3 million to offset a tuition freeze and received about half that.

The Provost also reported on the unfair labor practice complaint filed by AAUP/URI against the Board of Education (former Board of Governors). The Labor Board ruled on January 21, 2014 that the Board of Education should have acted sooner and recommended that the parties resume negotiations on a new AAUP contract. The Provost was hopeful that the parties would resume negotiations very soon and hopefully find a quick resolution to the matter. Professor and AAUP/URI President Kirschenbaum commented that this was a good outcome. This ruling avoids court. He expressed hope that the negotiating team, familiar with the fairness of the previous contract, would bring pressure to bear on the Board members.

B. The Provost reported that the legislation forwarded to the President after the December 12, 2013 Senate meeting was approved except Bill #13-14--10B, The Five Hundred Tenth Report of

the Curricular Affairs Committee: Youth Movement Science Track to the B.S in Kinesiology which is still pending approval.

5. REPORTS OF STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEES

A. Dean Killingbeck presented the Graduate Council Report No. 2013-14-3 to the Faculty Senate. He moved approval of EVS 540X. The motion passed.

He presented catalog changes to the Interdisciplinary Neuroscience Graduate Program and changes in the Master's Degree and Ph.D. programs in Computer Science. Dean Killingbeck moved approval of these changes. The motion passed.

B. Professor Brand presented the Five Hundred and Eleventh Report of the Curricular Affairs Committee. She said that Section I was informational and asked if there were any questions. There were none. Professor Brand noted that Section II required confirmation by the Faculty Senate. She moved approval of course changes, new courses, curriculum changes in the BA and BFA in Art, the Physics sequence in the College of Engineering, and the MS in Civil Engineering, and the change of the name of University College to University College for Academic Success. Dean Richmond answered questions about the name change. The motion passed.

C. Professor Wenisch presented the January 2014 Report to the Faculty Senate of the Constitution, By-Laws And University Manual Committee. The committee had planned to propose replacing all references to "the Board of Governors for Higher Education" with "the Board of Education". However, the Board is still considering its structure and the committee will wait. The committee proposed changes to Chapter 11, Procedures for Changing the Manual, to make it possible to update the University Manual immediately after Senate legislation (not waiting until the end of the academic year), to develop procedures to ensure that the administrative Manual sections not again become outdated, eliminate the mandate that periodically, updated printed copies of the Manual be published, and to make sure that a website be developed on which superseded Manual provisions are kept. Professor Wenisch moved approval and the motion passed.

Chairperson Byrd asked if there were any Unfinished Business. There was none.

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

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Neff